

Otter Tail Family Services Collaborative

www.otfsc.org

*Working Together...
Serving Families
...Improving Lives*

**Chemical Health Work Group
Meeting Minutes**

1-3 PM, Friday, January 8, 2010

Dead Lake Room, Government Service Center, Fergus Falls

Present: Angie Schreader (Perham Schools) and Karmy Thompson (OTC Human Services) by phone; David Hauser (OTC Attorney's Office – 4); Alena Anderson (MSU Student); Lynn Halmrast (Regional ATOD Coordinator-120); and Jane Patrick (Collaborative Coordinator).

1. Welcome and introductions - Discussion of work group chair for future meetings. Include this as an agenda item for next time with the option of appointing someone next whether they are here or not☺
2. Prescription drug use conference in Moorhead – no one from today's group went, but Pam and Carole did go and we will look at what they learned next time.
3. Review of focus group session from Angie and Karmy. The group had a good mix of kids with some that were using and some that weren't. Some weren't aware of the different drugs and some were. Overall the group felt that this focus group was a good measure of the make-up of most student groups. Key thoughts:
 - All kids seemed interested in the education components of it.
 - Legal and other consequences such as how it will affect college goals seemed to matter to all kids.
 - If we provide a speaker, it needs to be someone close to their own age.
 - Posters need to be catchy and colorful if they will be effective – with “DON'T POP PILLS” as the tag line and smaller information about facts consequences- most students DON'T use. (OR Pop a sucker – NOT Pills)
 - David's office has some money for printing posters that we can access.
 - Radio – talk to Lakes Radio about free PSAs
 - Emails and text messages really aren't effective per the students because they receive so many.
 - News release articles – Angie, Karmy will talk to newspaper for one article focusing on what the students said; David & Alena will also serve as a contact for one article using the medical facts and legal consequences.
 - Focus on Perham but try to reach out to other communities if they are interested. Angie will connect with one or more student groups to promote our messages.
 - Month of April is target with posters to be down by end of school year.
 - Ask the service club members people to fill out our pre and post surveys.

4. Medical communities – middle or end of April. This is for professionals, pharmacists, etc., will the medical groups provide the lunch? Alena will connect with Fergus and Karmy will connect with the Perham clinic to set these up.
5. Parent session in the auditorium in Perham – Rick Moldenhauer is the first choice for a speaker. April 22 is conferences in Perham from 6:30 – 7:30. The session can provide continuing education certificates. Dates NOT available for the auditorium include: April 6, 16 and 29. If Rick Moldenhauer is not available on April 22, we should invite Jay Jaffee, otherwise we will look for alternate dates if neither Rick or Jay is available on the 22nd.
6. Underage drinking – we need more training with Law Enforcement on how to investigate these issues. David will follow-up with the sheriff's office and the police department about how to affectively handle underage drinking violations. The group requested that we re-do postcards for this spring. Jane will check with the schools to see if they can pay postage to send to seniors in early May. David's office as some dollars to help pay for the printing and/or the postage if the schools can't. Send the two post cards that we have around to the group for review and a decision on which one we should use.
7. FY11 Planning – do we want to continue to meet? Are we being effective with the activities that we are doing? Look at the pre and post survey tools to help us decide if the April Campaign is truly effective. Lynn shared an overview of the Drug Free Communities Grant for which the RFP will be available as of November 2010. This is a positive community norms campaign which focuses on alcohol. Two local communities – Pine River/Backus and Wadena received them in the last round. This grant is only available every five years. MOTION: To ask for dollars for a grant writer to put together a proposal on behalf of the Chemical Health Work Group. Lynn will clarify what the dates for the RFP and notification from the grant. Whatever this group decides to do for next year, we need to also determine how we will prove we are effective with our initiatives.
8. Partner sharing:
 - Alena will be meeting with some different service clubs. She will ask them to promote our medical clinic training and/or for funding for postage on the postcards. Send Alena the contact names that I have for different service clubs.
9. The meeting was adjourned by consensus. The next meeting of the Chemical Health Work Group will be held on Friday, February 12th from 1 – 3 at the Government Service Center in Fergus Falls.