

Facilitation

For creating Committee Recommendations

- 1. Your facilitator has volunteered to help assure that your time is well spent and productive.**
- 2. The facilitator will remain neutral to the agenda and be non-judgmental about discussion**
- 3. Facilitation will help assure that everyone has an opportunity to participate and contribute. To help this process the group is encouraged to honor the “rule of three”, whereby the last speaker waits until two more people have spoken before speaking again.**
- 4. Differences of opinion are to be expected and help create a better product. We are looking for everyone’s ideas-there are no wrong answers. The facilitator’s job is to help participants find common ground.**
- 5. All of us are well served if we leave our ego at the door and bring our passion for breaking the cycle of poverty.**
- 6. The entire group is responsible for enforcing these rules.**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION WORKSHEET GUIDELINES

- 1. Each worksheet should contain only one recommendation.**
- 2. The statements on the form may be completed in any order and it is not necessary to complete every bullet.**
- 3. A committee recommendation worksheet can be updated throughout the next three meetings as final committee recommendations are developed.**
- 4. If necessary, work on recommendations is encouraged to continue between large group monthly meetings.**
- 5. Please provide a contact person for each uncompleted committee recommendation so that PPA staff can help provide support and follow-up between meetings.**
- 6. Once a committee believes that it has developed a strong committee recommendation and has provided sufficient detail, it should be turned in to the Committee Chair or e-mailed to schristopher@fanning.uga.edu.**

If you have any questions you can contact Jim Geiser or Delene Porter at 706-542-1108.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION WORKSHEET

Fill in as many blanks as possible. Fields with an * are required in case we need to contact you for clarification. Thanks for your interest and input!

Name*: _____

Phone*: _____ E-Mail*: _____

I. List the Learning(s) that this recommendation is addressing

- **WRITE THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION** (limit focus to one subject or action item, more than one recommendation may be needed to address a particular learning):**

- **Identify any research, or other kinds of information that was used to craft this recommendation.** (add additional sheets as necessary)

- **Identify additional research or information that could help clarify this committee recommendation. List potential sources if possible.**

- **Indicate people or groups that we need to talk to help clarify this committee recommendation. List any recommended locations.**

- **What kind of action or resources would be necessary to implement the recommendation?**

- **Indicate what forces and influences are likely to occur that will support or oppose implementation.**
Forces that support (please list):

Forces that oppose (please list):

****As information is received and/or clarified, these potential recommendations may change or be discarded.**

Dependent Care Committee

Learnings as published in Poverty in Athens: What We Have Learned posted on www.prosperousathens.org

- 1. Caregivers for elders and people living with disabilities need support with emergency care, respite care and transportation.**
- 2. There are not enough options and resources, such as housing, transportation, services, prescriptions and non-medical supplies for elders and people living with disabilities.**
- 3. Zoning restricts the number of non-related people living together, limiting opportunities for elders and people with disabilities to have non-related caregivers live with them. Zoning also limits the creation of Personal Care Homes.**
- 4. The availability of quality child care is lacking for parents living at or near poverty in Athens.**
 - The average cost for licensed early care and learning centers in Athens for an infant is \$118 per week or approximately \$5,900 per year.
 - Young children who are in families challenged by teen parenthood, domestic violence, mental illness, substance abuse, poverty or parent's history of childhood maltreatment need resources and support to address these challenges.
 - 41% of parents who called Child Care Resource and Referral reported that they could not find child care that met their needs. In March, the waiting list for Pre-K was 198 (520 children enrolled); for Even Start 75 (163 children enrolled); and for Early Head Start 154 (80 children enrolled).
 - Parents of children with disabilities have few choices and limited access to after-school activities, summer camps or enrichment programs for their children.

RECURRING THEMES AND CHALLENGES

Learnings as published in Poverty in Athens: What We Have Learned posted on www.prosperousathens.org

- 1. The notion that there exists a welfare system that “pays people not to work” is a myth. Welfare reform has required that low income families with dependent children must be transitioning to employment in order to receive benefits.**
 - The total number of Temporary Assistance to Needy Families cases in Clarke County has decreased by 40% over the past two years.
- 2. High levels of poverty are a burden to those who live in poverty and work to undermine the economy of the entire community.**
- 3. Our institutions and systems have failed to develop collaborative strategies that adequately address the challenges of poverty.**
 - There is a culture of poverty in Athens that passes from generation to generation.
 - There is little innovation in developing new programs, opportunities and collaborations to break the cycle of poverty.
- 4. A good education is one of the major factors in helping to overcome poverty.**
 - An incomplete education—lack of high school diploma, GED, literacy in English, workforce skills, etc.—is a serious challenge to decreasing poverty in Athens.
 - Persons who drop out of school have few job options in Athens-Clarke County.
- 5. Athens has an unskilled workforce that is a barrier to economic development.**
- 6. There is a lack of effective coordination and collaboration among faith-based organizations, non-profits, schools, universities and government agencies.**
 - There are serious problems getting information to the public about existing assistance programs.
 - There is a lack of specialized support for immigrant populations.
 - There are gaps in services.
- 7. Effective strategies to address racism and class issues are lacking.**
 - In Athens-Clarke County the consequences of poverty fall mostly on African Americans and, increasingly, on our growing Latino population.
 - There is a hesitancy, by all races, to have honest dialogue about the impact of race and class as they relate to poverty.
- 8. There are disincentives built into various systems that make it difficult to break the poverty cycle.**

Dependent Care Committee

Unedited Learnings as posted on www.prosperousathens.org

1. Family caregivers and providers of care to family caregivers report that caregivers need 3 levels of respite care: 24-hr emergency care for unexpected events, weekly scheduled respite so that the caregiver can plan errands, appointments, etc. and a full week of respite care once or twice yearly so the family caregiver can take a full break from the daily responsibilities of providing around-the-clock care. Although 25% of ACC elders of all races or ethnicities are receiving services, there is a waiting list of many more who are in need.
2. Many people who are at or below 250% of the poverty line cannot afford to provide adequate care to their elderly or disabled family members. The Income Threshold that is used to establish eligibility for services prohibits the middle class and the working poor from qualifying for caregiving services.
3. It was found that people are interested in assisting others based on their own abilities and needs. For example, many people expressed the need for an organized “People helping People” service exchange so that someone in need of assistance with chores, transportation, or other services might be matched with someone who could do those services in exchange for receiving some type of services themselves.
4. It was found that, when a caregiver does not qualify for Medicaid, then transportation costs create a situation whereby the caregiver cannot afford to travel to complete tasks such as grocery shopping or doctors’ appointments.
5. We’ve found that there are people who need services beyond those that are related to medical treatments. Often people have non-medical needs that are not being met such as the need for adult diapers, eyeglasses, dentures, home maintenance or modifications, assistance to and from appointments or shopping, etc.
6. Often, elders simply need someone to live with them or need to live with someone so they can receive day-to-day assistance with chores, cooking, and errands or to have someone available in case of an emergency. Because of zoning that restricts the number of non-related people living together, elders often cannot have live-in help. This same zoning issue limits the creation of Personal Care Homes as options for elders and disabled adults to remain living in the community and forces them to either leave their familiar community (including churches and neighbors) or move into high-cost assisted living or skilled nursing care facilities.