

Taylor County Prevention Council

July 25, 2007

Medford Area Public School District Office

Call To Order: Chair Nordgren called the meeting to order with the following present: Mary Bix, Taylor County Board of Supervisors; George Southworth Taylor County Board of Supervisors and Medford School Board; Sharon Ludwig, Stepping Stones; Laura Lato, Americorps; Joseph Greget, Medford School District; Paula Dubiak, ATOD Chair; Laura Holmes, Parent Resource Center; Sally Toepfer, Taylor County Human Services; LeeAnn Raab, District Attorney's Office; Patty Krug, Taylor County Health Department.

Review Minutes of Last Meeting: The minutes were approved by acclamation.

Committee Reports

Safe & Stable Families: Nordgren announced there was carryover from last year; and it will be used for Big Brothers/Big Sisters, the family visitor program, and scholarships for the Medford after school program. The family visitor numbers are going down, but so is the birth rate. They are currently looking for ways to get information about the program to the parents of newborns.

Coordinated Community Responses to Domestic Violence: Ludwig reported that Stepping Stones is trying to get the CCR team going again, as well as getting their fundraising activities up and running.

Early Childhood: Greget informed the council that Barb Gelhaus is getting her certification to teach babysitting classes. There has been quite a demand for this, so it will be a welcome addition to our programs.

ATOD: Dubiak reported on the tobacco conference in Eau Claire.

Americorps Presentation: Laura Lato gave a Power Point presentation on what Americorps is and what it does in Taylor County.

Dental Health: Patty Krug discussed the various efforts that are going into improving dental care in Taylor County.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Taylor County Prevention Council will be Wednesday, September 26, 2007 at 9:00 AM.

Adjournment: With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 AM.

TAYLOR COUNTY PREVENTION COUNCIL
May 23, 2007
Medford Area Public School District Office

Call To Order: Chair Nordgren called the meeting to order with the following members present: Steve Bitzer, Northcentral Technical College; Joseph Greget, Medford School District; Karen Jacobson, TCHS – AODA; Theresa J. Valenti & Sharon Ludwig, Stepping Stones, Inc.; LuAnn Raab, Victim/Witness; Patty Krug, Taylor County Health Department; Laura Holmes, Parent Resource Center; Jean Nuernberger, Taylor County Circuit Court; Dianne Niggemann, Taylor County Commission on Aging; Paula Dubiak, Community Coordinator; George Southworth & Mary K. Bix, Taylor County Board; Jennifer Steuck, Marshfield Clinic Center for Community Outreach; Peggy Nordgren, UWEX.

Introductions & Announcements: A new “**Powerful Tools for Caregivers**” class is now scheduled for August. Patty Krug reported that the **fluoride varnish program** is now set up for children up to age five. This program can be covered under Medical Assistance.

Presentation - Northwoods Coalition Basics: Jennifer Steuck of the Marshfield Clinic discussed the Northwoods Coalition. This is a group of 22 community partnerships dedicated to addressing community health issues related to youth and families, particularly in the areas of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. It is based on the Healthiest Wisconsin 2010 Plan.

Plan to disseminate Information about 211 System: The Taylor County Board of Health will discuss and probably sponsor a resolution to the Taylor County Board of Supervisors supporting a \$10,000 donation to the United Way 211 program.

Review Minutes of Last Meeting: The minutes were approved by acclamation.

Committee Reports

Safe & Stable Families: Nordgren reported that the Committee met on April 3 and discussed carry-over funds from last year. They are currently redoing their budget and putting \$5,000 into the after-school programs at Medford Schools, as well as \$500 for advertising, and money for the Parenting and Family Visitor programs. A total of \$5,000 is also being set aside for Big Brothers/Big Sisters. Other funding will remain the same.

Early Childhood: The Committee met on April 4. They had a successful Child Development Day, and more efforts are going into serving 3-5 year olds with disabilities.

ATOD: Dubiak reported that pamphlets on the liability involved in having parties with minors and alcohol are being distributed. SADD worked on posters for the Kick Butts program with gift certificates given out for Subway. A four-day leadership camp, Venture Forward, is being offered starting July 31 to Middle School and High School students. A discussion is ongoing in Gilman regarding what to do with alcohol offenders and re-offenders.

Coordinated Community Responses to Domestic Violence: Valenti reported an increased in the number of sexual abuse and assault cases. She is now trying to resurrect the CCR team. They recently had a good response from the Sheriff’s Department regarding one of their interventions. This week Stepping Stones is giving 22 presentations in Rib Lake and Medford schools and are trying to deal with bullying in K-5. They continue to renovate their building.

Confirm Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Taylor County Prevention Council is scheduled for Wednesday, July 25, 2007.

Adjournment: With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:43.

TAYLOR COUNTY PREVENTION COUNCIL
March 28, 2007
Medford Area Public School District Office

Call To Order: Chair Nordgren called the meeting to order with the following members present: Mary K. Bix, Taylor County Board, George Southworth, Taylor County Board and Medford Area School Board; Theresa J. Valenti, Stepping Stones, Inc.; LeeAnn Raab, Victim-Witness Coordinator for Taylor County; Laura Holmes, Parent Resource Center; Diane Niggemann, Commission on Aging; Joseph Greget, Medford School District; Paula Dubiak, Community Coordinator; Monelle Johnson, Restorative Justice; Tammy Dahl, ICAA Taylor County Head Start; Jean Nuernberger, Taylor County Circuit Court; Kelly Jensen, Sand Box, Inc.; Jennifer Steuck, Marshfield Clinic CCO; Peggy Nordgren, UW-Extension; Michelle Hartness, First Call 211.

Introductions & Announcements: Greget announced that the Child Development Day for the Medford School District would be April 19 this year. Niggemann and Nordgren will be presenting Powerful Tools for Caregivers starting April 16. This is a six-part course designed to help caregivers cope with the stress in their lives. Johnson reported that Restorative Justice has received a car wrecked in a drunken driving accident that they will use for demonstrations on the perils of drinking while under the influence. The Parent Resource Center has a teen parent support group starting. A shaken baby training session will be offered April 11. LeeAnn Raab has moved from Stepping Stones, Inc. to the Taylor County Victim-Witness Program; Sharon Ludwig will be taking her place, and Paul Sabatke will become their childcare advocate.

Presentation: 211 - Michelle Hartness of United Way of Wood County spoke on the implementation of 211 in Taylor County. This is a national program and is just now getting implemented in the State of Wisconsin. The idea is to allow people to use just three numbers to connect with important community information and referrals. Our district started with Adams, Clark, and Wood Counties; and 16 more counties will be added to that list, including Taylor County. Taylor County should be up and running by the end of the second quarter, 2007.

211 will be information and referral only; not EAP, although small businesses may use it for referral for services. By next meeting, everyone should come with a plan on how they can disseminate information about 211 around the county. This fits in very well with our mission and goals to facilitate and promote cooperation of agencies through knowledge of services and programs and to keep the public informed of issues and prevention programs available.

Review Minutes: No changes.

Committee Reports:

Safe and Stable Families Steering Committee (Nordgren) – At the January meeting, the committee discussed the 2007 contract for Big Brothers/Big Sisters. Some of the carryover funds from 2006 will be distributed to the Medford CLC after school program for scholarships for students to attend who may not be able to otherwise. Committee has begun discussing how to handle budget cuts in 2008.

Early Childhood Committee (Greget) – will meet on April 4 to discuss Child Development Days in Medford and Week of the Young Child activities including a child resource roadmap being prepared by Krug. The Medford Child Development Day on April 19 will include pre-kindergarten sign up.

ATOD Committee (Dubiak) – Dubiak will be taking kids to Leadership Council soon. The focus in the after school programs in Rib Lake and Gilman has been foods and

nutrition. The kids in the Gilman SADD group worked to get a post-prom party at the school this year. They also sponsored an anti-tobacco poster contest. The Tobacco Coalition sponsored the prizes.

Asset Team (Greget) - The Asset Team decided to no longer be a county-wide committee since all the programs were centered in the Medford schools. School personnel will continue the group within Medford Area Schools.

Any other business: At the end of the meeting, discussion centered on various issues affecting families including teen pregnancy and teen parents, adolescents, aids.

Next meeting will be May 23. Jennifer Steuck, Prevention Specialist with Northwoods Coalition will give a presentation about prevention and the programs of Northwoods Coalition.

Respectively submitted by Mary Bix, Secretary and Peggy Nordgren, Chair

TAYLOR COUNTY PREVENTION COUNCIL
January 24, 2007
Medford Area Public School District Office

Call To Order: Chair Nordgren called the meeting to order with the following present: Mary K. Bix, Taylor County Board; George Southworth, Taylor County Board & Medford Area School District; Theresa J. Valenti, Stepping Stones, Inc.; Laura Holmes, Parent Resource Center; Sally Toepfer, Taylor County Human Services Department; Henry Clark, Medford Area Elementary School; Joseph Greget Medford School District; Paula Dubiak, Community Coordinator.

Review Minutes of Last Meeting: The minutes of the November 15, 2006 meeting were approved by acclamation.

Future Presentation Topics: Michelle Hartness will discuss the Statewide "211" program in March, and Youth Drug & Alcohol Use will be discussed in May.

Committee Reports

Safe & Stable Families: A new contract with Big Brothers/Big Sisters has been approved. It is performance-based and designed to address the issues with previous contracts.

Early Childhood: The autism group has joined the Early Childhood Subcommittee.

ATOD: Most of the area youth involved in the State Youth Leadership Council are now seniors. The group is attempting to recruit new, younger members.

Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Violence: Another attempt is being made to get this subcommittee going, especially in the area of sexual abuse. They are stressing prevention, education, outreach, and support. Most of the staff is now involved in the Medford Reads program.

Asset Team: The Champions of Youth banquet is scheduled for Sunday, January 28, 2007. Kathy Alexander of the Asset Team has accepted a position in Rib Lake.

A satellite program, "Living with Grief Before & After Death", is being offered March 22.

Presentation: Julie Jacobson, CESA 10, the **Foster Grandparent** Program Coordinator, discussed the foster grandparent program in the CESA 10 area. Most of the communities in the area have several foster grandparents, but Medford has only one, Betty Mueller, who also presented information on the program. JoAnn Matthys assisted in the presentation as well.

This program has been in existence since 1965 and was established in response to a change in education philosophy – that of taking special education children out of institutions and putting them in regular schools. At the present time, 13,824 children in 30 schools are in the program, which now includes children at risk, developmentally disabled children, as well as children with other disabilities. There are 70 foster grandparents in this area, and those seventy put in 35,075 service hours.

Providing individual attention to students who have special needs is the goal of the program. The focus is on ensuring that both the foster grandparents and the children get equal benefits. Low-income foster grandparents are given a small stipend; others are strictly volunteers.