

Suicide **Prevention** Council Meeting
December 21, 2006
Madison Center Mtg Room WEST

MINUTES

PRESENT: Kevin and Julia Sherbun, Bill Bruinsma, Bonnie Raine, Megan Bright, Terry Clark, Marni Cronk, Linda Pyfer, Marilyn Eber, Ryan Trzaskowski, Steven Bright, Abbee Smith, Bonnie Strycker, John McIntosh, Kevin Large, Laura Medow

1. Introductions/ Council Roster Changes-
 - Megan Bright: United Way 211.
 - Marni Cronk: Penn HS counselor. mcronk@phm.k12.in.us
 - Pat Hancock: Clinical Director Family & Children's Center for Counseling & Development pdhancock@fcccads.org
 - Ann Thomas: new email address annt@familiesfirst.org
2. Minutes Approval
3. Business
 - A Distinguished Service Award was presented by the Council to Julia and Kevin Sherbun for their role in teen suicide prevention for their involvements with Yellow Ribbon. Having lost their teenage son Nicholas to suicide 3 years ago, the Sherbuns have spoken to high school classes now for 2 years sharing their message of hope to teens along with the Yellow Ribbon prevention education.
 - A Distinguished Service Awards was also presented to Chris Krueger for his efforts in suicide awareness in hosting "Stayin' Afloat'- A Celebration of Life" in memory of his sister Amy Elaine. Due to a family illness, Chris was unable to attend; Chris' mother, Kathy, accepted the award in his honor.
 - announcements: Next ASIST March 15 and 16 - SJRMC *South Bend* Campus . Put in other agency newsletters/ listservs to employees
4. Year in Review- past year's goals were reviewed and accomplishments shared
5. Youth Workshop/ Conference Planning
 - discussed important participants to include. In addition to Samaritan Counseling Services, Center for Hospice and Palliative Care, Youth Service Bureau, Madison Center, Healthy Communities Initiatives, Healthworks! Kids Museum, we have the Juvenile Justice Center, Penn High School, and Family and Children's Center. Need to make sure schools are on board. Bonnie Strycker will make contact with SB School Corp for rep.
 - **committee** (so far: John McIntosh, Madison Center (Linda Pyfer, Steven Bright), Center for Hospice (Monica Eblen), Healthy Communities Initiatives (Marilyn Eber), Laura Medow, United Way 211 (David Sisk), Youth Service Bureau (Bonnie Strycker). Others- please indicate your interest to Laura

- focus/ audience
 1. It was agreed it would be beneficial to address a wide audience (professionals, parents, physicians, church and youth leaders, extracurricular teachers, athletic directors and coaches, and youth).
 2. understanding warning signs and symptoms
 3. adolescent depression/ suicide
 4. helping teach kids effective coping skills
 5. assisting kids in developing their own protective factors/ resource network to survive/ cope
 6. peer mentoring
 7. stigma/ barriers
 8. gay/ lesbian risks
 9. possibly conduct simultaneous ASIST workshop

- timing of conference
 1. Creative ideas were shared at to how to attract youth and meet their needs. It was decided to not try to coincide with the Lang Youth Conference to maintain clear council event goals.
 - a. to get large youth audience, we will try to tap into local motivational youth concert venues already scheduled (ie Pulse (Christian Rock), United Life, Me, wBiur Health through MHA, etc . Several council members will make contacts. We will work with the concert committee to have a tent and make announcements during the event
 - b. Contacts to be made: [Steven and Megan Bright](#)- Granger Christian & Christ the King churches, [Julia and Kevin Sherburn](#)- River Valley Church, [Bill Bruinsma](#)- Youth Pastors (Josh Ferguson, Lester Summerall, Dale DeVon), [Bonnie Raine](#)- Calvary Temple
 - c. when there are breaks in the music, can roll tapes, make announcements, etc. Parent sessions can be held while kids are listening to the music
 2. A multi-disciplinary conference for individuals that function as our youth's support network will be organized to coincide with the timing of the youth concert

Next Meeting: January 18, 2007 12 noon Madison Center Meeting Room EAST

attachment: 2005-2006 accomplishments

ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2005-2006

Produced awareness and education brochures with audience specific inserts

Produced wallet crisis cards designed to appeal to teens, but universally useful

Developed a regional resource listing of clinicians who have worked with suicidal patients and/or survivors as a community resource.

Produced comprehensive community awareness presentation and developed speakers' bureau

Recent/ upcoming presentations: YWCA, NAMI, SBPD

Conducted 2 of 3 scheduled ASIST workshops.

Instituted a scholarship program for first responders to attend ASIST

Collaborated with community activist Chris Krueger in his "Stayin' Afloat" Celebration of Life fundraiser

Performed 2 of 4 scheduled Yellow Ribbon Presentations to area high school students

Maintained and expanded our Council Website (www.sjcsuicideprevention.com)

Initiated planning for our next large, interdisciplinary conference