

MAASKELAH THOMAS, M.A., M.S.

Project Facilitator

Self-Help Network Center for Community Support and Research

(316) 978-3557

maaskelah.thomas@wichita.edu

EDUCATION

THE FIELDING GRADUATE UNIVERSITY – Doctor of Philosophy (Ph. D.) degree in Human and Organizational Development with emphasis on community sociology and organizational development - In progress/Estimated completion June 2007

THE FIELDING GRADUATE UNIVERSITY – Master of Arts, Human and Organizational Systems October 2005

NEWMAN UNIVERSITY Wichita – Master of Science, Education (Adult) December 2000 (Summa Cum Laude)

TABOR COLLEGE Wichita – Bachelors of Science, Management and Organizational Development (Summa Cum Laude) 1998

WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY Core Courses, Women's Studies Concentration 1978 - 1998

WICHITA AREA VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL Mental Health Technician Program. 8/91 - 6/92 (Licensed by Kansas State Board of Nursing - 1992)

WICHITA BUSINESS COLLEGE Business Administration Program 8/76 - 6/77

WICHITA HIGH SCHOOL EAST Graduate 1975

PAST EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS

COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTER DIRECTOR/COORDINATOR

Acting as a community liaison within an ethnically diverse community, linking municipal, community, business and educational resources in order to meet the education, health, safety and welfare needs of residents of all ages and backgrounds. Facilitating collaborative partnerships and projects to maximize human and community resources. Organizational capacity-building through facilitating organizational planning, grant writing and developing participatory programs and collaborative projects between community residents, the Wichita Public School district and city government, as well as other service organizations. Managing district facility for after-hours programming and coordinating space utilization. Volunteer recruitment and coordination.

NORTHEAST PLANNING COUNCIL (NEPC) COALITION FACILITATOR

Facilitating coalition efforts to impact substance abuse, HIV/AIDS prevention, education and risk reduction among African Americans in Wichita, KS through coordinated planning, community coordination and mobilization of resources.

ARTSCORPS WICHITA – AMERICORPS DIRECTOR

Directing a corps of 18 artists-in-residence to provide ongoing arts and education activities and workshops to neighborhood youth and adults. Providing developmental and in-service training and to artists/teachers to assist their effectiveness in community service and outreach. Coordinating collaborative efforts for community empowerment and mobilization.

DEVELOPED AND COORDINATED program for at-risk youth. Supervised 10 intermediate and junior staff. Acted as associate director of programming for urban sites. Coordinated local replication of national programming initiatives.

FACILITATOR/EDUCATOR - HIV/AIDS African American Adolescent Risk Reduction Project. Coordinating and presenting HIV/AIDS risk reduction workshops for adolescents as part of a university-based collaborative community outreach initiative.

OUTREACH EDUCATION AND COORDINATION OF COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS focusing on HIV/AIDS risk-reduction activities through a program funded by Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

GRANTWRITING AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT for substance abuse programming and HIV/AIDS Risk Reduction programming.

CONTRACT SERVICES SPECIALIST monitoring contract compliance for State of Kansas Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services (ADAS) funded addictions treatment and prevention providers. Providing technical assistance and training to funded providers regarding contract policies, standards, compliance and community collaborations. Assisting with community collaboration planning and mobilization efforts throughout State of Kansas.

COUNSELING AND CASE MANAGEMENT with adults and families in a substance abuse treatment setting. Included providing vocational counseling and training, job and work skills training, continuing care counseling, assessing available community resources, advocating for needed resources not currently available and providing life-skills and family management training for adults recovering from addiction.

OTHER ACTIVITIES, TRAINING, AWARDS AND AFFILIATIONS

City of Wichita - Excellence in Public Service Award Nominee 2004

National Community Education Association Professional Service Award Nominee 2002

Certified Online Instructor Training – The Walden Institute 2000

Kansas Association for Educating Communities (KAEC) - Founding Member/State Liaison

National Community Education Association – Member

National Council of State Community Education Associations - Member/National Secretary

Convener – National Black Women’s Health Project Self-Help Support Group

Community Service Volunteer through AmeriCorps National Service, working with grassroots community organizations to develop **“A NETWORK OF GRASSROOTS INITIATIVES”**