

Partners for a Prosperous Athens

Clarke Central High School

August 28, 2006

5:30-7:00-Volunteer Fair

7:00-9:00-PPA Meeting

5:30-7:00 - VOLUNTEER FAIR

7:00-9:00- PPA Meeting

7:00-8:00 - Plenary Session

Overview of “Poverty in Athens: What We Have Learned”

Steve Jones, Red Petrovs (25 minutes)

B. Where Do We Go From Here? (30 minutes)

- Community Change Papers
- Work Schedule Through December
- Enhanced Conversations
- Tonight’s Committee Work

COMMITTEES

8:00-9:00—Committee Work -- Begin Recommendation Phase

- Discuss any additional ideas or thoughts regarding the “**Poverty in Athens: What We Have Learned**” report
- Reach consensus on Priority of Learnings
- Discuss ideas for Community Change Papers
- Discuss ideas for Community Conversations

Developing Recommendations Worksheet

August 28 Breakout Meetings

1. **Get feedback concerning the document, “Poverty in Athens: What We Have Learned”.** (15 minutes)
 - Have we made progress, are we on target?

 - What needs further clarification?

 - What’s missing?

2. **Developing Relative Priorities** Using both the document and your committee’s learnings, focus on the one Recurring Theme and two of your committee’s learnings that must be addressed when pursuing recommendations. Get consensus on these selections. (15 minutes) The goal is to develop a relative sense of priority.

3. **Change Papers/Community Conversations.** What research or information do you need in order to support recommendations? Also please indicate any subjects or locales for Community Conversations. (20 minutes)

COMMUNITY CHANGE PAPERS

One of the tools that will be used to support our recommendations will be **Community Change Papers**. Each paper will be a 1-5 page report that will focus on a specific topic area that impacts one or more recommendations. Committees will help to identify topics for Community Change papers as well as help identify the appropriate experts to help write the papers.

Some examples include:

If a potential recommendation is to develop a KIPP school in Athens, the white paper would include:

- Definitions of charter schools and KIPP.
- It would provide data on other KIPP schools in Georgia and the United States. It would provide demographic information on the students that KIPP has targeted. It would discuss the philosophy and focus of KIPP schools as well as their funding.
- It would define the target population in Athens for these services, discussing relevant academic and demographic data. Potential funding would also be identified.
- Because KIPP is focused on middle schools, the white paper would focus on the middle school capacity in Athens, as well as the potential scope of a potential KIPP school in Athens.
- The paper could also address any challenges that may be involved in the recommendation.

If a potential recommendation is to increase the number of Athenians receiving Earned Income Tax Credits. The white paper might include:

- The definition of Earned Income Tax Credits and the process for applying for them.
- How many residents in Athens are currently applying for/receiving earned income tax credits and the demographics of those most likely to apply.
- How many eligible residents in Athens are not receiving these tax credits and the demographics of those who are not applying. (This would help define the capacity for this opportunity.)
- The service providers who help residents to apply for these tax credits and the capacity of these service providers.
- The challenges that are preventing people from applying for and/or receiving these tax credits.
- The paper could also identify any challenges that may be involved in the recommendation including the cost benefits/disincentives for providing this added service.

Information for these papers is readily available from agencies, providers, and researchers at the University. The information will be published and posted on the PPA web site. The goal is to support informed decisions.

Community Conversations Second Phase

Purpose: The focus of this second set of conversations will be to develop more personal interaction and feedback among the various people involved in the PPA process.

Format: We will work to develop community conversations among service providers, faith-based organizations, community centers, and any group that asks. It is hoped that these more personal conversations will allow for more one on one interaction and feedback, and clarity on appropriate recommendations. We anticipate holding these community conversations during September and October.