

Promise Partners Committee Meeting Notes

COMMITTEE: Youth and Families
MEETING DATE: February 11, 2014

CHAIRPERSON: Jessica Simons
LOCATION: Micah House

PRESENT:

Jessica Simons (Promise Partners)
Deb Kissel (Zion Recovery)
Terri Dowell (Community Volunteer)
Sandra McKinnon (ISU Extension)
Angela Moerke (TSI & SWIFAC)

Dave Smith (Trailblazers)
Jeany Morton (BBBS)
Pam Nightser (WCCA FaDSS)
Heidi Klement (CBCSD)
Mellissa Ellison (Transitional Service of Iowa)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENSE:

Michelle Badalucco (CLCRC)
Tiffani Pinkerton (Heartland Family Service)

Shelby Miller (AMP)
Lorelle Mueting (Heartland Family Service)

Introductions and Announcements:

Sandra McKinnon from ISU is offering facilitator training for a program entitled “Together We Can”. It is an 8-session interactive series that helps single parents with young children or married parents who are in unstable relationships build knowledge and skills necessary to sustain healthy family and co-parenting relationships. Facilitator training will be held April 30. Two scholarships to participate are still available.

Jeany from Big Brother Big Sisters is looking to hire a part-time Southwest Iowa Outreach Coordinator.

Dave from Trailblazers reported they now have a 501©3 status. Trailblazers is currently doing programming on the Lakin Human Services Campus.

Jessica shared that Promise Partners is hosting national speaker, Michael Brandwein on March 13. A parent workshop, “Why Don’t You Behave?!: Solutions to Handling Negative Behavior, While Teaching Positive Choices” will be held in the evening. 2 workshops for professionals will be held during the day: “Producing Positive Parent Partnerships” and “Invisible Handcuffs & the Limits of Labels”. To register visit www.surveymonkey.com/s/MBPromise.

The Council Bluffs Community School District is hosting a Community Resource Fair on March 27 at Thomas Jefferson High School. Families are encouraged to go to learn about different community resources, complete a service opportunity, and get a meal. Agencies are encouraged to host an informational booth.

Jessica passed around Valentine’s Day postcards that could be shared with a young person or colleague to thank them or recognize them for something.

Deb with Zion reminded folks that January 27-February 7 is Drug Facts Week, a health observance week for teens that aims to shatter the myths about drugs and drug abuse. She

distributed information on the brain's response to inhalants, prescription drugs and marijuana. Also included is information on dispelling myths.

Heidi from Council Bluffs Community School District shared that the 2nd Annual Breaking Barriers And Building Bridges: Young Adult Health Conference will be held March 20 9:00am-1:00pm at Iowa Western Community College. The conference is aimed at young parents to educate them and provide opportunities to positively take charge of their own decisions, relationships, and sexual health.

Spotlight Speaker:

Angela Moerke and Mellissa Ellison spoke about services offered through Transitional Services of Iowa (TSI). TSI is located in the Omni Center in Council Bluffs. Referrals for services come from DHS, doctor's clinics, schools, and Boys Town. There is a sliding fee scale available for clients.

Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) is a new type of therapy they are offering. PCIT is an evidence-based treatment for young children ages 2-7 with emotional and behavioral disorders that places emphasis on improving the quality of the parent-child relationship and changing parent-child interaction patterns. Coaching the parents is a big part of the therapy. The PRIDE system is used: P for Praise, R for Reflection, I is for Imitate, D is Description, and E for Enjoyment.

Developmental Asset Activity:

February Assets of the Month are Positive Values. These include:

- *Caring* – Young person places high value on helping other people.
- *Equity and Social Justice* – Young person places high value on promoting equality and reducing hunger and poverty.
- *Integrity* – Young person acts on convictions and stands up for her or his beliefs.
- *Honesty* – Young person tells the truth even when it is not easy.
- *Responsibility* – Young person accepts and takes personal responsibility.
- *Healthy Lifestyle*- Youth increasingly can identify, regulate, and control her or his behaviors in healthy ways, using adults support constructively in particularly stressful situations.

Members present did a brief visual art. Each person drew hands and then explained what their hands can do to increase and develop assets. Members are planning to use a similar art activity with children at the upcoming Laundry Love Event. To see directions for a similar activity visit: <http://www.crayola.com/lesson-plans/helping-hand-lesson-plan/> or <http://fun.familyeducation.com/crafts/childrens-art-activities/29560.html?detoured=1>.

Laundry Love Project:

A subcommittee has been meeting to plan the Laundry Love Event for April 10. The current location being considered is the Broadway Wash House at N. 18th Street and West Broadway. Will offer a meal, child's activity, and toiletry items. Want guests to connect and network with one another. Event geared for homeless/near homeless youth. Dave suggested getting information to the pantry patrons. The Laundromat owner, Mike would like for the

subcommittee to meet with him. The next planning meeting for the event is Wednesday, March 19 1:00-2:30pm at the Council Bluffs Chamber of Commerce/ Scooter's Coffee House.

Community Calendar:

Calendars for March, April, and May 2014 were posted in the room with low-cost activities for children, youth, and families. Members were encouraged to add to the posters with activities, events, and trainings they were aware of. These will be typed and sent to the group to share.

- March 2014 Calendar: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1VJKa3G-C4avEgCBio9H-1PtC0Gf9cvj_7wCskEblWx0/edit?usp=sharing
- April 2014 Calendar: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1LJ-OCnl-x4OJap-obI4EFMAq3p2CAA5VPtTBkWyNVEg/edit?usp=sharing>

Sign up for upcoming Spotlight Speakers & Door Greeters

A sign-up sheet was passed around to sign up as a spotlight speaker and/or door greeter at future meetings.

NEXT MEETING:

Next Steering Committee Meeting: Tuesday, March 4 at 9AM, 445 Glen Avenue

Next Committee Meeting: Tuesday, March 11 at 3PM at the Micah House.

Speaker/ Topic-

Door Greeter- Pam Nightser

Spotlight Speaker- Akile Banister, Banister Leadership Academy

Meeting minutes will be posted at www.promisepartners.org.