

## **Englewood CHAT Meeting Agenda May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009**

**Present:** Hilary Woodcum, Connie Ellis, Bill Coy, Vicki Rice, Barbara Arbour, Tanice Knopp, Kimberly Chmielewski, Sandra Strickland, Kelly Carr, Norene Donaldson, Diane Ramseyer

**Welcome** – Connie Ellis welcomed all and introductions were provided.

### **Guest Presentations**

Kimberly Chmielewski presented information on the Community Pharmacy of Sarasota, which is now open one day a week in Englewood for applications. They are also able to serve all Englewood. While they plan to be present weekly, currently, they are open at St. David's Episcopal Church on the last Thursday of the month from 10 am -noon – this is to apply. This is an income based service – but, they look at the last 4 weeks of income, not annual. They used donated medications from physicians – usually samples. They do not offer narcotics, but they can help people access pharmacy assistance programs. Services are provided by volunteers; Kimberly is the only staff person. Medications are couriered from the pharmacy in Nokomis to drop-off sites, such as St. David's. The actual pharmacy in Nokomis is only open on Wednesday.

Tanice Knopp presented information on ITN *Sarasota* - New Transportation Program through a project of the Community Foundation of Sarasota, Jewish Family and Children Services and SCOPE. Independent Transportation Network is a system which creates a network of transportation services using donated vehicles, time, volunteer drivers, and other community resources. The Community Foundation of Sarasota has provided start-up funds to see it through the first 5 years. They do not provide medical transport, and riders in a wheelchair must be able to transfer themselves to car seat, etc. Currently, they are recruiting volunteer drivers. The volunteer drivers have extensive background checks. They offer rides 24/7, 365 days a week. There is a \$3 pick-up fee with \$1.50/mile. They are fundraising to build funds to reduce rates as low as possible. Volunteer drivers also earn credits which can be banked for use in the future, or donated to someone in particular, or to their scholarship program (accessed by low income riders who cannot afford fee). Credits can be use in **ANY** ITN *America* program. Money is not exchanged between rider and driver. Riders join ITN *Sarasota* and pay directly into an account, receiving monthly balance updates. Other facets of the program include that organizations or businesses can set up an account for use by clients or others - such as a physician having an account which they can use for specific patients. There is also a car donation program. The car can be donated in general, or used as credits for their account. This is often done by elderly persons donating their

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car for travel credits. In order for them to serve Englewood area, they need the volunteer drivers. Training will be held in the community of the volunteers. They are also talking with other volunteer community ride programs to help ITN *Sarasota* be a compliment to those programs already in place.

### **Announcements:**

Charlotte County Cultural Center is holding a special event for local non-profits on 9-2 pm June 6<sup>th</sup>. Services have booths which either sell items or have other ways to raise money through games, etc. The service organization which raises the most money will win \$500 from the Center.

Tidewell is offering a Veteran Resource Fair on June 24<sup>th</sup> (9- noon) at the Cultural Center – open to other organizations which have programs for Veterans – see Kelly Carr, who will also send the information via email.

Leadership Englewood has developed a project for this year's group which is on Habitat for Humanity. They are bringing a retail store into Englewood. The Leadership Englewood group is collecting donations to help get the store up and running in July. Habitat for Humanity is devoting 1/3 of their budget to the Englewood community.

Women's Group of Englewood Community Hospital – Meet the last Wednesday of each month at Englewood Hospital at 7 pm. They are holding a fashion show on May 30<sup>th</sup> – 11:30 am at Suncoast Auditorium. Kelly has tickets. The funds raised are used for scholarship for Englewood students pursuing healthcare careers.

Sarasota Coalition on Substance Abuse – still looking for businesses which sell alcohol to go through their training program. Please contact Hilary if you know of a restaurant or vendor in Englewood who may be interested – [hilary@scosa.org](mailto:hilary@scosa.org) .

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren – Groups will continue to meet in the summer. They meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at Englewood Hospital 9:30 am- 11:30 am– with childcare provided. North Port Group will continue to meet as well. They have anywhere from 12 -24 people meeting regularly.

Women's Resource Center has peer counselor at the United Methodist Church on Thursday afternoons – Connie continues in a volunteer role.

The Englewood One-Stop has brochures now. Barbie Arbour shared an update on the progress of getting the One-Stop built. They are still projecting it to be built off Medical Blvd, with building starting the end of the year.

Rotary Club of Englewood – Youth Foundation has given out scholarships at the high school and Heritage Christian Academy and special training. The Youth Foundation also helps provide funds for kids for summer camps and other activities for all ages,

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such as at the Veterans Home, etc. Any agency with a special need or project, please contact Barbie for information on how to apply.

Bill Coy shared some updates on transportation in Charlotte County, which will include a fixed route in Englewood on 41 throughout the county. Dial-a-Ride would also help connect to it.

Englewood Helping Hand is having a Faith and Family Night at the Stone Crabs on June 5<sup>th</sup>. See Vicki for tickets at \$9. There will also be a concert and a coupon to get a Stone Crabs house. They are also asking people to bring canned goods for their food pantry.

2009 Fundraiser's Forum – July 10 9:30 – 3:30 pm – Anna Maria Island Community Center. Contact [www.cfsarasota.org](http://www.cfsarasota.org)

**Englewood Agency Roundtable Meets in June 18<sup>th</sup>!**  
**Next CHAT Meeting will be July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009 – 9:00 am**

CHAT is the Community Health Action Team –  
<http://www.chip4health.org/englewood.htm>  
For More Information - Please Call Diane at:  
(941) 650-4856

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