

# **KARLA SMITH FOUNDATION**

## **ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**

**SEPTEMBER 11, 2006**

### **MINUTES**

The KSF Advisory Council met on September 11, 2006 in the Peace Chapel at 5:00 with all members present. We approved the minutes of the previous June 12 meeting.

The Directors reported on KSF activities since our last meeting, and the Council agreed that the development of KSF was progressing at a rapid but manageable rate.

Tom Mulhall then reported for the **Communications** Committee. He outlined the “Erase the Stigma” year long campaign, and showed us some samples of the Erase the Stigma logo and flyers. We discussed the coming October 15 Prayer Service at St. Nicholas and reported on the progress of the planning for the Erase the Stigma Conference on June 2 and 3, 2007. This conference is co-sponsored by KSF, the Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows, and the Family Life Office of the St. Louis Archdiocese. The conference planning committee believes that with the extensive network of the Shrine, the Archdiocese, along with the mental health communities of St. Clair and Madison Counties, participation at the conference will meet the expectations of 300-400 attendees. The KSF Communications committee will aid with the publicity for this event.

Sharon Smith then described the plans and activities of the **Fundraising** committee. She distributed the minutes of a recent Fundraising Committee meeting and a request letter from the committee to the Advisory Council. She reported that the committee submitted a grant proposal to the Nick Traina Foundation for \$10,000. They will continue to pursue other grant opportunities. The committee decided that it would be better to separate the Dinner/Auction from the “ERace the Stigma” Run/Walk. The Dinner/Auction will be June 30, 2007 and the Run/Walk will be October 6, 2007 with both events held at the Shrine. The committee requests that Council members help them develop lists of names for the Dinner/Auction in three areas: Sponsors, item donors, and people to invite. Lists can be e-mailed to Lesley Coleman ([lcoleman@diobelle.org](mailto:lcoleman@diobelle.org)) or Sharon at [wtrbb84@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wtrbb84@sbcglobal.net).

Pete Carmany and Terri Klawonn of the **Resources** committee outlined four possible activities that could help KSF participants receive the resources they need: a directory of resources, semiannual presentations to KSF support groups, a survey of participants to determine preferences, and a sponsorship/advocate model to assist families and friends to

better access services. After feedback from KSF support groups, the committee will pursue further development of these programs.

The **Financial Aid** committee also was very active. Bernadette Middeke reported that the committee recommends that KSF focus on financial assistance for the family and friends of a mentally ill loved or for suicide survivors in the areas of counseling and education. The Council supported this approach and the committee will draw up criteria for distribution of KSF funds. We agreed that 10% of the funds raised would be considered as an endowment for KSF future needs. Funds for appropriate research will be considered at a later time.

The meeting closed with a discussion of the expansion of KSF activities, especially the idea of creating KSF support groups in other locations. We agreed on the concept that if support groups would use KSF materials with facilitators trained by KSF and with periodic follow-up consultations, those groups would be considered a part of KSF.

The meeting closed at 7:00pm with the reminder that the next meeting will be at 5:00pm on December 11 at the Peace Chapel.