

## **Downingtown Area – Communities That Care**

### **Prevention Partners Meeting**

**Tuesday, April 19, 12:30-1:30 pm – DASD**

**Attendees:** Libby Egnaczyk (Executive Director), Cynthia Black (CTC President), Stephanie Winegar (CTC Secretary and parent), Paul Short (Strengthening Families), Casey Jones (Transformation Initiative), Tina Forsythe (DASD), Kathy Collier (CC Drug & Alcohol), Chrissie Dziembowski (Holcomb), Waleska Gonzalez (PA State Police), Jane Bertone (DASD Board), Lauren Rudolph (Main Line Health – CAD), Jason Akers (CC JPO), Pia DiSanto (West Home and School), Tisha Brown (CVC), JoAnn Santangelo (CC JPO), Megan Sensenig (CC JPO), Celeste Alfieri (CTC Board), Valerie Melroy (Voice and Vision), Susan Chindemi (East Safe Homes Rep)

#### **Welcome & Introductions:**

#### **Approval of March 2016 Minutes:**

Jane made motion to approve and Tisha seconded. The motion to approve March's minutes passed unanimously.

#### **Community Announcements:**

- Libby pointed out all of the entries from the Positive Prom Messaging Campaign on the whiteboard and acknowledged the three winners: Fantasia Whaley from STEM, Sophia DeMers from Downingtown East and Madalyn Morley from Downingtown West.
- Susan Chindemi shared that the winning prom messages from each school will be printed on poster boards and displayed in Andy Dinniman's office window along with prom dressed mannequins. These displays will also be at each post-prom party and the messages will be printed on the back of each school's prom tickets. Winning messages will also be printed on hangtags that Tuxedo shops will use to place on Tux bags at pickup and the messages will also be printed on stickets to be used at flower shops when people pick up their flowers.
- Casey shared that there will be two free public seminars to help parents, caregivers and families get more information to help grieving children. The meetings will be held at Calvary Fellowship Church on May 2, 7-9 p.m. and May 12, 1:30-3:30.
- Trooper Gonzalez has developed a program "Walking Girls to Success", a 16-week program developed for girls 13-18. The program's goal is to build a positive mentoring relationship with teen girls by utilizing real life experiences and teach alternative behaviors for positive results. The program starts Tuesday April 26, 2016 at Hearts in Hands Community Center in Honeybrook Township. There is no cost and there are still spots available. Trooper Gonzalez also reported that registration for Camp Cadet, an

overnight police academy experience for 11-13 year olds, opens May 1. You can register at [cccampchestercounty.org](http://cccampchestercounty.org).

- Tisha mentioned that the CVC's Race Against Violence is Saturday, April 30, 2016.
- Pia noted there will be a walk-thru open to the public of West's post prom on June 3 at 8 pm. Post prom will be that evening midnight – 5 am. Libby added that East's prom is May 21, and a walk-through is the same day from 8-10 pm.
- Pia would be happy to add any fliers you'd like (after approval) to the district website. If interested, e-mail her at [pdisanto@dasd.org](mailto:pdisanto@dasd.org).
- Cynthia mentioned that they are having a good response to the parent-to-parent get-togethers being held at elementary schools around the district. The next meeting will be April 27 at Bradford Heights beginning at 7 PM. All are welcome.
- Cynthia also shared April 30 is the Y's Healthy Kids Day at Kerr Park. Anyone interested in tabling our CTC table, please contact Libby at: [dtownctc@gmail.com](mailto:dtownctc@gmail.com). Downingtown Police Police department will also have a RX Take-Back day at the police station.
- Tina informed the group that East's Mock Crash was last week and West's will be Tuesday, April 26. On Tuesday, May 24, West seniors will attend a presentation to "End Distracted Driving" – a program sponsored by lawyers, including a parent in the district. Tina also mentioned that the next Wellness Woodstock meeting will be held on May 23, 6-8 pm.
- April is Sexual Assault Month and a parent education night will be held April 25, 6:30 at Downingtown Middle School.

#### **Guest Speaker:**

- Valerie Melroy from Voice and Vision shared findings from focus groups she performed last fall. This was in collaboration effort with the Department of Human Services and Juvenile Probation. There were 36 participants in six groups representing each region of Chester County. They discussed incentives, sanctions and what youth want in their community. The full report is attached to the minutes.

#### **Next Meeting**

- Tuesday, May 17, 2016, 12:00-1:30 at DASD Central Office. It will be a Potluck Luncheon beginning at noon – meeting to begin at 12:30 pm. An evite will be sent out shortly, please respond with what you would like to share.