

**Promise Partners Committee Meeting Notes**  
Youth and Family

**COMMITTEE:** Youth and Families  
**MEETING DATE:** September 9, 2014

**CHAIRPERSON:** Jessica Simons  
**LOCATION:** Micah House

**PRESENT:**

Jessica Simons (Promise Partners)  
Terri Dowell (Community Volunteer)  
Tiffani Pinkerton (Heartland Family Service)  
Cindy Goodin (YES)  
Angela Moerke (Transitional Services of Iowa)  
Deb Kissel (Zion Recovery)  
Lt. Dan Flores (CB PD)

Lorelle Muetting (HFS)  
Christy Hagen (Trailblazers)  
Dave Smith (Trailblazers)  
Graham Jura (City of Council Bluffs)  
Kaylene Page (Workforce Investment Act)  
Venus Barnes (Walgreens)  
Tony Fiala (City of Council Bluffs)

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENSE:**

Sandra McKinnon (ISU Extension), Michelle Badalucco (Carter Lake Community Resource Center) and Julie Florian (Tobacco Prevention)

**Introductions and Announcements:**

Lorelle Muetting – September is National Recovery Month and PMP will be holding the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Hands Across the Bridge for Recovery event on 9/13/14 at 10:00am at the Bob Kerrey Pedestrian Bridge. There will be a speaker, DJ and many hands are needed to reach both sides.

Deb said the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) is considering another 6 month extension on her grant (January – June 2015)

Kaylene Page – spoke of Youth Program offered through Workforce Development. Also, Workforce Development Center is now offering meet and greets that will connect businesses with perspective employees (they will be accepting applications during that time).

Terri Dowell – Had information on the upcoming Iowa/Nebraska In the Neighborhood Conference on Oct 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>. This conference is to help build neighborhoods on a local level.

Jessica Simons – Community Networking Grants (designed to bring communities together) will be accepting applications for the December – May programs. Visit [www.promisepartners.org](http://www.promisepartners.org) for more information.

Venus Barnes – Walgreens will be offering a Way to Well Tour in Council Bluffs on September 29. This includes free tests, assessment, education, and consulting services. Services include cholesterol testing, glucose testing, blood pressure and a comprehensive weight assessment. No appointment is necessary, availability is on a first come, first serve basis.

**Operation Medicine Cabinet, Drug Disposal:** 9/27/14 10am – 2pm CB Walgreens 535 E Broadway. This will be the 10<sup>th</sup> event held (totals 27,000lb collected from 1600 cars). Help is still need for the day of the event 2 shifts (10am – noon and noon – 2pm) as well as help promoting the event. Any questions or concerns contact Lt. Dan Flores. Give away bags will be handed out to individuals who drop off medications, if you have materials you would like added to the bags, drop them off at Walgreens Photo counter on E Broadway by 9/17/14 or to Dave Smith.

**Laundry Love Project:**

The committee is interested in applying for funds to put this event on again next spring. A team will be working on the grant application, if you are interested in helping please contact Jessica.

**Community Calendar:**

There are at least two existing community calendars (Council Bluffs Convention & Visitors Bureau and Kids & Company). Both sites allow events to be added by anyone. The committee decided it would be a better use of time and resources to add our events to these two calendars. This will also allow our events to be reached to a wider audience. Events will still be collected at the monthly meetings and will be added to the calendars. Continue to bring your event dates and details.

**Infusing Developmental Assets into Our Work:**

As community members we should be intentional in using the Developmental Assets in our daily activities/jobs/roles. With school starting back up we can keep in mind Boundaries & Expectations and Commitment to Learning when working with families for the next month.

- Boundaries & Expectations
    - o Family Boundaries
    - o School Boundaries
    - o Neighborhood Boundaries
  - Commitment to Learning
    - o Achievement Motivation
    - o Learning Engagement
    - o Reading for Pleasure
- \* Adult Role Models
  - \* Positive Peer Influence
  - \* High Expectations
  - \* Homework
  - \* Bonding to school

**Preparing for next meeting:**

In the spring we did a planning session, goals and priorities were discussed. Below are the results of that session.

Next meeting we will use the Iowa Youth Survey/Report and other resources to look at local data regarding young people in Pott Co.

- 1) **What are the priorities and items you are focusing on through your work? What are you working to improve or maintain?**

- Overall wellness
- Healthy families
- Healthy lifestyles for families- eating, physical activity
- Lack of parenting
- Community Service Projects
- Youth Leadership

- Financial Literacy
- Self-sufficiency for families
- Latino High School Graduation

2) **What are some trends that you are noticing in the community?  
What is good & what is bad for children, youth, and families?**

- Addiction & drug use in the community
- Need for drug education
- Resource Rich Community
- Good collaboration across programs/agencies
- Teenage Pregnancy, Unwed mothers, Multiple pregnancies
- Activities for youth & families. “Fests”
- Single Parent Families
- Lack of participation in available programs
- Information on resources & programs
- Bullying
- Transportation Problems
- Increase in homelessness
- High school graduation rates
- Aging population
- More minorities- acceptance, language barriers
- Diversity
- Increase in unemployment

3) **What are some educational opportunities you’d like to learn more about?** *Topics, issues, speakers.*

- Drug Trends: From police perspective
- Drug & Alcohol Information
- Substance Abuse Prevention- what to do & what not to do
- Mental Health
- Together We Can Training

4) **What is the state of the Youth & Families Committee?  
What would help us to maintain our good work or improve our good work?**

- Invite Others
- More members/participants
- Market & Promote Y&F:
  - Create bookmarks
  - Pens
  - Brochure
  - Use Social Media: Facebook & Website

**NEXT MEETING:**

Next Steering Committee Meeting: Tuesday, October 7 at 9AM, 445 Glen Avenue

Next Committee Meeting: Tuesday, October 14 at 3PM at the Micah House.

Meeting minutes will be posted at [www.promisepartners.org](http://www.promisepartners.org).

