

# Quality of Life Council Committee

## Meeting Record (DRAFT)

**Meeting Date:** 4-26-2010

**Convened:** 12:09 p.m.

**Adjourned:** 1:23 p.m.

Pauline Medrano, Chair  
Vonciel Jones Hill, Vice-Chair  
Sheffie Kadane  
Dave Neumann  
Steve Salazar  
Carolyn R. Davis

Jerry Allen (non-member)

### **Briefing Presenters:**

- Martha T. Blaine, Executive Director Community Council of Greater Dallas
- Debby Thornton, Director, 211 Texas – Dallas Region
- Maria Munoz-Blanco, Director of Cultural Affairs
- Gigi Antoni, Big Thought President & CEO

### **Special Guests:**

Big Thought staff

### **AGENDA:**

#### 1. **Approval of March 8, 2010 minutes and April 12, 2010 minutes**

**Presenter(s):**

**Information Only:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):**

Motion to approve the March 8, 2010 minutes. Motion to approve the April 12, 2010 minutes with corrections.

Motion made by: Vonciel Jones Hill

Item passed unanimously: \_\_X\_\_

Item failed unanimously: \_\_\_\_\_

Motion seconded by: Sheffie Kadane

Item passed on a divided vote: \_\_\_\_\_

Item failed on a divided vote: \_\_\_\_\_

#### 2. **2-1-1 Connecting People and Services**

**Presenter(s):** Martha T. Blaine and Debby Thornton

**Information Only:** \_\_X\_\_

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):**

The purpose of the briefing was to inform citizens of where to call to help find resources for health and human services. 2-1-1 serves over 241 million Americans nationwide. These numbers increase every few weeks and government support of 2-1-1 nationally is pending legislation. Texas has 100% coverage. People who call 2-1-1 in Texas will be connected directly to their regional Area Information Center (AIC).

2-1-1 is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year, and answered by professionally trained and certified specialists. The benefits include an easy to remember 3-digit dialing code, eliminates confusion about “where to call” for services, provides accurate

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information to the public, eliminates inappropriate calls to 9-1-1, provides homeland security and disaster support.

In Dallas County the major needs are utility assistance, food, rental/shelter assistance, affordable housing, and medical assistance. 2-1-1 also provides homeland security and disaster response assistance including authorized information dissemination to the public, rumor control, regional and community response, disaster response support, crisis intervention and human services coordination, and volunteer and donation coordination.

### 3. Thriving Minds Success

**Presenter(s):** Gigi Antoni and Maria Munoz-Blanco

**Information Only:**  X

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):**

The purpose of the briefing was to provide an update on the Thriving Minds initiative managed by Big Thought and to provide information on the SLANT45 partnership program with the North Texas Super Bowl XLV Host Committee. In 2005, the Wallace Foundation gave a \$1 million planning grant. In 2006-2007 the Wallace Foundation gave an additional \$8 million for implementation. With this money Big Thought brought creative learning to 157 campuses and six neighborhoods in a coordinated year-round creative learning system. In 2008, DISD and Big Thought teamed up to support after-school programs funded through the federal 21<sup>st</sup> Century grant program in 22 schools. In 2009-2010, additional grants were received and 34 schools were supported in September. Summer camps are coordinated in 28 Dallas schools and OCA centers.

Thriving Minds Phase I has impacted jobs and the economy for the City as well as supported community connections. Thriving Minds Phase II will establish year round programs out of every DISD elementary school, begin summer camps in every Dallas neighborhood, build more than 500 neighborhood leaders, and provide professional development to 6,000 teachers and 370 fine arts specialists.

Summer Camps in 2010 will offer visual and performing arts components, will have a capacity of 25 students weekly, be on a first come first served basis to any child residing in the City of Dallas, and will provide breakfast, lunch and snacks daily.

The SLANT 45 program will host 20,000 students with 45,000 hours of service learning in 112 cities across North Texas. Registration is now through December 2010, a project must be completed by December, and reflective art and final stats must be turned in by December. In January a documentary premiere and touring art exhibit will take place before the culminating event celebration.