



## Wakulla County Coalition for Youth Wednesday, February 3, 2010 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)

Lynn Artz, Commissioner  
Det. Bruce Ashley, WCSO  
Kathy Asbell, Dom. Violence  
Jo Barksdale, WCSB  
Gail Campbell, Wakulla Co. Coal.  
Khandis Cline, Workforce Plus  
Nancy Culp, Disc Village  
Ken Gambill, Volunteer Wakulla  
D. J. Gothe, YMCA  
Nick Gray, WCSO Officer  
Ray Gray, School Board, Parks & Rec  
Tonya Hobby, Wakulla Co. Health Dept  
Sherri Hood, IFAS, Wak. Ext.  
Meghan Howell, New Horizons at WMS  
Antonio Johnson, Court Admin.

Jennie Jones, Christian Coal.  
Grace Keith, DOH  
Mark Lundberg, DOH Acting Admin  
Gayle Myers, BBCBC  
Judy Myhre, WCS  
Cathy Price, WCS, WHD  
Capt. Chris Savary, WCSO  
Lisa Russell, WCSO Juv. Div.  
Jason Smith, CCYS  
Tomica A. Smith, Healthy Start  
Glen Wade, Mentor  
Rebecca Weaver, Class Action  
Jennifer Webb, Teen Intervene

Tonya Hobby called the meeting to order at 12:30. A motion was made to waive the reading of the January 6 meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously. Special welcome was given to new faces, Mark Lundberg of the Wakulla County Health Department, Jennifer Webb, Teen Intervene, Nick Gray WCSO – WHS, and Tomeka Smith of Healthy Start and in the company of her two month old baby girl.

**WCS:** Cathy spoke about the Web development that will soon become a reality. The Web Design class is ready to get started. Template is ready, no content yet. We need to get it to the kids. Go to [Wakullacoalition.com](http://Wakullacoalition.com) to view when it is up. Facebook will be utilized for coalition later in the future also. Members were invited to go back and look at IP email and give your input. For the events calendar, all of us need to send in what we want on the site. Do you want your program's logo up? Web page up? Pictures of your program? Links to your web site? Items to be on the site: Know the Law; Be the Wall; Coalition monthly minutes; Chat rooms (for youth). Web pages will be available for youth, parents, and professionals. Next month Cathy will bring up our website for coalition review. WCSD quarterly newsletter will be put on there also. It was suggested that a 'hit' counter be put on the site to tell # of online users. Call Cathy Price or email w/ideas so it continues to be a joint project. Gail Campbell gave a comment that people have no idea what we (coalition) do. This is a way to put our info out there, with all connections to all programs and services.

**Wakulla County Coalition of Youth FOR Youth:** Tonya Hobby has received some names of youth from coalition partners, but she needs more names. Feb 25 from 6-7 at TCC will be the first meeting of the Youth Coalition where they will delve into programs and projects supporting WCCY efforts into the coming months. Tonya also reminded WCCY that next month is the quarterly meeting of the Tobacco Partnership with a need to have 45 minutes of the

WCCY agenda. THIS MEETING IS COMBINED WITH THE MONTHLY COALITION MEETING on a quarterly basis, 2:30 to 4:30 on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of March, June, September and December. The coalition business will be addressed first, then the SWAT advisors (students) will arrive and The SWAT agenda will begin.

**Resource Directory** - It is ready to print, with \$1885 from SARG, \$500 from the Tobacco Partnership and \$54 from WCCY funds for 1,000 directories. Ken Gambill said that hopefully this time next month it can be distributed in two phases: 1) member agencies - who will be asked to identify names (or positions) for distribution for accountability to DCF. Those who have the most exposure in meeting county needs will get the directory. 2) The second round of distribution will be to all others, with no accountability required. CD's as an inexpensive way to distribute and to keep current. The WCCY has made provision for updates via the WCCY website where the complete directory can be accessed by the public and WCCY partners.

**Be The Wall:** Glen Wade reported the next Be The Wall committee meeting will be Feb 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. To create public anticipation for the campaign it was suggested members go to the County Commissioner's meeting on March 1<sup>st</sup> to present the meaning of Be The Wall. During the month of February there will be an unveiling of the Words *Be the Wall* throughout the county on marquis, fences at schools, the School District's web site and county festivals to build anticipation. WCCY members were reminded not to reveal the meaning of Be The Wall until March 1<sup>st</sup>, but to continue to build anticipation for the promotion. Beginning in March, parents will be asked to sign pledges to *Be the Wall* between their child and alcohol and its promotion. A wall will be created with the names of those who sign pledges (parents, friends, relatives). April will be the month to go out and build walls, for recruitment of pledges. The coalition website will be utilized as well as the Coalition Of Youth FOR Youth group. The Wall promotion will be introduced in the spring, cool down during summer break with two highway billboards sustaining the message, and then the promotion will begin to hit hard again in the fall.

**Planning:** Gail Campbell, Glen Wade and Det. Bruce Ashley attended a Sustainability Training in Orlando in January. Wakulla was one of 5 counties chosen to participate because of our progress as a coalition. The 3 days of intense training was designed to assist the WCCY in a process to maintain long-term investment in the coalition's work. Gail spoke of the WCCY's internal structure and accomplishments since its beginning; such as becoming a 501c3 non-profit; and the strength represented around the table in broad-based partnerships where leveraged efforts and partnerships have become customary and where there is a solid understanding of the connections of substance use to violence and truancy on the front end to joblessness, economic deprivation, incarceration and other of the harshest of consequences when persistent and heavy use of alcohol starts at an early age. The WCCY has made great strides but its work is valuable only to the extent that the community knows and values what it does. The end product of Sustainability workshop will be a plan developed by five committees over the course of the next two months. These committees will take a hard look at how the WCCY (its systems, its partners) conduct assessment of needs in the community, how the coalition guides meeting those needs and evaluates effectiveness.

**NAMI:** Gail Campbell reported on a grant that was placed with the WCCY by SARG leaders at the Sustainability training. Gail asked for discussion and direction in the writing of the grant that would support NAMI's work in advocacy for mental health services, education, and connecting those in need to providers of mental health services. The NAMI organization is at a crossroads and connecting mental illness and substance abuse disorders (co-occurring disorders would build the capacity of the WCCY and NAMI. Likewise, Volunteer Wakulla and the WCCY both seek to engage youth in positive community endeavor (as change agents, leaders), and also WCCY partners have need for volunteers to carry out many of their programs and services. The grant would support a person for a 4-month period of time to conduct research and assist building efforts of these two groups. The grant could also support other coalition needs, for example, the building of a faith alliance. Cathy Price made a motion to approve the writing of the grant with a second from Jenny Jones. The motion was unanimously approved. A

meeting of key leaders from named groups will be scheduled immediately for planning and writing the grant that is due March 15, 2010.

**DRUG FREE COMMUNITY GRANT:** Gail Campbell announced this grant which is due March 22<sup>nd</sup>. This grant is important to the coalition in the long term as it is a 5 year grant of \$125,000 per year for five years. Our chances for this grant are strengthened by where we have been and what we have done. Gail volunteered to write this grant also on the condition that a committee will join her to make the decisions involved in the grant. Three agencies to join Gail: Health Dept., Education, and Sheriff's Dept. Mark Lundberg, Judy Myhre, Sherri Hood and Chris Savary volunteered to join Gail in writing this grant.

**CO. COMMISSION NEWS:** Lynn Artz announced that on January 25<sup>th</sup> the Board directed the purchase of the 22 acres of New Life Church property for the Community Center. If all goes as planned, the property will be ready for use by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**EXTENSION OFFICE:** Sherri Hood reported the Extension Office made a survey to solicit input from youth regarding what they want in a community center. The coalition members are invited to give input of what we would like to see. The survey will be distributed to as many diverse facets as possible and will question financial ability for parents as fees will be required. Sherri Hood announced the Wakulla Swine Show is coming up February 20<sup>th</sup>. A Swine Show quilt will be available by ticket donation. Kids need Swine sponsors. A contest for Tropicana Public Speaking is upcoming for 4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders on April 15<sup>th</sup>. Coalition members are invited to come and see, hear, and/or be a judge for the event. A 4-H newsletter is planned to come out in the following week.

**WAKULLA CO. SCHOOLS:** Cathy Price announced availability of electronic copies of Teen Depression and Suicide Risk can be requested by coalition members. Jo Barksdale reported that there are currently 87 homeless students identified in our county. 10 homeless students have moved out of our district, some of whom may have moved to permanent housing. Rebecca Weaver reported Class Action is scheduled to begin February 16 and that pre and post data from the first semester class is available. Meghan Howell reported 33 students in the New Horizons Program, which is for 6-8<sup>th</sup> grades, where anger management and other helping services are provided to youth...

**DEPT. OF JUV JUSTICE:** Antonio Johnson reported on the Diversion Program, which has served 75-100 kids since 2005. Many youth do not realize that their juvenile record follows them through life.

**CIVIL CITATION:** Judy Myhre reported 11 active students. Some have successfully completed the program; others have committed a 2<sup>nd</sup> offense and have been terminated.

**TEEN INTERVENE:** Jennifer Webb reported that 3 students are in the program currently.

**WCSO:** Det. Bruce Ashley reported a new survey is to be used to assess drinking or drug involvement where youth are involved in criminal activity or infractions. This survey will inform and thus guide needs.

**WHD:** Mark Lundberg reported the Dept of Health will be ranked by 17<sup>th</sup> of February on a scale of 1-67 to see areas needed for improvement. Funding cuts are expected this year. A goal is to sustain the staff now on board and continue to support the programs now in place. Medicaid dental for kids will be targeted to supply more providers in the county. Dr. Dennis Mooney is the single Medicaid dental provider at present in the county.

**YMCA:** D.J. reported the summer Day Camp is filling up for 1<sup>st</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> graders. The WCCY was asked to get the word out to families to apply for the camp. Go to [www.campindiansprings.org](http://www.campindiansprings.org) for more information. The Camp is

hiring counselors at present. Qualified cabin leaders age 17 ½ and up may apply. A maintenance person will be hired in March.

**DISC VILLAGE:** Nancy Culp displayed license tags that can be purchased through the tag office for car license plates. Proceeds go to Drug and Alcohol education to help keep kids drug and alcohol free.

**DOH:** Grace Keith announced a Diabetes Education class now in progress with 16 people in attendance. At completion, another class will start up.

**WORKFORCE:** Khandis Cline reported the high school dropout list was in this week with 11 dropouts, 5 of which are back in school. Certified Nursing Assistant (CAN) class will start up on April 15<sup>th</sup> with 22 enrolled. 9 of the enrolled are Wakulla youth ages 17-21. They will have the opportunity to be employed at Eden Springs when the course is completed.

**CHRISTIAN COALITION:** Jenny Jones reported the National Readout this Sunday from 3-5:00 at the Public Library. Jenny also announced a scholarship banquet the 20<sup>th</sup> of February at 6:00 p.m. at the Senior Citizen's Center. Curtis Richardson will be the speaker; price is \$30.00 per ticket. There will be a Heritage Parade on the 20<sup>th</sup> to start at 10:00 a.m.

**REFUGE HOUSE** Kathy Asbell announced the monthly meeting every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 12:00 noon at the TCC Campus in Crawfordville. Lunch is provided. For March the topic is child abuse; in April Dawn Curley will speak on sexual violence.

**HEALTHY START:** Tomeka Smith reported on data that will be looked at regarding child and health issues, the biggest issue in the past being smoking. This issue will likely continue to be the biggest issue. Teen pregnancy is on the rise; Wakulla will be looked at specifically.

**Tonya Hobby announced** WCCY meetings are always the first Wednesday of every month. The next meeting is Wednesday, March 3, 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. at the TCC Wakulla Center.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gayle Myers