

Community Advisory Group (CAG)

for the

Omaha Lead Site

Comprehensive Plan/Grants Committee
Minutes from March 6, 2006 Meeting
Urban League of Nebraska Family Resource Center

Gail Braun (City of Omaha), Brenda Council (CAG Facilitator), Connie Determan (MFG, Inc.), Stan Quy (U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development), Jennifer Rawley (MFG, Inc.), Che Thompson (Lead Safe Omaha Coalition), Marian Todd (City of Omaha Planning Department), Vernon Waldren (Douglas/Sarpy County Extension) and Cheryl Weston (Lead Safe Omaha Coalition) were in attendance.

The Committee began the meeting by discussing potential grant opportunities. Ms. Braun provided information on applying for funding through Alegent. Ms. Braun provided information on various grants and foundations. Ms. Braun and Ms. Council suggested adding the following potential funding sources to the CAG's list:

- Economic Development Administration
- Iowa West
- Vin Gupta Foundation
- CC and Mable Criss Foundation
- Milton S. & Corinne N. Livingston Foundation

The Committee discussed the benefit of working with the Omaha Healthy Kids Foundation (OHKA) to demonstrate collaboration when applying for grants and to leverage funds. Ms. Council stated that OHKA should be able to match a resident to available resources based on a sliding scale of risk factors that will determine eligibility for various services and funds.

Ms. Council stated that the CAG may want to consider resubmitting the proposal to use the State's Superfund match funds on local education programming. Ms. Todd stated that NDEQ had expressed concerns regarding the administrative costs associated with the proposal. Ms. Council suggested revising the proposal to state that OHKA will provide administration, accountability, and reports. The Committee agreed to resubmit the proposal with revisions addressing the concerns of NDEQ.

Mr. Quy provided information on the HUD grant application process. Mr. Quy stated that there is a new emphasis on using logic models and that a training session will be offered on logic models. Mr. Quy stated that HUD will also hold a briefing on applying for lead grants, which anyone who is interested is invited to attend. Mr. Quy stated that he will provide the dates and times of the training session and briefing when the dates are made available.

The Committee discussed the possibility of local tribes applying for funding. The Committee agreed to contact Ms. Donna Polk-Primm to discuss the idea.

The Committee then discussed the draft housing matrix. Ms. Weston suggested that members review the matrix and come prepared to discuss and add to the matrix in two weeks. The Committee agreed to meet in two weeks to expand the housing matrix.

Ms. Todd provided an update on the City's private sector initiative. Ms. Todd stated that it seems more logical to continue discussions about the private sector initiative with the Education Committee. Ms. Todd stated that EPA's proposed rule includes requiring one-day training for renovators, and thus, she plans to include the same one-day training in the initiative.

Ms. Todd reported that she spoke with a former EPA Region I attorney who is working with the State of Massachusetts to provide outreach to real estate agents, landlords, and others who have a regulatory obligation pertaining to lead. Ms. Todd stated that the attorney is helping to motivate compliance through education to complement enforcement. She had contacted him about his new program of outreach to renovators and remodelers called "Don't Spread Lead," which is similar to the private sector initiative. The Committee agreed to contact the attorney to gain additional information and consider inviting him to speak to the CAG.

The next Committee meeting will be held on Monday, March 20, 2006 at 1:30 p.m. at the Family Resource Center, located at 3040 Lake Street.