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MEMO

To: CAMConnect Board
From: Derek Ziegler
Date: April 22, 2004
Re: Program Manager Update

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES NEEDED:

Public documents ideas and suggestions
Suggestions/connections for obtaining employer data
Input on content and data sources for reports
Outreach to foundations and other funders

WORKPLAN

Promised to Casey Foundation

Note: Casey delivered a check in the amount of \$50,000 to CAMConnect in early February 2004. These funds are intended to cover CAMConnect's activities through November 30, 2004. Progress on the tasks listed in the workplan to Casey is described below.

Task 1: 2004 Reports

Quarter 1: Health Report

This report has been somewhat delayed by Cooper's requirement of a new research protocol to obtain data on primary care sensitive conditions. Jeff Brenner and I are also adding information from Cooper's neonatal and perinatal databases. Jean and Hilary are working to get permission from Lourdes and Virtua to get their data. Once we have the protocols and the data, this report should be fairly straightforward to complete.

Percent Complete: 10%

Quarter 2: Municipal Budget and Taxes Report

I've obtained the 2003 audit of municipal finances through the state Open Public Records Act (OPRA) process. I've developed a spreadsheet to incorporate this information with the school budget information I previously requested. I have also begun learning about the City's payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) program and tax abatement programs. The City GIS parcel maps should be useful in this study. I intend to finish this report before the stated completion date of June 30.

Percent Complete: 25%

Quarter 3: Employment Report

I have found information on unemployment rates in Camden, and I can also track down information on employment by industry and commuting patterns. To maximize the value of this report, I will need Executive Committee and or Board assistance to get payroll data from different institutions receiving money under the takeover.

Percent Complete: 10%

Quarter 4: Quality of Life Indicators Report

I have held discussions with Hopeworks about the best methods of conducting a comprehensive quality of life survey. At this point, we are going to try to use the youth trainees to conduct an approximately 10 question survey in the field of 500 or so respondents throughout the City. In the course of the Weed & Seed Evaluation with Camden Neighborhood Renaissance, I am identifying questions for further inquiry.

Percent Complete: 5%

Task 2: Public Documents

I am continuing to request documents as I learn about them. I would appreciate any guidance or tips that Board members can offer.

Task 3: Data Exchange

CAMConnect is working on the concept of a "Camden Data Open House" to be held sometime in the fall of 2004. We are envisioning this as a way to facilitate data exchange and a better understanding of the data available. We are trying to promote a more interactive and dynamic setting that goes beyond tables with brochures. Also, topics for the May stakeholder/member meeting need to be determined.

Task 4: Citizen Satisfaction Mechanisms

See information under Quarter 4 report, above.

Task 5: Expanding Funding Base

This task is ongoing.

Other Activities

Abbott Indicators Project

The EdLaw Center and CAMConnect have developed a preliminary MOU for this project, which was discussed briefly at the January Board meeting. We are still working on obtaining funding to allow for a greater CAMConnect role beyond report production and outreach assistance. Suggestions from the Board are appreciated.

Camden City Kids Count

The Data Committee of One and the Program Manager are moving forward on collecting data from the indicators list. Additional documentation has been submitted for Empowerment Zone funding.

UPDATES

Reno Community Indicators Conference – This conference was a valuable opportunity to learn about practices and theories in the community indicators field. About 400 people attended, among them most of the NNIP members. I took advantage of the sessions on federal data sources, as well as some sessions on case studies of different indicator projects. Through the use of redeye flights, I was able to keep total expenses including airfare, hotel, per diem, and registration to under \$800 (the Executive Committee authorized \$1,500 in November). Presentations from the conference will be posted shortly at <http://business.wm.edu/isqols/community/>

City GIS Parcel Map – The City has completed the parcel map and conveyed it to CAMConnect. I have been able to use the GIS files, although I am still awaiting additional documentation of the metadata from the City's tax database. CAMConnect has not yet received the GIS software and the color printer promised by the City. Two CAMConnect designees attended an introductory training in March, and two designees attended an intermediate training last week.

Color Laser Printer – CAMConnect has purchased and received a color laser printer in accordance with an Executive Committee resolution from last year. This will greatly expedite and reduce the costs of the CAMConnect's color printing.

Website Use and Policies – The Executive Committee has approved several policies (available at CAMConnect Members' Section website) for posting of outside reports and documents. The Members Section of the website also contains a guide to the revamped website with information on what types of content may be found where.