

Downingtown Area – Communities That Care

Prevention Partners Meeting

Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2015, 12:30-1:30 pm – Lionville YMCA

Attendees: Libby Egnaczyk (Community Mobilizer), Cynthia Black (CTC President and Safe Homes Coordinator), Laura Obenski (CC AVOID), Stephanie Winegar (CTC Secretary and parent), Ann Callis (Strengthening Families), Chrissie Dziembowski (Holcomb), Selena Morresi (Caron), Tisha Brown (CVC), Regina Gaffney (DASD)

Welcome & Introductions:

Summer break is over and we are back to regular monthly meetings with a new structure and timetable. Our meetings going forward will be one hour – 12:30 pm – 1:30pm in an effort to attract more coalition members. Nice to see some attendees we haven't seen in a while and welcome a new attendee, Tisha Brown from CVC.

Approval of June 2015 Minutes:

Cynthia made motion to approve and Laura seconded. The motion to approve June's minutes passed unanimously.

Community Announcements:

- Laura discussed the impaired driving curriculum proposal they hope DASD will teach in one Driver's Ed/Health class. The program would use the beer and marijuana goggles and a law enforcement officer would be on hand to walk through the DUI steps and implications. Laura also mentioned they are gearing up for the holiday campaign (West Chester Christmas Parade), constructing a tree out of shoes where each pair represents a life lost in PA – over 150 thus far. It may be a good idea to put some collection boxes in the schools raising awareness of the campaign/float. We will follow up with Tina F. on both.
- Ann said they are still working on a firm start date for Strengthening Families but are targeting a mid-October start – and hope to be at MC6GC once again.
- Selena informed the group they offer a free tobacco cessation program for students. In addition they are available to present their free nicotine prevention program to students. It's a fun 45 minute presentation and again, it's free. Contact Selena to schedule a date.
- Chrissie reminded the group Holcomb offers many free drug and alcohol programs including Say It Straight which they will be presenting in Lionville Middle and Downingtown Middle Schools. This is a 6-8 week program and students meet once a week during the school day. All of Holcomb's programs can be presented in English and Spanish. Contact Chrissie to schedule.

- Tisha is a preventive education specialist at CVC and they are offering a 30-35 minute program for K-12 on internet safety and bullying. They do many other prevention programs, even for seniors. Contact Tisha for more information or to schedule.
- Libby informed the group to be on the lookout for a digital newsletter coming soon to your inbox. CTC is also looking to use EVITE for meeting reminders – this will help greatly for RSVP's and lunch counts. She encouraged members to RSVP going forward. CTC will be looking to possibly hold a CTC 101 training/refresher program in the near future – possible this fall. If interested, contact Libby. Structure of coalition meetings will be as such: there will be 6 meetings just for workgroups to do work; the other 4 will be for speakers. If you have any speaker suggestions, please contact Libby.

Board of Advisors Update

- Cynthia informed the group that there are now nine board members, seven voting and 2 non-voting. The majority of the board of advisors is relatively new, and thus we have some work to do in regards to training and mission. The new members are reviewing the mission and vision statements to help market DCTC. A grant was just submitted to Chester County Community Foundation to support a strategic planning session.
- The board will take over fundraising, sustainability and board maintenance (previously workgroups of the coalition) in an effort for DCTC Coalition to focus on Youth and Community Engagement.

Workgroup

The group divided to work on a mapping exercise. The exercise was called “Mapping your Community”. **Purpose/Goal:** to identify people, places and things in and around the “Greater” Downingtown Area DASD school boundary perimeters – then, use this list in conjunction with the Community Engagement Workgroup to engage community members in the **“Opportunities and Rewards for Pro Social Behavior”** for our youth.

- Route 100 Corridor (Ludwig's to Main Street Exton)
- Route 30 Corridor (Main Street Exton to Route 282)
- Route 113 Corridor (Vinnys Restaurant to Route 30 Downingtown)
- Route 322 Corridor (Route 30 Downingtown to Route 82)
- Route 282 Corridor (Route 30 Downingtown to Route 82)

Because of meeting attendance, only three corridors were selected as priorities: Rt. 100, Rt. 30 and Rt. 113. The group started labeling the maps and we will continue to work on these going forward.

Next Meeting

- Tuesday, October 20, 2015 from 12:30-1:30 location TBD (please check website closer to date)