



Community Drug Coalition

Our Mission:

“To improve the health and safety of our community by decreasing alcohol and other drug use among our youth.”

Blaine County Community Drug Coalition
Meeting Minutes
Monday, August 25, 2008
1pm
Community Campus in Hailey

Present: Teresa Espedal, Eric Thomas, Cynthia Carr, Walt Felmling, Steve England, Erin Paeffle, Tyler Lorchke, Tricia Swartling, Liz Schwerdtle, Carrie Katera, Carly, Linda Lorchke, John Sweek, Holly Carter, and Dayle Ohlau.

Coalition Infrastructure

Governing Board is comprised of community represented agencies including health, probation, law enforcement, county government, and the Blaine County School District. The current board has extended invitations to other sectors of the community including a public defender, prosecutor, judge, local attorney, as well as members at large from the private sector. The Governing Board could grow to 11 or 13 members. Board positions were also determined: Tom Bailey – chair, Walt Felmling – Vice Chair, Teresa Espedal, and Erin Paeffle – Secretary, Larry Schoen – Treasurer. Steve England suggested that we include Carey and Picabo for representation.

The Governing Board met the previous week to sign the non profit paperwork for the BCCDC to become a non-profit agency. An employment identification number has been assigned. Government issued 501 c 3 application fees have risen to \$750. Money raised from Jail House Rock, as well as discretionary donations will be used to cover the fee.

Local attorney Christopher Simms has been incredibly generous with his time, and expertise to help us through this lengthy process.

Dayle Ohlau has resigned her position with the CDC in hopes of allowing someone else with larger grant writing experience, and infrastructure organizational skills to take the coalition to a new level. Dayle is interesting in serving on a media committee, or as a future Communications Director. The position will be posted on the website. Tricia Swartling suggested we try and post the opening on the Idaho Non-Profit Website. Either Tom Bailey, or Holly Carter will be accepting applications for the position. Holly will be placing an ad in the newspaper in the near future. Dayle will speak to Hailey Rotary on Thursday, August 28th about the CDC. She has also been asked to serve on the Wood River Journal Advisory Board. She hopes the CDC will be able to have a weekly column for guest writers, and information concerning the CDC as a way to share information with the community – especially for families and parents

Erin Pfaeffle is looking to replace Francis Nagashima's position with YAK! A number of strong candidates have already applied.

Idaho Drug Free Youth needs a new adult facilitator. Wood River High School social worker Julie Carney has offered to help with the transition process. It was suggested that middle school social worker Todd Gunter might be asked to help.

The Governing Board and the general coalition will continue to establish guidelines for coalition membership for the community. Join Together Northern Nevada will be contacted as well as other Idaho drug coalitions. Teresa Espedal is working on a membership application. Advocates Executive Director Tricia Swartling offered to share her board membership application. St. Luke's Community Center for Health Manager Erin Pfaeffle offered that the meetings should be open and structured with representatives from throughout the community. The coalition should have an "open door" policy with structure for voting members. It was suggested from the floor that "participants" and "members" be defined. A fundraising component among members might be considered in the future. Also, it needs to be determined what type of policy making decisions will be made by the Governing Board, and the general coalition. Erin Pfaeffle stated that the membership policy should be decided at the next general coalition meeting.

The issue was raised as to whether or not a Data Committee is needed at this time since the coalition is still not quite clear on what or who we're measuring. The Data Committee members would appreciate new direction in determining outcome goals.

October 15th is the date that was set by Planning – Grants – Research of the Idaho State Police (BJAG Grant) for the Community Norms Survey. This survey must be completed sometime in the fall to satisfy a performance indicator for our operation grant. Teresa Espedal contacted The Department of Education and discovered that two schools in our district will be part of a survey to determine Community Norms: Silver Creek Alternative School, and Carey High School. The coalition can increase the sample size at a cost of 80 cents per student. The school district has agreed to help defray the costs.

Outcomes acquired through the survey will be helpful for the Drug Free Communities grant application process. The Assets Survey will be conducted again in 2010. Liz Schwerdtle suggested that it will be important to understand how the data will serve the outcomes.

Select and Implement Programs, Practices, and Policies

Ad #3 for the Local Theatre Campaign was previewed, showing the testimony from a female perspective. (Kent Stevens produced the ad.) The members present thought it would be helpful to also learn from these interviews what drugs started the process that led to meth abuse. There was general approval from the coalition for the ad to be placed into rotation. It was suggested that Brandy Fitzwater, a Silver Creek Alternative School graduate and recovering meth addict, be interviewed for spot #4. Future ads with a positive perspective could be produced from the local high schools – also as a possible Circle Foundation project from the youth members, or from the Connections Program. Our current ads are now running as Public Service Announcements. Carly, our youth rep, questioned the meth focus. It was explained that our grant was written with this perspective, and for the fact that more federal dollars are available for the anti-meth message. Eventually these messages could address alcohol, tobacco, and marijuana.

The Fall Conference brochures will be available next week, and St. Luke's website will be updated on September 19th with information about the conference, including registration. Alfie Cohn is the keynote speaker addressing parenting and behavioral issues. He'll be speaking in Ketchum and the Community School on Friday, November 7th, and in Hailey at the Community Campus for the conference. Child care will be provided by the Advocates. Eric Thomas is organizing the Resource Fair. Day of Conference volunteers are needed. There will be a Community Café hosted by Cynthia Carr, as well as "Telling It Like It Is/A Dialogue with Teens" symposium. A Conference meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 26, 1:30 pm, at Diamonte Wellness.

Grant and Fiscal Management

Congratulations to the Probation Department, and Cynthia Carr for grant monies received to expand the Connections Program at the Wood River High School. Cynthia Carr educates and guides students who are suspended from school.

It was suggested that the Drug Free Communities Grant receive a line item on the agenda as the coalition gets closer to receiving the RFP (Request For Proposal) in January. Dayle will continue contacting coalitions around Idaho who have received the DFC Grant. This grant is an infrastructure grant that provides 100K a year for 10 years.

Holly and Teresa were thanked for their work in applying for the BJAG Grant for 2009. There will be an automatic 23% reduction in funds from the federal level for this grant. \$60,000 from this year will be reduced to \$46,200. \$40,000 has been earmarked for the Administrator with a remaining \$6,200 for programs. Jail house rock netted \$3685. Money for the 501 c 3 and Community Norms Survey will come from this fund. The

theatre ad campaign costs approximately \$9,000 to run for one year. The coalition will need to find other funding sources, and write grants.

Open Floor

It was suggested that the coalition meetings consist of a brief summary from each member at the beginning of the meetings to talk about what their organization is focusing on. It was decided that this would be too long and distract from the agenda.

Liz Schwerdtle suggested that we add a small phrase at the end of our mission statement to include the words, “and increasing their empowerment” to reflect on the positive nature of the coalition. It was suggested that other words for “empowerment” be considered.

Next Meeting

The next coalition meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 22, 2008, 1:00, in room 211 at the Community Campus in Hailey.