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MEMO

To: CAMConnect Executive Committee
From: Derek Ziegler
Date: March 2, 2006
Re: Executive Director Update

FUND DEVELOPMENT / PROPOSALS

Casey – We have received the first portion of our 2005-06 funds for \$30,000. I submitted an interim report at the end of January. The remaining \$20,000 of this grant is a match for funds raised by CAMConnect. At this point, receiving this match may be difficult, because Casey is now demanding that we show “funds committed,” which they have defined as new contributions from foundations and memberships. Fee for service contracts are not able to be counted toward this match, which is different from our initial understanding of the matching funds. We will keep working to raise the necessary funds for the match.

Members – Volunteers of America – Delaware Valley and Southern New Jersey Perinatal Cooperative have joined at the Large Organization rate. I received little feedback from Board members when I prompted them to identify potential members, but we are proceeding in targeting new members through use of resources such as the Purple Book. Please continue to encourage non-members to join.

Foundations – I am developing two letters of interest that can be sent to foundations. The first is a general letter extolling the virtues of CAMConnect and the need for additional funds to support our ongoing projects. The second letter will be more focused on the development of the health database and a possible health census / profile for the City of Camden. The intent is to have templates that can be easily adapted to meet the requirements of the different potential funders.

After researching the interests of various foundations, I intend to submit letters of interest to the following as a starting point: Annenberg Foundation, Ford Foundation, Campbell Soup Foundation, Kellogg Foundation, PSE&G, Fund for New Jersey, and RWJ Foundation. Any contacts that Executive Committee members may have with these organizations would be appreciated.

Abbott Indicators – Education Law Center has funding from the William Penn Foundation for additional work in Camden. ELC is recruiting a consultant to accomplish the objective of more fully engaging Camden residents around public education. There will likely also be some funding for CAMConnect to prepare an updated version of the Abbott Indicators Report, including the most recent data.

PROJECT UPDATES

Camden Center for Youth Development / CCYSC – Work is continuing on this two-year contract.

Cramer Hill CDC Surveys – We are working with the CDC on a survey of about 300 residents and business owners related to desired community benefits in any redevelopment that takes place. We designed a database for the surveys to be entered and we are now preparing some analysis.

Health Report - Data files have been cross-checked and cleaned, and summary analysis on 2003 data from all three hospitals has been prepared. We also have received 2004 data from Cooper and Virtua which we will begin cleaning. Jeff Brenner has been working on preparing a database to synthesize the data, which our new Data Manager will expand and refine. I will work on preparing a summary of the potential of this data so organizations may work with CAMConnect to use it as an evaluation tool.

Camden Police Department Data – Sean has persistently pushed the Police Department to provide us with copies of the maps they are preparing for their CompStat program, and we received a number of maps for January 2006. These maps are now posted on our website at <http://www.camconnect.org/resources/CrimeMaps.html>. The Police have promised to give us monthly updates of this data.

CRA – Mapping Discussion – I met with Josh Warner from the CRA to discuss their current mapping resources and the state of GIS resources in the City. We identified the challenge of having common (and updated) base maps for Camden. There are several different parcel maps in use throughout the City, as well as different street files, etc. Josh and I are trying to organize a meeting with all of the GIS entities in the City / County to discuss data sharing and procedures for maintaining updated GIS files.

Metropolitan Philadelphia Indicators Partnership (MPIP) – I met with several representatives from this initiative, run by Temple University. They participated in our Data Open House, and have expressed an interest in working more closely with CAMConnect. In the next few months, they may have funding available from William Penn to partner with local organizations on more targeted reports, which could result in some useful technical assistance for CAMConnect. MPIP also has several datasets that could be used to develop quick reports for Camden.

Online Opinion Leader Survey – The Executive Committee agreed at its February meeting to revise the report and post the report on the Members Section of the website. I am in the process of expanding the survey writeup and revising the format so it can be used by Members as a discussion piece.

Kids Count Summary – We have received funding from CCYSC to complete a summary brochure of the Camden Kids Count report.

SCHEDULE

April Executive Committee Meeting – Thursday, April 6

April Board Meeting – Thursday, April 20th (10 a.m. – 12 p.m., Catholic Charities)