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MEMO

To: CAMConnect Executive Committee
From: Derek Ziegler
Date: September 9, 2004
Re: Program Manager Update

WORKPLAN

Promised to Casey Foundation

Task 1: 2004 Reports

Quarter 1: Health Report

Cooper has hired Ian Hoffman, who worked on the initial injury report, for a fellowship to work on this data. Ian defended a research protocol to Cooper last week, and the protocol was deferred by the Cooper IRB until next month. It is likely to be approved with revisions. We are working on submitting the protocol to Virtua and to Our Lady of Lourdes very shortly.

Percent Complete: 15%

Quarter 2: Municipal Budget and Taxes Report

I am dissecting the City and school system budgets and developing some ideas for presentation and analysis. I would like to circulate the draft report I am preparing in the next few weeks to the Camden City Taxpayers' Association and others familiar with the budget process to obtain comments and feedback. This project has been hampered somewhat by computer issues – Excel on one of my computers has malfunctioned despite several attempts to restore it.

Percent Complete: 40%

Quarter 3: Employment Report

I am planning to contact the Camden Initiative Work Group of the Workforce Investment Board and the Human Resources departments of different Camden institutions to begin exploring their hiring of Camden residents.

Percent Complete: 10%

Quarter 4: Quality of Life Indicators Report

Hopeworks interviewed nearly 1,000 people throughout the City. I am working to identify the best methods of weighting the data and resolving quirks, but on the whole the data appears to be okay. The surveys were collected electronically, so analysis is very easy.

Percent Complete: 75%

Task 2: Public Documents

I would like to request additional assistance from the Executive Committee in identifying documents to post.

Task 3: Data Exchange

Leland Butler (senior at Rutgers-Camden in Urban Studies, formerly worked with Charles Lyons) has been hired to assist in CAMConnect's outreach efforts and the coordination of the Data Fair event. He started in mid-August on a part-time basis.

Task 4: Citizen Satisfaction Mechanisms

See information under Quarter 4 report, above.

Task 5: Expanding Funding Base

Need Executive Committee discussion.

Other Activities

Abbott Indicators Project

A planning meeting for the Camden effort was held on Monday, August 23. About 20 people attended this meeting, including community groups, City Council members, Mayor Faison, and the School District. A review team for the Camden Indicators report was selected, as was a Camden project steering committee. The draft report will be ready from EdLaw Center in the next two weeks, after which the review committee will have two facilitated meetings to discuss and revise the report. I am going to Newark Thursday and Friday of this week to assist in preparation of the Camden report. EdLaw Center will compensate me at \$50 per hour as per the consulting agreement we already executed with them. Final report release is scheduled for mid-November, with a series of community meetings immediately following.

Camden City Kids Count

The Program Manager has collaborated with ACNJ to draft this report and fill in the data elements. The report features a number of maps and charts in addition to data tables. The draft report has been completed and is being reviewed by ACNJ. We hope to release the report within the next month. In the absence of the anticipated Empowerment Zone funding, ACNJ has authorized funding of \$5,000 for CAMConnect's partnership (and printing) in the effort. The Camden City Youth Services Commission has also pledged \$5,000. Percent Complete: 90%

Camden Weed & Seed Evaluation

CAMConnect has created a database to enter survey results for 2002 and 2004. 144 surveys (with 30 questions apiece) have been entered for several of the Weed & Seed neighborhoods. Next steps are to finish data entry for 2004 and to develop some comparisons with 2002 data. I have participated in several planning sessions for a South Camden Weed & Seed, and I have provided CAMConnect data to be used in this evaluation. I will participate in several more sessions later this month.