



June 25, 2009 Meeting

Next meeting: July 16, 2009 at 12 noon, South Side Community Center

I. Good of the Order

Pam Biggs-Reed – Thanks to everyone for coming. Sorry about the AC, but thanks for bearing with us. Other thanks to everyone who actually read the long email.

Gabe Colon – CFRC has funding once again for the CPCS program, we are taking referrals.

Roger Guzman – CFRC has the YUG Program up and running, it is a drop in center at the South Side. From 12-1 lunch is served, from 1-5 is school aged kids, and then 4-8:30 teen time with snacks and dinner.

Andy Woodall – Vacation Bible School is happening now at Faith Baptist from 6-8:30. July 5th at noon they will be having a community picnic. Everyone is invited and it is all free.

Rebecca Bryant – Bethel mega sports camp is open to the community, for low income families the fee can be waived. There is a meal that will be served every Wednesday from 5:30 to 8:30. The Beacon Center picnic is coming up soon at Columbian Park.

Rebecca Humphrey – Carry Home annual car wash is also coming up for Carry Home.

Jason Cephus – Hopes for snow very soon.

II. In-patient Psychiatric Services for Youth

Kim Walsh – There have been several students this year that have had serious mental illness and medication issues. They think these students need some sort of in care help, but there has been an issue. Not that there is no insurance, no parental consent, or no doctor consent; it is just the fact that there is just no internal access. The only way these children can get help is if they go through the Juvenile Justice System. (PBR) Do we want to get a group together and investigate, and document what we find out? Then it can be published on the website to help other people. (Kelly) There is lots of troubleshooting that goes through the community liaison. They have trouble their selves (being the hospital) getting kids in themselves. (Kim)

One case was a girl who was very young ... using drugs and alcohol got pregnant tried to over dose three times to get rid of the fetus, before she had an abortion. They had consent from the insurance, parents, and doctor to treat her and get help, but then there was another issue ... transportation, they tried to take her several times and she would jump out of the car, so finally they called law enforcement and they would not transport her. (PBR) Kim will head up a subcommittee along with Kelly Godfrey, and Tammy Patrick. *(This issue will be back on the agenda for next months meeting)*

Angela Smith-Grossman – How do we move forward with the goals that we have? There was a copious amount of research done – put into the white paper – distributed to participants in the think tank meetings – and all the other information went on the Our Kids website for everyone to access. Angela needed the group to decide if we were going to focus more on home visiting or mentoring. This group of people is encouragers and engagers, we need to start laying out ideas that we can do some detail steps around. Angela made it clear that we are not looking to design new programs or to correct any programs that we currently have. We are just looking at how we can prevent child abuse and neglect. (PBR) Its not about understanding what we have – but what are the parts we need to look at where they fall out of their parents arms ... were do we pick them up? As we think were can we strengthen? Do we have too many focused on high school? Should we take some back to grade school? Is there enough preschool and daycare available so those ages don't end up in those kinds of situations? *Relationship based intervention between mentoring & home visiting* (Angela) her own agency is working on ways to assess their kids ... everyone has a part in that.

Pam Biggs-Reed asked, "What can this group do?"

Peggy – Looking at the descriptions of the two you think of a home visitor as a nurse ... etc ... how do we distinguish the two? Does it need to be called something other than mentoring? Back on the 40 Developmental Assets.

Roger – Mentorship – like going to big brothers big sisters, it is much easier to go into a community center than to go into someone's home
Jason – Mentoring – is the comfort zone of most people. We need to look at both sides, how one side of the wall is going to affect the other.

Angela hears a lot of need around mentoring ... PBR when we think about it we are in the process to help the young adults who have infants, with Faith & other churches. Adult mentorship goes on as well, mentoring is a whole big picture, and Jason says everyone can be a mentor, but how to we grab people in the community?

Rebecca – Does mentoring scare people away because they think of time What if we just changed the name because mentoring could be perceived as a scary word?

Coleen – Think that we can get the most "bang for our buck" in the grade school and middle school ages.

Mike – Educating the community because we all know what BBBS is, but getting the community trained before they even go to BBBS, then they would be ready to take off.

Rhonda – As we are making plans, we need to keep in mind that child mentoring does attract predators, so we need to have a plan in place for background checks.

Peggy – Ongoing mentoring means that we have to continually monitor the child with the mentor, because you just never know.

At the next meeting we are going to continue down this path, if you have other ideas, bring them into reality

III. Group Work

Outcome Measurement:

How do we measure?

- Bringing the system together would take to long
- If you throw work and competition together it turns into mentorship

Not all for just BBBS but for mentoring in all agencies, it would provide an opportunity for all kids.

“Just One” campaign

Finding kids “where they are to “mentor” them

Focus on school age because they are congregated

Educate on what “mentoring” means

How do we focus on the value of relationships?

It takes a relationship to get people to engage in relationships with kids.

How do we “pass on” volunteers who might be a good fit for mentoring.

Structure, best practices

\$\$ for background checks

Get FBI to join Our Kids (do \$ analysis (return on investment))

Monitoring relationships

How do we measure?

Use competition

Integrate mentoring into regular life

Mentoring mentors

Do we want to keep it evidence based, to gather information? Emily from Carry Home will help with this along with Fonda from BBBS

Controlled process – come with ideas in forwards motion or less, to control and capture the essence of it, we will start with that process and in an hour we will have all kinds of ideas.