
STRATEGIC INITIATIVE # 1.2

GOAL # 1: PUBLIC SAFETY*Maintain a safe and healthy community in which to live*

INITIATIVE 1.2: COORDINATE THE EFFORT TO BRING A FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER TO THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE

Fiscal Year 2011 Quarterly Updates:**1st Quarter Report (Received by CCOM on 2/17/2011 Consent Agenda)**

On December 14th, 2010, Sherry Kitchens, Theresa Harrison (Peaceful Paths), City Commissioner Lauren Poe and Captain Benck met to discuss the progress and direction of this initiative. We left the meeting with the task of coming up with a name for the proposed center. A few options were discussed but another meeting will be held to finalize the chosen name. Future multi-agency meetings where potential stake holders will be together in the same room were also discussed. The group has agreed that we should attend these meetings as much as possible to promote the initiative.

Fiscal Year 2010 Quarterly Updates:**4th Quarter Report (Received by CCOM on 12/16/2010 Consent Agenda)**

Much of the weekly activity related to this initiative has died down as we have reached a point where funding is the remaining issue. Due to continual discussions that CAC Director Sherry Kitchens and Commissioner Poe have had with community members who may have an interest in assisting in funding this project, a meeting was set up on September 2, 2010 with Police Chief Tony Jones. During the meeting, Sherry Kitchens and HOME Magazine editor (and CAC Board Member) Scott Costeo explained to the Chief that they have a person who may want to donate a large amount of money to build a children's justice center. The Chief agreed to meet with this person to further the discussion and answer any questions the potential donor may have. At the time of this report, the outcome of those meetings has not been finalized.

3rd Quarter Report (Received by CCOM on 11/4/2010 Consent Agenda)

During the third Quarter, Commissioner Poe and CAC Director Sherry Kitchens attended the National Conference on Family Justice Centers in San Antonio., Texas. Grant travel funds were used to fund this training. The conference had many tracks, one being related to starting a FJC. The Commissioner and Ms. Kitchens walked away with ideas and strategies aimed at setting up a Family Safety Center in Gainesville. Upon their return to Gainesville they held a meeting to discuss their next steps with other staff members who have been involved in this project.

2nd Quarter Report (Received by CCOM on 6/3/2010 Consent Agenda)

During the second quarter, several meetings were held with City staff, mostly regarding the procurement of space for the Family Safety Center. Pat Grunder, Grants Coordinator for GPD, was asked to join in on this initiative. She attended a meeting on February 10, with Commissioner Lauren Poe, Sherry Kitchens and Captain Lynne Benck. The team met again on February 22, with Jon Mills, Dean Emeritus of the University of Florida Levin School of Law. The idea of partnering with UF was discussed. In the next quarter, Commissioner Lauren Poe and Ms. Grunder are going to meet with Shands CEO to discuss a partnership with them as well.

1st Quarter Report (Received by CCOM on 3/18/2010 Consent Agenda)

A meeting was scheduled with Commissioner Poe and the City Manager during the first quarter to discuss the next step in this initiative. During the meeting further direction was given about questions and obstacles that need to be addressed before moving forward. During the second quarter, those questions and obstacles will be addressed.

Fiscal Year 2009 Quarterly Updates:

4th Quarter (Received by CCOM on 1/7/2010 Consent Agenda)

During the fourth quarter, Police Captain, Lynne Benck had two meetings with CAC Director Sherry Kitchens to finalize a suggested floor plan for a Center for Family Safety. The second meeting was with City Commissioner Lauren Poe and the floor plan was presented to him at that time. Commissioner Poe suggested that GPD and CAC begin to search for grant funding for this initiative.

3rd Quarter (Received by CCOM on 8/20/2009 Consent Agenda)

During this 3rd Quarter, Commissioner Lauren Poe, GPD Capt. Lynne Benck, and CAC Director Sherry Kitchens met with individuals to gain support for efforts to bring a family center to Gainesville. The potential core partners were re-contacted and questions were asked about their spatial needs in the event of co-location. A hypothetical floor plan was created which will assist in giving the partners and other interested parties an idea of the ideal work flow. It shows how each agency can share space and resources. * In the third quarter, the GPD Capt. Lynne Benck worked with Commissioner Poe, the City Manager and Strategic Planning on revised language regarding this Strategic Initiative.

2nd Quarter (Received by CCOM on 5/21/2009 Consent Agenda)

During the last quarter a minimum of 10 meetings were held in the interest of advancing this initiative. These meetings were conducted with potential partners and key agencies who the City would want to have involved with a Center which focuses on Child Victim and Domestic Violence Victim needs, services, and intervention. All potential partner agencies were supportive of this initiative and have agreed to supply personnel from their agencies to the proposed Center. At this point, the City of Gainesville and the other agencies are initiating talks about possible locations for the center.

1st Quarter Report (Received by CCOM on 2/5/2009 Consent Agenda)

This initiative was first proposed at a Strategic Planning Retreat in June, 2008, and its implementation is still in its infancy.

During the 1st quarter, staff conducted an analysis of current services available to child victims in the greater Gainesville area. Staff also began working on a public information brochure listing the available services for child victims in Gainesville, Florida. In addition, staff considered a plan to identify any gaps or overlapping services available to child victims.

This initiative is aligned with the Public Safety Committee, and it is anticipated that when this initiative is discussed at the Committee's January, 2009, meeting, it will be refined. Specifically, Commissioner Lauren Poe, the initiative's sponsoring commissioner, has suggested that a "Family Justice Center" be added as an outcome for this initiative.

Any recommendations made by the Public Safety Committee will then be presented at the City Commission to the Strategic Planning Workshop on February 9th, 2009.