

Suicide **Prevention** Council Meeting
May 17, 2007
Madison Center Mtg Room WEST -12:00 noon

MINUTES

Present: Laura Medow, John McIntosh, Ann Thomas, Lani Vivirito, Steven Bright, Julia Sherbun, Marni Cronk, Monica Eblen, Lisa Glass, Laura McGann, Terry Clark

Guests: Paul Baldwin, Mel Tardy, Bill O'Dell

1. Introductions/ Council Roster Changes
 - a. Guests: Youth Ministers: Mel Tardy, Youth Minister St. Augustine Parish
 - i. Bill O'Dell, Little Flower Catholic Church
 - ii. Mel Tardy, Saint Augustine's
 - iii. Paul Baldwin, Student Ministries Pastor River Valley Church
2. Minutes Approval per John, seconded by Lani
3. **Yellow Ribbon Training- Ann described Be-A-Link presentations;** ~ one hour presentations offered to individuals on the front line. Discussed opportunities where these might be beneficial. Penn High School is interested in offering these to staff members
4. **Promoting SPC educational opportunities to regional colleges.** (see http://www.sprc.org/library/college_sp_whitepaper.pdf for pertinent information regarding suicide among college students and prevention)
 - i. reviewed letter to go out to college student service personnel. Will offer tailored education to meet their needs (RAs, staff, etc)
 - ii. Mel, Lani, Terry and others will forward student services contact information to Laura and she will make initial contacts.
5. ***Stayin' Afloat 2007.*** Saturday July 7th. See Website for details <http://www.stayinafloat.com/>. **FUN Family festival with games, food and music that you will want to attend with your family and friends!** *Please let Laura know if able to volunteer time to man our information booth or help with the festival activities. A few hours would help!*
6. **Distribution of educational materials to schools-** Bonnie Strycker and Linda Pyfer are working with staff . We have been asked to conduct a brief educational presentation at South Bend School Corp giving background information and explaining use of materials to staff

7. **Education to Leaders of our Youth**

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- Recommend Multi- Pronged approach: Teach Pastors, Youth Ministers Schools, and kids
 1. Train Pastors/ Ministers. Need to get them comfortable with counseling parents, to be effective
 2. 'go where the people are, rather than expecting them to come to you'
 3. Schools, Student Leaders and Youth Ministers
 - 1 relationships are most important
 - 2 sell faculty and establish ourselves
 - 3 use peer mentorship and/or Big Brother Big Sister. Let them know the questions to ask and who to refer to
 - 4 train kids to teach younger kids ie at elementary level (model after Memorial program re postponing sex
 - 5 Freshman Mentors. Teach Yellow Ribbon "Be A Link" (ie Penn High School)
 4. concert venue
 - World Pulse Festival. Christian music (Paul Baldwin=contact person)
 - Good Charlotte- mainstream band (not Christian) with a message

9. **Youth Workshop: "More Than Sex, Drugs and Rock and Roll: Contemporary Issues Facing Our Youth and how to Address Them"** see previous minutes for content

- date and workshop speakers to be decided
- get funding
- go to administrators to convince them why it is important for their staff to attend
- make a presentation to the Center for Peace and Non-Violence (talk about issues such as violence, cutting and suicide in at-risk individuals as well as community impact. May help with funding and in bringing in a good cross-section of the community)

NEXT MEETING: June 21, 2007 at noon, Madison Center Meeting Room East