

provides initial, intermediate and long-term participant goals. On page two of the model, resources the program uses to operate and function are identified, as well as the program's activities, volume of activities, and outcome data over a twelve-month period for the outcome being measured. This reporting of results shows if an agency is meeting goals, similar to the data currently provided to the board in the salmon colored report. For the programs that have been tracked over a period of time, the report may also indicate some trends. The logic model also provides a level of strategic planning as staff that complete the report provide their evaluation of the activity and what has been learned. The data can then be used to implement change and continuous improvement.

Ellen Kisinger-Rothi stated this model helps the agency to focus on what they are trying to achieve and agencies can then make adaptations to their service delivery to improve. The problem statement can indicate what adjustments need to be made to adjust to changes in funding. Bob Straits stated use of this model would be left to the Monitoring and Evaluation Committee to decide. Suprotik provided the audience with the dates and times of the next Logic Model training that begins on May 6.

- IV. **Glen Oaks Community College** – Dr. Glenn Oxender gave a presentation on the history of Glen Oaks Community College by answering question regarding Glen Oaks trivia. Dr. Oxender reported GOCC is working on establishing a three-year program with universities that will be less expensive and a larger draw for individuals to attend college. He reported GOCC is free to anyone 60 years of age and older. New construction on the college campus is being delayed in an effort to maintain student programs and to continue to be a service to the community.
- V. **Legislative Update** – Bob Straits reported federal legislation regarding the Workforce Investment Act is still being debated. For the coming year funding allocations are similar to the current year. Locally, the largest funded program is the Welfare Reform/Welfare-to-Work and funding for this program has not been announced. Staff are using planning figures based on estimates from the State, which is similar to last years funding. Funding for the Partnerships in Learning (PAL) Program is in hot debate and it appears there may be some funding for this program.
- VI. **Poverty Initiative** – David Artley gave a presentation on the Poverty Initiative. Mr. Artley reported when the living wage issue was on the ballot, there was an agreement between the Kalamazoo Chamber and the Living Wage Coalition that no matter what happened, something needed to be done to address poverty. After the election, a number of groups met to work on issues as to how to address poverty. Housing and employment were two major issues facing those in poverty. The group did not want to duplicate what is already being done and approached Housing Resources, Michigan Works staff and the WDB Executive Committee for a discussion of four poverty issues. The issues discussed included: perceived gaps in employment; barriers to employment; the top things that work to secure and maintain employment for those traditionally unemployed; and specific programs the poverty steering committee could and should take on. The information gathered summarized the top ranking gaps for individuals looking for and maintaining employment, top barriers to employment and the things that do work to help those traditionally unemployed to secure and maintain employment. The summary was included in the agenda packet for today's meeting.

In St. Joseph County, Glenn Oxender indicated transportation and childcare are barriers to those seeking an education and GOCC is willing to supply a building for childcare to someone that would operate a day care program. He also stated that single parenting is a tough road and each person's individual needs should be addressed separately. The lack of and cost of education are additional barriers faced by those in poverty. During further discussion, Mary Oudsema suggested tapping into the curriculum designed for EFE using the "Work Place Know How Skills" to teach soft skills. A book, authored by Ruby Pane, about generational poverty was recommended reading to help understand the poverty issue. Suprotik stated he appreciated the report on poverty and wondered what unrestricted funding was available. Joel Cooper reported, in Michigan, our Senators and Legislative Representatives are putting together a bill for Medicaid buy-in and if this passes, it will have a significant impact in getting individuals off of SSI and low-income individuals returning to work. Currently many of these individuals do not return to work due to fear of losing medical insurance coverage. John Davis stressed a proactive approach, such as a mentoring program, is needed in schools to ensure children learn a good work ethic and values, learn how to be resourceful, and foster the ambition to succeed. Bob Straits reported the Poverty Committee, using the discussion paper as a guide, would further examine ways to resolve the poverty issue.

The consensus of the Board was to move forward with the recommendations as presented in the discussion paper and that support for mentorship and coaching is needed throughout the process. David thanked the board and guests for their input and stated that comments from today's discussion will be added to the summary before it is forwarded to the Poverty Committee.

- VII. **Announcements** – Jan Smith announced the Michigan Works Association is sponsoring a conference in Lansing on Employing People with Disabilities and Assistive Technology. She distributed registration forms for the free conference and encouraged anyone interested to attend. Armando Romero announced there is a free health fair this Saturday, May 3 at Reed Park for those in the community without insurance. The event will have a special focus on the Hispanic community. Borgess Medical Center and Bronson Healthcare Group are supporting this event. Armando also announced there will be a very large Diversity Celebration Day at Upjohn Park on July 13. Anyone desiring additional information should contact Armando Romero.
- VIII. **Next Meeting** - The next full board meeting is Thursday, September 4, 2003 at approximately 8:00 a.m., immediately following the Executive Committee meeting on the same date. The location will be announced at a later date.
- IX. **Adjournment** - with no further business, Chair Marilyn Potgiesser adjourned the meeting at 9:35 a.m.

Robert A. Straits

Date

Marilyn A. Potgiesser

Date