

Promise Partners Committee Meeting Notes

COMMITTEE: Youth and Families
MEETING DATE: November 12, 2013

CHAIRPERSON: Jessica Simons
LOCATION: Micah House

PRESENT:

Dave Smith (Trailblazers)
Jessica Simons (Promise Partners)
Adriana Tegenbush (Transitional Services of Iowa)
Jenny Barnett (CB Community School District)
Julie Florian (Tobacco Control)
Heather Loutzenhiser (Promise Partners)

Victoria Smith (AL Student & Trailblazers)
Terri Dowell (Community Volunteer)
Scott Zimmerman (Transitional Service of Iowa)
Tiffani Pinkerton (Heartland Family Service)
Akile Banister (Banister Leadership Academy)
Cindy Goodin (Youth Emergency Services)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Lorelle Muetting (PMP)
Michelle Badalucco (Carter Lake Comm. Resource Center)

Sandra McKinnon (ISU Extension)
Deb Kissel (Zion Recovery)

Introductions and Announcements:

Jessie announced that the Collective for Youth is running a free Youth Work Methods Training Series. The next session is December 13 on cooperative learning in Omaha.

The family of Dave and Sheri Smith are being recognized as the community service honorees at the Heartland Family Service's Salute to Families. An article ran in the paper about their community service efforts and was passed around. The recognition dinner will be held November 14, 2013.

Julie reminded people of Quitline Iowa for tobacco cessation and support. 1-800-QUIT-NOW.

Akile announced that they would be sponsoring a Black Friday Dance Fundraiser for teens on November 29.

Cindy spoke of the City-Wide Rally for Youth sponsored by YES on November 20.

Speaker/Topic:

Jenny Barnett, Student & Family Services, Council Bluffs Community Schools

Jenny spoke on priorities and goals set for this year, including the strategic plan. Student & Family Services helps those students and families, including children that were exposed to illegal drugs and others who have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). Mental Health has become a big issue among students. Common diagnoses associated with mental health and behaviors include Bipolar Disorder, Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD), Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS), and Down Syndrome.

There are currently a number of programs and interventions in place to assist families and children. These include programming for sexual abuse, anger management, substance abuse, health clinics, therapists, and specialty classrooms. She commented that 6,000 students or

70% qualify for free lunch and 800 for reduced lunch. Jenny said she would look into a person to be part of Y&F Committee or at least some one to attend a few times a year.

Spotlight Member:

Tiffani Pinkerton, Problem Gambling Prevention & Treatment, Heartland Family Service

Tiffani spoke on gambling prevention, treatment, and education. Heartland Family Service was awarded a grant from the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) for 9 counties in SW Iowa. Tiffani does presentations in the community on Teen Proofing Your Home, as a way to curb teenage gambling, as well as other presentations.

Tiffani spoke about how gambling addiction is similar to addiction of substances. She said gambling typically manifests itself in domestic finances. Also, problem gambling co-occurs with substance abuse and/or mental health issues.

Updates:

Wash Days Application

Members of the Youth & Families Committee completed and submitted an application for \$2,000 in Community Networking Grant funding to host a Laundry Love evening on April 10 for homeless and near homeless youth in Council Bluffs. We will receive notice on if the project was funded after November 17.

Operation Medicine Cabinet

The event was held on October 26 in Council Bluffs and was well received. 260 vehicles came through and 486 pounds of drugs were surrendered. This is an increase of 100 pounds. Take back events were also held in Carter Lake and Treynor.

Business & Opportunities:

Community Calendars

Committee members were asked to add youth and family friendly events to the calendar in the room for the months of December, January, and February. The calendars will be typed up and made available through Google Docs.

Developmental Assets of the Month

Heather Loutzenhiser led a discussion activity around the Assets of the Month—Support. These items include: Family Support, Positive Family Communication, Other Adult Relationships, Caring Neighborhood, Caring School Climate, and Parent Involvement in Schooling.

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, January 7 at 9AM, 445 Glen Avenue

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

*Speaker/ Topic- Heartland Family Services on Mental Health
Door Greeter-Terri Dowell
Spotlight Speaker- Anna Hartmann, Council Bluffs Public Library*

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