

What do *you* value?

Organization: Healthy Families Partnership

Meeting Date: March 23, 2010

in Attendance: 31

- Why pull money from a great program like Healthy Families Partnerships when it helps so many people. I have received so many necessary things like formula and parenting classes and even when Social Services could or would not help me. They have helped me secure custody of my child. They help, they understand.
- General consensus in the room is that HFP benefits the children and helps guarantee a better future.
- Concerned for market loss to the children, they are suffering enough from the school budget cuts.
- What other services are up for being cut? This is the place where many military families come meet others in the city. Coming here has changed my life, my child's life. They were able to identify problems. My son has completely turned around from coming here; he used to be so shy, didn't know his ABC's, now he talks to everyone and knows his ABC's!
- I can't imagine life without HFP. With the case worker, he has developed beyond what he would have been. HFP helps so much with socialization, helps children to learn how to interact appropriately with others as well as with parents, teachers, etc
- Could not imagine life without HFP - General consensus
- As a single parent, I was humbled with having to get food stamps and WIC. Having this support and guidance because I was lost. Social Services has not been able to help me in the ways I have needed it. If it wasn't for this program, I would have never stuck with it. Social Services, they were just not nice, if I relied just on them I would have given up. Their system is not user friendly, I never get returned calls, I couldn't get my food stamps, they seem jaded and that everyone is the same and don't believe anything you are saying even though you are honest and trying your best.
- There are issues with customer service and efficiency at Social Services - General consensus
- Is there an outline of where the expenses are going?
- I have been coming here for 3 years, it is not just coming here to play, but its friends, education, how to be a better parent, and how to do right by the children. This is like family. Is there something we can do - donations of supplies, toys, crafts, etc. whatever to save money? We are all here to help.
- Consensus of the group they value the program so much that there is a willingness to help, contribute within their own resources to help support services so they don't go away. Someone's non-necessities are someone else's treasures. Needs vs. wants.
- This program also helps parents, not just children, helps the parents to become involved with the parenting of their child.
- It is impressive that someone is there to reach out to help, someone wants to help. I really respect this, is there a non- profit that is working to fund the program (501(c)(3)?

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- My children have been clothed through all the different resources provided through the swap meet, if you donate a bag, you get a bag. We don't want to take away from the funding that protects the citizens or what is important. If it wasn't for HFP, I would have lost my mind and my child. I would have given up my child.
- HFP is a beginning for the programs to keep other programs costs. The value in this program is that it helps families, and it saves the city money. People learn here how to interact and what is socially acceptable which decreases the need for police.
- If we don't do what we are doing here right, things later won't matter as much. You need more marketing so more people know about these programs so that more people can learn how to parent and be a good citizen and member of the community.
- I am grateful that you would take the time to hear what I have to say.
- I found out about HFP through a CNU professor (who brings her son here). She was a teacher, financially stable. HFP is not for the economically disenfranchised, it is for everyone in every social setting.
- I chose to live in Hampton because of all the services that the city offers, this is one of them. Hampton's culture is very inclusive which is a benefit of Hampton. Want to attract new people here and give good reason for people to move here.
- I had no idea of what I didn't know until I came here. Every visit, every class I learn something new that makes me a better parent and person.
- Having moved here from GA, I was thrilled to learn about HFP because I didn't know anyone and the stress of a newborn. One of the best of experiences we have ever had is here. We didn't know what we were missing.
- I moved here 5.5 years ago. I knew no one and had no idea about this program until I was at an event and I ran into the HFP booth. I am on my third child now here at HFP; this is a community. This is now my family
- Drainage - We moved here in 1979 and love it but now there is real concern about drainage, especially where I live in Elizabeth Lakes. We have been working with the City, but the City has rejected it, 42 residents are affected, paid for documentation.
- The marketing of chats need to be improved.
- Consensus of group is HFP is a need not a want.

Note: All questions were answered.