

EASTER GROUP
SUMMARY OF FEBRUARY 20, 2010 RETREAT

ATTENDEES

Mim McConnell
Judy Ozment
Jack Ozment
Dorrie Farrell
Mary Hughes
Evie Barber
Katie Rosario
Ted Laufenberg
Ginny Wood
Jim Berry

Facilitator – Mim McConnell

First order was an opening prayer, followed by a great breakfast offered by Ginny, Judy and Bridget.

Attendees agreed that first priority was to draft and adopt a mission statement which reflected the intent and scope of the Easter Group. The task involved: 1) a general discussion of the purpose and content of a good mission statement, 2) review of statements from diverse groups, 3) work by three small groups to write a statement, 4) analysis by entire group of work done in small groups and final draft and adoption of a completed mission statement. The work on the mission statement consumed over half the time for the retreat. The statement adopted reads as follows:

The Easter Groups is an ecumenical community of faith whose mission is to end poverty, empower people and bring about a rebirth of hope. In support of the Millennium Development Goals, we commit ourselves to identifying and implementing local and global projects that serve those in need. Our actions are for the benefit of all, regardless of personal faith, culture or belief.

The second order of business was to identify the MDGs that would be most “doable” for the Easter Group. Goals and the actions required were identified as:

Goal I: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

Actions needed:

- 1, Homeless survey – group consisting of Ted, Ginny, Jack and Jim
 - a) survey to identify numbers
 - b) Identify specific needs
 - c) identify current service providers and the contact people
2. SEARHC mobile unit – group of Ted, Jack, Jim
 - a) status of acquisition of vehicle
 - b) status of staffing requirements and identification of volunteers by name and number
3. Hunger and Nutrition – Judy, Mary, Evie, Dorrie
 - a) Assessment of current lunch programs offered by Salvation Army M-F, St. Gregory/St. Michael Saturday
 - numbers served
 - costs
 - anecdotal account of other needs observed in attendees

b) Assessment of supplemental grocery program offered
by Salvation Army

- numbers served
- costs
- anecdotal account of other needs observed in attendees

Note: Items 3 a and b will be completed by Judy and Mary

c) School breakfast and lunch programs

- Identification of schools offering breakfast program
 - contact people for each
- Identification of schools w/o breakfast program
 - contact people for each
 - schools suggestions to initiate/implement program
- Counts for school programs for breakfast/lunch as supplied by school foods contractor
 - number fully paid, subsidized and free meals

Note: Item c to be completed by Dorrie

d) Education

- Preparation of printed materials and basic recipes

Note: Item d to be completed by Evie

e) a 4th group to oversee coordination of actions was given to Jim, Marie, and Martina

Goals identified without identification of actions required:

Goal 2: Promote gender equality and empower women

Goal 3: Improve maternal health

Goal 4: Ensure environmental stability

Due to time constraints and sparse attendance actions required to achieve goals 2-4 were not discussed. Another meeting was agreed on for Saturday, March 27 to deliver reports on actions completed and to address remaining goals and required actions. Attendees were asked to identify personal goals in the work packet for future use.

Mim reported that the Home Health Advisory Board requested a speaker for the next meeting on Feb. 24 to discuss the mission and actions of the Easter Group. Dorrie volunteered to attend. Meeting adjourned shortly after noon.