

Community Health Advocate
Steering Committee Report
August 12th, 1998

Brenda Kent, CHA Coordinator

I have been going over old files, touching base with former staff/volunteers who have been involved in CHA before, planning the structure/timelines of the program, and meeting with communities (see below). I finished the interim report for the Van/Rich Health Board which outlines my plans for the program until March 31st, 1999. If anyone is interested in having a copy of this report, please see me!

Meetings Held July 30 to Present

Megan Graham - She was involved in writing some of the CHA Manual in 1995-96. She gave me history of the project's vision.

REACH Community Health Centre - very interested in program and would provide a space for advocate to work

Mt Pleasant Family Place - Interested, but very small space. CHA could not work from there. She will check on a potential advocate in their community

BC Coalition for People with Disabilities - Very interested and willing to help with space, meeting rooms, contacts, etc. I am following up with leads about potential advocates

Vancouver/Richmond Mental Health Network - Pleased that we are interested in including them. They feel isolated from the health care community. They will bring issue to the next board meeting in search of advocates. Unsure of location where she would work.

The CENTRE (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered and thier Allies) - Sadie very willing to help and provided a lot of contact suggestions.

Brittania Volunteer Centre - Met with the volunteer coordinator and she was EXTREMELY helpful in suggesting women who would be good advocates and may have the time to commit

Legal Resource Centre - researched info on Advocacy

Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives - Researched info on Health Policy in BC

Future Meetings

If anyone wants to join me in these meetings, you are more than welcome. They have all been extremely informative and gave me insight into issues I has never thought about before.

Ellen LeFevre - Vancouver/Richmond Health Board - Monday, August 10th 10:00am. I am giving her info on on the project and asking her questions about the health care system and potential contacts of other organizations who have similar interests

Bob Prosser - Vancouver/Richmond Health Board - Thursday, Aug 13th 10:00am. We are discussing the 'in-depth evaluation' that we are a part of for CHA. I may need some brainstorming help after this meeting.

Downtown Eastside Women's Centre - Friday August 14th at 2:00. The Crisis counselor is undertaking a project about violence against women. We will be pooling resources.

Meeting dates TBA :

- Mt Pleasant Neighbourhood House
- Vancouver Native Health Society
- FREDA
- South Asian Women's Centre
- Vancouver Lesbian Connection
- Van Society of Immigrant and Visible Minority Women
- Mid-Main Community Health Centre

I have reviewed the workbook and am researching the information frm other organizations to add ot the workbook,

Van/Rich Health Board Evaluation

I am meeting with the coordinator next Thursday (see above) to discuss evaluation strategies. It was suggested that they may hire someone to do work for us regarding the evaluation process. ***Is anyone interested in learning how to evaluate projects?*** I am not quite sure how this will unfold, but more info will be available later.

Any suggestions or comments, please contact me!! I would love to hear any ideas about the project or any organizations I should contact.

THANKS!!