



Coalition Meeting: Wednesday, February 13, 2014

6:30-8:00

Moreau Community Center

1. Welcome and Introductions

Ice Breaker Question: What's your favorite vacation spot?

In Attendance:

Jenn Wood- Prevention Council
Kelsey Carpenter- Prevention Council
Donna Nichols- The Moreau Community Center
Andrea Bello- The Moreau Community Center
Jenn Abare- The Moreau Community Center
Thomas Cumm- The Education Foundation
Tim Cooper- G & S Printing
Amy Alfonso- Moreau Recreation
Regina Haag- Adirondack Friends Meeting

Lots of favorite vacation spots, including: Martha's Vineyard, Key West, The Adirondacks, Ireland, Hawaii, Florida, Puerto Vallarta, Provincetown, MA, and Wells Beach!

2. Old Business

Welcome Packets:

We handed out a version of our new "Welcome Packet" to get the Coalitions input. It was determined that the welcome packet is different than the elevator speech. We will hand out the welcome packet to people who come to a meeting for the first time. Regina suggested that we include previous meeting minutes in the packet as well as a contact list of current members. Tim also spoke about the importance of having the membership list and having that readily available may convince other people to join if they can see who is already involved. We also decided that we will be purchasing folders to use when handing out the welcome packets. I have attached a copy of the welcome packet for those of you who could not make it. Take a look at it and send me your input!

Website

Tim is still looking into finding someone to host our site. We will continue to see the weebly site for the time being: www.ccfw.weebly.com. There is new information being posted all the time so check it out!

After Prom

The After Prom is May 10th from 11:30pm to 5:00am. Everyone had really good ideas on how to get donations and volunteers. Amy suggested having a volunteer meeting at the school for all interested parents. Regina wants us to contact other faith based organizations in the community, she said they would be more than willing to make weekly announcements. Tom will be contacting the Rotary, Knights of Columbus and the Chamber to see if they can help us out. Tim suggested that create a list of things we want and then send that out to local businesses.

Marathon

We wanted to figure out a way in which the Coalition can get involved in the Marathon Dance. We decided that we would either try to hang a banner in the school thanking the students for all of their hard work or take out an ad in the paper following Marathon and thank students that way.

3. Revising the Bylaws

A set of bylaws were created in order to apply for the DFC grant. Now that we have the grant it is time to look at those bylaws and see if there are things that need to be changed or improved. Donna and Tom volunteered to be a part of this short term committee to revise this document (Thanks Donna and Tom!). If you were unable to attend the meeting and would like to be a part of this committee, let Jenn know.

4. Environmental Strategies

The DFC grant requires us to focus on Environmental Strategies. Jenn did a quick overview on what Environmental Strategies are. An Environmental Strategy should focus on a shared environment, have lasting change, a long term impact, changes the communities systems and norms, has participation, and involves entire populations. Examples of some Environmental Strategies include working with the school on their drug and alcohol policy, social host laws, and limiting the amount of liquor stores in the community. These strategies will have a lasting impact even after the DFC funding is gone and will effect the entire community. Environmental Strategies focus on the community as a whole, not just one individual or group. More information will be posted on the website!

5. Elevator Speech

An elevator speech is something you give when you are talking to someone about the Coalition for the first time. We starting out by doing an exercise with the prompt “This group is about....” The majority of the group said they always start with why the group was formed, as a result of the student deaths in the district. They also gave a brief history of the coalition and how we are now focusing on drugs and alcohol. Others used the mission statement to describe who we are and what we do. Donna made a great point by saying that she likes to emphasis the fact that this is a group of caring community members. It is very laid back and no expertise is needed! Jenn talked about changing up the elevator speech depending on what group we are talking to. When talking to the School and Town it may be important to discuss data and statistics. We will be putting examples of elevator speeches on the website!

6. Training Opportunity- Street Drugs

Lee Livermore is a presenter from the Upstate Poison Control Center. He comes frequently to the area to talk about various drug trends. This could possibly be the first Parent University program. It would be great to have him speak to parents, coaches, teachers, and the community about different names of street drugs so people who interact with youth will know what to listen for. Jenn and Kelsey will contact him and see what is availability is. We would like to have him speak ASAP.

7. Youth to Youth

We are going to a Youth to Youth presentation in Brandon, VT on February 25th. We will be leaving South Glens Falls at 8:30 and returning at 1:45. This is an introductory presentation for creating a youth empowerment group that Y2Y is giving to high school students. We thought it would be good to see the presentation and see if it was something we were interesting in bringing to the HS or MS. If anyone is interested in joining us, contact Kelsey!

8. Town Hall Meeting

In April we would like to host a Town Hall Meeting regarding underage drinking. Basically we would be putting together a forum for the community to come together to talk about what the local issues are and how we can work together to combat them. We will pass along more info as it comes.

9. Questions, Comments, Concerns

Andrea is Co-Facilitating a support group for survivors or suicide loss. It is every 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month. The flyer will be on ccfw.weebly.com and please pass along this information for anyone who may benefit from it! We will also start sending out meeting reminder emails 1 or 2 days in advanced incase people forget.

Next Meeting:

March 12, 2014

3:00 High School LGI



Support Group for Survivors of Suicide Loss

GROUP MEETING

**South Glens Falls
2nd & 4th Tuesday
*each month***

If you have lost a loved one to suicide, you are not alone. We offer a healing environment for you to share your experience, to offer support and to be supported by others who understand suicide loss.

There are a wealth of local resources for supporting survivors of suicide loss.

You do not have to grieve alone.

**For time and meeting location please contact:
Andrea Bello at 518-792-6007
or andrea@moreaucommunitycenter.org**

Support groups are independent; the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention provides training for facilitators, and on-going support and referral