



Wakulla County Coalition for Youth Wednesday, December 2, 2009 Meeting Minutes

The Wakulla County Coalition for Youth is committed to working collaboratively across agencies and provider networks to prevent and reduce substance abuse among youth and families by addressing individual and environmental factors that increase risk and promoting those evidence-based programs and strategies that minimize the risk of substance abuse. (Adopted March 4, 2009)

Det. Bruce Ashley, WCSO
Jo Barksdale, WCSB
Carrie Bruce, ABT Acting Lt.
Gail Campbell, Wakulla Co. Coal.
Sara Fulbright, Foster Home Lic.
Ken Gambill, Volunteer Wakulla
D. J. Gothe, YMCA
Ray Gray, School Board, Parks & Rec
Tonya Hobby, Wakulla Co. Health Dept
Meghan Howell, New Horizons at MS

Antonio Johnson, Court Administration
Doug Jones, Director Public Services, BOCC
Grace Keith, DOH
Judy Myhre, WCS
Beth O'Donnell, Assist. Supt for Instruction, WCSB
Cathy Price, WCS, WHD
Capt. Chris Savary, WCSO
Shelley Swenson, Wakulla Co. Extension Office
Glen Wade, Mentor

Tonya Hobby called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m. and immediately provided a quick summary of events at the November WCCY meeting. Jo Barksdale made a motion seconded by Judy Myhre, to approve the minutes as read with one correction, duly noted (and made). The motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNITY CENTER REPORT – Doug Jones reported that relocating the Community Center site to a larger property is under review by the staff and ultimately by the BOCC. 22 acres located at the Trice Lane and Shadeville Highway, site of New Life Church, is available for consideration. Current plans to build on a much smaller site at the Trice Lane Annex have been stopped due to a law suit. At the new location, a move-in ready site, there are two buildings, 13,000 sf with an asking price of \$1.9 million which would allow for funding to build a gym, as well as a commercial ready kitchen for teaching. Doug reported that the buildings include “green” elements with utilities of about \$400 per month, far below what would be expected. Ray Gray noted there are many rooms, six baths, a logical floor plan indicating great attention to planning and design for broad utility. Given the larger property there would be room to expand into the future with, for example, tennis courts, outside basketball courts, and community garden. In addition, the facilities and land could ease growing demand at other Wakulla Parks by providing parks and rec services at this location into the future. It was noted that a state of the art sound system and staging are at the site as well, although the terms of sale are within the purview of the BOCC.

CIVIL CITATION – Judy Myhre reported that this program is one of many parts of the Juvenile Division’s work, and that the transition has been smooth for the Juvenile Division. As to Civil Citation she reported that twenty-two youth have been cited, with ten of those placed for alcohol use, thus supporting continued priority focus on underage drinking. Other citations were 3 for marijuana possession, 5 disorderly conduct, and 1 disruption. Some of the youth have completed the Teen Intervene program and 8 have completed Community Service. Cathy Price noted that one high school youth was shocked to learn that not only was community service required, but other requirements such as teen intervene, and Know the Law study and reporting were also requirements.

JUVENILE DIVISION – SCHOOL INTERFACE – Capt. Savary reported he is now housed in offices at the high school and will soon have direct line telephone service. He hit the ground running and most recently engaged 120 high school youth in the driver's education program by using SYDNEY as an underage drinking prevention tool. SYDNEY simulates driving while under the influence. Det. Bruce Ashley added that Cap. Savary and Deputy Jones had recently addressed high school youth in the Criminal Justice Class, another 150 youth, where they asked a series of questions. Most surprising were youth reporting that alcohol is available in the home, even though their parents do not drink, but find it acceptable for their kids to drink. A creative billboard was suggested. Beth O'Donnell mentioned that the social norms survey at the two middle schools was complete and that it likely contained information that would be helpful to communications and media efforts to bridge the gap between what youth believe to be true versus what is actually true. Beth will send the data to Gail for distribution. Cathy Price reported on the high incidence of suicide in the county, and reported that s Suicide Prevention Workshop is scheduled Monday, December 7, 6:30 p.m. at Wildwood.

ABT – Carrie Bruce is acting lieutenant for Alcohol, Beverage and Tobacco. She reports that Lt. Campbell is still acting chief, and that she is available to present to youth where needed.

HOMELESSNESS among Wakulla Youth – Jo Barksdale reports that 70 Wakulla youth have been identified as having no fixed residence. She has been successful in meeting immediate needs of youth, and she asked coalition leaders to reach her as needed.

WAKULLA SCHOOLS – Beth O'Donnell reports that several Second Chance students will return to their regular schools soon. Other students/cases with severe behavioral issues will be studied and reviewed at a meeting soon. Beth noted that these youth are continually reassessed with assistance through PAEC in Tallahassee. PAEC – the Panhandle Area Educational Consortium. Cathy Price reported on the higher incidence of teen pregnancy, now 9. Glen Wade asked about education programs available with Beth responding that the WAIT program – while an abstinence program – is a comprehensive curriculum intended to guide good choices.

DJJ – Antonio Johnson reported on the success of the Know the Law Booklet, which he has seen in use in other counties. He and others asked for additional copies which will be provided at the next meeting. Another JPO is now in the county with Elizabeth Phillips with both being housed at the Sheriff's office.

TOBACCO PREVENTION – Tonya mentioned a partnership meeting scheduled next week, and success of the Great American Smoke Out.

DIABETES – Grace Keith reminded everyone of Health Department services to those with diabetes. She hopes for a class beginning in January.

FOSTER CARE – Sara Fulbright reported the need for foster parents primarily in Jefferson County. She anticipates a class in April for Wakulla and Franklin county potential foster parents, with the hope that some of these potentials will consider taking teens, the more challenging age group.

YMCA – DJ anticipates they will have a new camp director in late February/early March. He asked that the names of potential candidates be given to him, along with the names of youth in high school or college with an interest in service as camp counselors.

NEW HORIZONS in middle school – Meghan Howell reported she has twenty-six youth in her prevention class. They come by way of referral, with many of them seeking to find ways to help their parents (quit smoking). Meghan also reported that a replacement for Dawna Titus is anticipated to be in the Class-Action position before beginning of the next semester.

SARG –

Gail spent the rest of the meeting detailing training opportunities available thru SARG supporting Coalition goals. Be the Wall, Sustainability, and Social Marketing for Youth were discussed. The coalition asked Gail to request BTW training in January in Wakulla County. After Gail read the qualifications of persons identified, a couple coalition leaders (two are needed to join Gail) agreed to check their calendars to see if the Sustainability Training in Orlando Jan. 10-13, 2010 will work for them. The training will result in immediate planning for sustaining coalition efforts into days beyond SARG. It will be a comprehensive look at the coalition -- its structure(organization and management), the makeup of the coalition and its effectiveness, and how the community values its work.

The Implementation Plan was discussed at length, with approval given to proceed with amending the Strategy Action Plan to make it possible to implement the four projects named:

- Printing of the Resource Directory
- Development of the WCCY web site
- Implementation of Be the Wall
- Building Wakulla Co. Coalition of Youth for Youth

There was much discussion with final agreement that Gail would reach key leaders for review and comment on the final plan before Friday, December 5, 2009. The Strategy Action Plan and the Implementation Plan are due Friday, Dec. 4, 2009. Immediately following and due to SARG leaders are Assessment Priority 2 backup and evaluation plans.

Respectfully submitted

Gail Campbell, in the absence of WCCY Secretary Gayle Myers