

Hepburn Center
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City of Hallandale Beach

Human Services Advisory Board Annual Update

Date: March 24, 2008

Presented by: Julia P. Hamlin
Chairperson, Human Service Advisory Board
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Annual
Update

3/27/08

Human Service Advisory Board

The Human Services Advisory Board consists of ten members and two alternates, current members include Linda Cox, Julia Hamlin, Alexander Lewy, Jacqui Pentecost, Ivette Pizzano, Dr. Mark Pomerantz, and Father Robert Preston. We have two permanent vacancies and one alternate vacancy, which we encourage you to fill, as soon as possible. Residents who have expressed potential interest in serving on our board include Suzanne Herrera and Larry Fine.

- Annual Thanksgiving Dinner was well received by the community. We served over 157 meals and the Police Explorers delivered 60 meals to individuals that are sick and shut in. Along with the Mayor, Commissioners' we had over 30 volunteers to assist staff.
- The Department held their 2nd Annual Cancer Awareness HealthFair in September which was well attended.
- During the Udonnis Haslem Christmas Extravaganza, Board members volunteered at the event where over 600 children received gifts.
- Our Board, along with Mayor Cooper, hosted our second Financial Literacy Workshop, which was held on March 22. Panelist presented various financial topics in a workshop style forum. Topics included Credit Repair, Mortgage Readiness, Retirement Planning, Affordable Housing Programs, and Mortgage and Real Estate services. Fifteen to twenty persons attended the workshop, and the response to the information presented was very positive and we are encouraged to continue to build upon this program, and to advertise future Workshops to gain additional attendance. We have concluded that the excessive rain we experienced this past weekend contributed to the low turnout.

We are working with the Education Advisory Committee, and the Education Committee from the Chamber of Commerce, in planning a Career Day and putting together a Mentoring Program for area middle and high school students.

Presently we are putting together our recommendations for a Health and Wellness Program at the Hepburn Center. Initial discussions have occurred with Weed and Seed and the Friends of Hepburn, as potential partnering organizations for promotion and funding. We believe an on-going wellness program, starting with adult women, would benefit the

community and that through partnership with these organizations, we have the opportunity for the greatest exposure and program success.

The Board continues to work closely with Friends of the Hepburn Center, Inc. to market services and develop new sources of funding for various programs at the Hepburn Center. Board members have attended various events held for the Seniors Center and the Afterschool Program regularly to volunteer and/or show support for the many programs sponsored by the Department.

We recognize a need for volunteers to work and interact in the afternoons with the children in the after school program. The board is committed to recruiting volunteers and I would like to ask anyone in our viewing audience who is interested in helping in this manner, to please contact the Human Services Department at 954/457-1460.