

**Displaced Homemaker Board
Meeting Minutes
Thursday March 6th, 2014 3:35 p.m.**

Video-Conference: St Louis Building, Reno Town Mall, Carson City SAO, Ely

Board Members Present:

Barbara Twitchell - Chairperson
Tracy Guinn
Deborah Levy
Louise Helton
Jennifer Counter

Department of Employment, Training & Rehabilitation Staff Present:

Samantha Hill-Cruz – Ely
Teena Park – Carson City SAO
Michael Rhoades – Carson City SAO

Department of Employment, Training & Rehabilitation Staff Absent:

Steve Gibson – Las Vegas

DH Center Coordinators Present:

Denise Gee	HELP of Southern Nevada
Sidney Sullivan	Truckee Meadows Community College

DH Center Coordinators Absent:

None

DH Center Staff Absent:

Paula McDonald	HELP of Southern Nevada
Kathleen McKnight	JOIN

Public Attendees Present:

Annette Marshall	JOIN branch manager (Ely)
------------------	---------------------------

- I. Roll Call and Confirmation of a Quorum:** Barbara Twitchell called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. All Board Members were present for a quorum.
- II. Verification of Posting:** Samantha Hill-Cruz confirmed proper posting of the meeting agenda.
- III. Welcome and Introductions:** All were welcomed. Michael Rhoades and Annette Marshall were introduced to the board.
- IV. Public Comment:** None

V. Review – DH Program Grantee Reports:

- **Sidney Sullivan** – Had a resource fair on February 26, 2014 where community organizations come on campus to share information with students. Had a total of 36 off campus vendors and 16 on-campus vendors attend. Was thought to have approximately 300-400 people attend. An e-mail invitation went out to all Displaced Homemakers registered with Re-Entry. Applied for and received the grant to build a job preparation center. Conducting Spring break boot camp with 4 workshops. (how to build resumes, interview skills, how to use LinkedIn, how to find out information on jobs and industries). Information will be sent out to all the displaced homemakers. Louise asked for pictures of the events to send off with the report
- **Denise Gee** – Started a new program called the Chief Encouraging Officer Event, talking to employers/employees from the companies to help build their employer base. (working with about 220 employers) Thanked Samantha Hill-Cruz for her warm and caring interviews of HELP clients as part of the Monitoring process. A displaced homemaker, Ashley Silverberg, was given the opportunity to model for DKNY spring series. Samantha Hill-Cruz informed Denise that a judge candidate, Romero Perez might be contacting her to take a tour and see what is being offered. Denise then had to leave the meeting for an emergency.
- **Kathleen McKnight** (through email) – 5 DH clients in training, 3 DH clients are job searching. One client is training in addition to working full-time. Lyon County remains at 12% unemployment and Churchill County at 7.2% unemployment. Fernley office has two monthly meetings showing services that are offered.
- **Barbara Twitchell** – Referred to the longitudinal data in the DH report and noted that there is a continuing trend of declining quarterly receipts. She speculated that this may be largely due to a lower divorce rate, which she had read was a by-product of the recession. Judges may also be more inclined to waive the DH divorce fee in bad economic times. She expressed hope that the improving economy combined with educating the judges on the purpose and value of the divorce fee might help reverse the declining receipts.

VI. Discussion/ For Possible Action

- **Approval of January 17, 2014 meeting minutes:** Louise Helton made a motion to approve the January 17, 2014 Minutes, Deborah Levy seconded.
- **NRS/Collection of DH funds (Domestic Partnerships, other)** – Presented by Samantha Hill-Cruz. Samantha reminded the group that she had sent out the NRS's for the Board to review and that these could be used in discussions about the Legislative Sunset Committee report.
- **Preliminary report on Ely Family Law Conference** – Had some great opportunities to network with people. Were able to present to the paralegals about the DH program. Were asked for more brochures to hand out to the family lawyers. Louise Helton was able to talk to next year's chairman who is very excited about working with the DH program in being part of the body of the agenda for next year's conference. Board has already decided that next year Ely will be the location for the face-to-face meeting again. Need to explore ways to ensure providers will be able to attend the next conference.
- **Legislative Commission Sunset Subcommittee Review** – Barbara feels very confident that because they have a long history of being such an active, involved,

and productive committee there should be no problem representing themselves in a most positive light at the review. Success stories need to be submitted from the different locations across the state. In response to Sidney Sullivan's question, Barbara replied that to her knowledge there will be no site visits. The report for the Sunset committee needs to be handed in by April 17th. Meeting is on May 6th and will be held by teleconference. They will ask questions and will have the report to refer to. No decision will be made at the meeting. The Sunset subcommittee cannot disband the DH committee but can recommend keeping or disbanding it to the Legislature. Contact any of the board members on any suggestions for submissions to the report.

VII. Suggested Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- Presentations could be prepared for the next meeting.
- Maybe include other/additional clients (i.e. domestic partnerships)
- How to advertise and market DH program

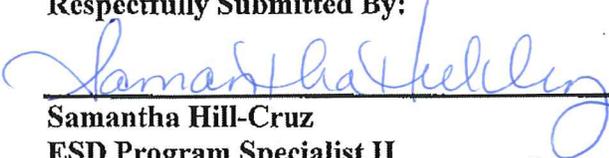
VIII. Public Comment

- Annette Marshall wanted to just take a minute and thank the board for the work being done for displaced homemakers.

IX. Adjournment:

- Louise Helton motioned to adjourn meeting Tracy Guinn seconded. Adjourned 4:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted By:



Samantha Hill-Cruz
ESD Program Specialist II



Barbara Twitchell, Chairperson
Board for the Education and Counseling of Displaced Homemakers