



Enforcement Team Meeting Notes

Wednesday, May 20, 2009 – 1:15-2:45 p.m.

Present: Gary Braun (Recovery School of Southern MN), Richard Cook (Rice County Sheriff's Department), Becky Ford (Faribault Drug-Free Communities grant), Dave Osborne (Morristown Police Department), Mary Nelson (Northfield Healthy Community Initiative), Neal Pederson (Faribault Police Department), Kathy Sandberg (Rice County Family Services Collaborative), Martha Schultz (Faribault High School), Jim Severson (Discovery Public School), Simon Tyler (Northfield ARTech)

Agency Updates:

Law Enforcement –

Sheriff's Department – Sheriff Cook gave an update on ZAP funds and Kathy confirmed that there is still money available through the Faribault Drug Free Communities Grant and also the Family Services Collaborative.

Northfield Police – No one present to report.

Morristown Police – Dave reported that there was a ZAP bust in Morristown at the end of April. The incident occurred at the same residence where an underage drinking party had been broken up earlier in the month. Officers from Rice County and FPD were involved. Two adults under 21 were charged with procuring alcohol for minors. Tickets for underage consumption were handed out to several others. The incident was published in the Faribault Daily News and Waterville paper. Dave also mentioned that Dam Days will be held May 29 – 31st of May.

Faribault Police – Neal reported that Faribault compliance checks are underway. The officer conducting checks is spreading them out over several days to keep the element of surprise. He also reported that the Faribault Middle School recently had a drug dog search which resulted in no hits. There was a question about whether FMS students can have backpacks in the classrooms and the group thought that backpacks were only allowed in lockers.

Community Corrections – No one present to report.

County Attorney's Office – No one present to report.

Schools:

Bethlehem Academy – No one present to report.

Discovery School – Jim reported that all is quiet at Discovery. He has requested the presence of an officer at their graduation ceremony. Jim also reported that the students seem apprehensive about school being out.

ARTech – Simon reported that Dr. Charlie Reznikoff presented to his 9-12 grade students last week. He said it was a good experience and the students really enjoyed his talk. He

also heard from the Northfield High School that he was well liked there as well. ARTech's 11th and 12th grade students participated in the NHS Mock Crash last week. Simon also said that his school will be communicating regularly with Thad Monroe, police liaison for Northfield schools, through a monthly meeting.

Northfield ALC – No one present to report.

Northfield High School – No one present to report

Faribault High School – Martha reported that there were no new updates from FHS and that they would be graduating around 300 students.

Faribault Middle School – No one present to report.

Drug Task Force

Sheriff Cook reported that the Drug Task Force is staying busy. He also stated that cuts to the DTF budget may be limiting the task force's work to more serious crimes. He also mentioned the bill proposing the legalization of marijuana coming from the MN legislature. Kathy suggested that perhaps members of our coalition should considering letting our local representatives know that we don't support the legislation. Apparently, Sen. Day and Rep. Fritz voted against the bill and David Bly voted for it. Sheriff Cook also reported that overall, the apprehension, prosecution and sentencing of the recent heroin cases have been highly successful. A couple of the individuals involved will be serving significant jail time and the sentences included community presentations. Kathy suggested this might be something to join with the Rural Flex Grant.

A question was brought up about the cost of UA testing. The group reported that if the test is sent to a lab, the cost is \$70-\$80, but if you purchase a kit with the strip inside, the cost is \$5.

Prescription Drug Disposal Update

Kathy handed out a draft of the disposal plan's media campaign. The group is aiming for early September to kick off the program, with the campaign starting during the summer months.

Parent DVD

Kathy reported that there is a community premiere the Parent DVD in the works for early summer. She hopes to pair a panel of people to convene a meaningful discussion after viewing the DVD. More information to come!

Presentation: Gary Braun, Director of Recovery School of Southern MN

Gary shared with us about the Recovery School located in Owatonna, MN. The school is based out of St. John's church near the Steele County Fairgrounds. This is the 4th year as a charter school. After this school year the contract with Pillsbury United Community will end and the Owatonna Public Schools will provide the charter. The Recovery School serves 40 students from a 50 mile radius and currently serves 6 students from Rice County. Typically, students are referred to the school by truancy, schools, corrections, or other treatment facilities. The student body tends to be transient and over 75 students have been a part of the school this year. The school's goal is to provide a sober environment for youth with chemical dependency issues so that they may successfully complete their high school credits. They also provide an environment of support to guard against relapse, helping each student to develop a recovery plan and adhering to the 12 Step recovery model. The students may earn credit for recovery activities outside of school time. The school has several people on staff: 3 teachers, 1 community expert, 1 full-time

CD counselor and 1 paraprofessional. They focus on the core areas of education like any other school; Math, Reading, Science and Social Studies. Gary said he hopes to introduce a transition course to the school next year focusing on social skills and career exploration to help students get ready for life after high school. The school also provides time each day for students to check in and talk over recovery issues. Gary also mentioned that if a student is actively abusing substances or has relapsed and if there is no commitment to sobriety, the student may be asked to leave. The school does provide transportation for its students this year, but due to budget constraints, will be unable to continue that service next school year. Gary also said that students who DO NOT have problems with substance abuse are welcome to attend his school. He also welcomes parental involvement. Gary also mentioned that the Recovery School differs from an Alternative Learning Center because of the focus on recovery, rather than just on educational success.

Other

Becky requested someone from law enforcement to speak at the Renegade Skate Park in Faribault on June 6th during an overnight skate event. Niki Carlson, owner of Renegade, would like someone to come in and talk about substance abuse. If interested, contact Becky.

Next Meeting Date:

Wednesday, June 17
Gov. Services Building – Room 3A