

**Promise Partners Governance Board Meeting
November 30, 2011**

ATTENDEES:

Board Members:

Present: Scott Belt, Tom Bouska, Dan Collin, Laura Holcomb, Melvyn Houser, Meghan McCollester, Susan Roarty, Chuck Scott & Kris Smith

Absent Board Members: Judd Knispel, Keith Pick & Bruce Smith

Promise Partners: Patricia Russmann, Director & Judy Showers, Administrative Assistant

Guests: Justin Dougherty, Joni Griffin, Brittany Lloyd, Heather Loutzenhiser, Cathy Ryba, Jessica Simons & Sarah Zach

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Melvyn Houser at 1:06 pm

Agenda and Minutes: Kris Smith motioned to approve the agenda and Tom Bouska was the second. The motion was approved unanimously. Dan Collin motioned to approve the minutes and Susan Roarty was the second. The motion was approved unanimously.

Promise Partners/New employee: Jessica Simons introduced Heather Loutzenhiser. Heather has been with Promise Partners for about 3 months and is the Leadership Resiliency Program (LRP) Coordinator in the high schools.

Financial Reports: All financial documents (budgets, Year-to-date and monthly expenses) were sent to board members via email before this meeting for them to review. In looking at our year-to-date reports, you will notice and Patricia said that it is taking some grantees a little while to get their projects going. The smaller contracts will bill quarterly.

Kris Smith shared the audit committee met before this meeting and reviewed checks, invoices, bank statements etc. There is one outstanding check that hasn't cleared the bank and Judy will follow up on this. Tom Bouska designated additional DECAT funds last month and that will be reflected in January's reports.

Hamilton & Associates is processing Promise Partners audit; the findings are expected at the January meeting. The question was raised if Promise Partners staff should excuse themselves when the audit findings are presented. Patricia wasn't sure about this due to an open meeting policy, but will check further into it. Chuck Scott motioned to accept the financial reports and Meghan McCollester was the second.

Capturing Our Voice: Patricia Russmann shared Promise Partners collaborated with Iowa West Foundation on a large community needs assessment survey. A survey was given to youth and focused on opinions and attitudes about our community and if they will stay/or come back to the community after completing their education.

Jessica Simons assisted in facilitating the project by organizing a “street team” of young people to assist in the survey process. Approximately 2400 young people were surveyed. The main finding was that young people want to be engaged in meaningful leadership roles in the community.

Age of Respondents

Under 11	1%
11-14 yrs	7%
15-18 yrs	1%
19-24 yrs	33%
25 or older	58%

Residence

Rural	64%
Council Bluffs	36%

Gender

Female	49%
Male	51%

Race/Ethnicity

American Indian/Alaskan Native	6%
Asian or Pacific Islander	6%
Black/African American	2%
Hispanic/Latino	5%
White/Caucasian	8%
Other	73%

- 2349 young people surveyed
- 5 Focus Groups with 55 young people
- 2 Focus Groups with adults

How Teens Are Spending Their Time...

- Social Networking Sites- Facebook, Twitter, Myspace
- Cell Phones- Talking, Texting, Apps
- Watching TV
- Streaming Radio/TV- Hulu, YouTube, Pandora, iTunes or Music Sharing

Not Spending Their Time

- Arts/Music- 55% 1+ Hours
- Video Games- 49% 1+ Hours
- Reading- 49% 1+ Hours

- 61% 1 or more hours doing chores at home or on the farm
- 25% Work 6 or more hours a week at a job

- 40% Reported doing no homework at all or less than one hour per week: CB Youth
- 30% Reported doing no homework at all or less than one hour per week: Rural Youth

???????

Where Teens Get Their Information About What's Going On In Their Community...

Internet	25%
TV	17%
Cell Phones	17%
School	12%
Word Of Mouth	9%
Newspaper	3%
Email	3%

What Teens Are Saying about Today...

How They Grade ...

- C** - After-school programs or school clubs
- C** - Community sports programs
- D+** - Church/spiritual groups or classes
- D+** - Youth facilities not based in schools
- D+** - Community art, music and dance programs
- D** - Career development programs
- D** - Organized Mentoring

Community Weaknesses ...

- Drugs & alcohol use amongst adults & youth
- Bullies, fighting & crime
- Lack of entertainment
- Lack of employment opportunities
- Appearance of the community

Community Strengths ...

- Small close-knit community, yet close to the city
- Midwest friendliness
- Beautiful parks and open nature space

Does Your Community Provide What You Need To Be Successful?

Yes	9%
Somewhat	43%
No	48%

What Teens Are Saying about Tomorrow.....

- 71% are planning to attend post-secondary education

Important Factors in an Ideal Community...

- Job opportunities
- Housing
- College Access Programs
- More colleges/universities
- More recreation opportunities

Bottom of Their List of Priorities....

- Restaurants
- Shopping Centers
- Organized mentoring for youth
- Vocational training
- Art/Culture Venues/Activities
- Child Care Centers

They Want

- To be engaged in the community
- Meaningful leadership roles along side adults
- Youth input on local issues
- Something to make newcomers feel more welcome
- To know their history & heritage

"We want to feel our opinion is valued."

Plans to stay in the area...

27%	No Plan to Return
38%	Plan To Return
35%	Not Sure

What Teens Are Suggesting...

- Youth representation in local government, city planning, & community development
- Time to speak to community & school officials
- Opportunities to give input on school & community issues
- Planning & organizing of community events along side adults

Moving Forward

Thank you

Program Reports:

AMP (formerly Elevate)

Joni Griffin shared the following: Promise Partners granted funds to AMP last year. This program is for children in foster/group care ages 13 and up. Through the program, youth and young adults are receiving education in living independently (after foster care) and having a voice in their community and in the foster care/adoption arena. Since July, 150 kids have come to the meetings. AMP members have been involved, but not limited to the following: National Adoption Day, a thanksgiving celebration, completing college applications, mock job interviews, etc. Joni shared she has done some work on the scorecard.

Child Care Nurse Consultant/FAMILY, Inc.

Sarah Zach shared the following: FAMILY, Inc. was granted funding in February for their Child Care Nurse Consultant to get trained. Emily Schroeder, the Child Care Nurse Consultant, assists day cares and providers in ensuring a safe environment for children.

Scorecard information (note some of the categories were not measured in the prior period):

<u>Category</u>	<u>Prior Period</u>	<u>1st Quarter FY12</u>
# possible improving their rating	162	4
# of children age 0-1	N/A	9
# of children 2 to 3	N/A	2
# of children 3 to 4	N/A	3
# of children 4 to 5	N/A	3
# of children 5 to 6	N/A	1
Total # of children served	N/A	18
# of families of children represented above	N/A	16
# of visits to early learning environments by a con.	9	4
# of early learning service providers participating		

in quality improvement	7	10
# of early learning environments involved in quality improvement activity (unduplicated)	7	4
# of public relations contacts	0	215
# of services	16	18
# achieved measure	N/A	3
# possible	N/A	4
% of programs participating in a quality initiative	N/A	75%
% of programs improving rating in a quality initiative	N/A	0%
% implementing an evidence based curriculum	N/A	25%

Early Access Service Coordination/Green Hills AEA

Cathy Ryba shared the following: Promise Partners partially funded 2 service coordinator positions to help families meet early intervention needs birth to age 3.

Scorecard information:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Prior Period</u>	<u>1st Quarter FY12</u>
Funds expended	\$58,650.00	\$8,429.06
# of children participating	73	56
# of families participating	73	51
# of home visits completed	492	96
# of parent education meetings offered	8	0
Newly enrolled families meeting FS eligibility	N/A	27
% of children screened for developmental delays	100%	100%
% of children screened who were referred	100%	100%
% of programs w/national or state credential	100%	100%

<u>Category</u>	<u>FY11 YTD</u>
% of families that increase knowledge about child dev/parenting	25%
% of families that improve nurturing/attachment	42%
% of families that are connected to additional concrete supports	55%
% of families that improve or maintain healthy problem solving & communication	88%
% of families that increase or maintain social supports	82%

Other Business: Tom Bouska shared Council Bluffs & Sioux City schools have received ¼ of a million in funding for school credit recovery. Youth that move in and out of foster care sometimes have to change school districts and their credits don't always transfer. These funds are to help youth keep their credits when they have to transfer between districts.

Patricia shared there will not be a December meeting. The January meeting will include the audit report and a revisit/revision of by-laws.

Carol Johnson of the Green Hills Area Education Agency is retiring. A retirement/birthday reception will be held at the Riverside Grille on Monday, December 19, 2011 from 3:30PM-7:30PM.

Public Comment:

No public comment.

The meeting was adjourned by Melvyn Houser at 2:42 PM.

The next Board Meeting will be at the Micah House on January 25, 2012 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Minutes respectively submitted by Judy Showers, Administrative Assistant