

CHEMICAL HEALTH INITIATIVE OF GOODHUE COUNTY

GOODHUE COUNTY FAITH SECTOR

Faith Youth Mentor Program

Religious organizations offer a potentially rich pool of caring adults who are driven by their own spiritual commitments and a strong ethic to serve others. A religious congregation represents a vast intergenerational network of parents' friends, extended family members, and spiritual models who can help shape and reinforce not only behavioral and academic outcomes but also spiritual development. Informal mentoring in faith communities often happens through shared activities, such as youth groups, classes, family gatherings, and activities.

Mentoring relationships sponsored through religious organizations could offer some advantages in adolescents' search for meaning, such as reconciliation of their own and their parents' belief systems. Particularly

in the light of the associations between religious involvement and positive youth outcomes.

Some faith organizations host a mentor night once a month during the confirmation season. This night includes communication time, projects and activities that encourage collaboration between mentor teams.

The CHI faith team looks at positive, evidence base programs that will implement prevention strategies. It is important to support the youth of our communities and encourage positive decisions which result in healthy lifestyles.

One of our CHI faith leaders has had great success with a certain youth mentoring program at his current church, as well as, a pre-

vious faith institution where the program is still going strong. The CHI faith leaders would like to offer additional information for those organizations who are interested in starting a youth mentoring program. If interested, please contact Dean Lundgren, his contact information is listed below. We would be happy to provide you with information and guidance in any format you would prefer.

Healthy Kids

Healthy Families

Healthy Communities

For more information on the Mentor Program, feel free to contact Dean Lundgren via email at ccyguy@yahoo.com or via phone at (507) 263-2779.

CHI Sunday/Week 2011 ~ April 4-10

Please note that CHI Sunday/Week 2011 will be held the week of April 4 - 10. We encourage the faith organizations to take a moment during the Worship Services over the weekend of April 9-10 to encourage parents/grandparents/aunts/uncles within the congregation to have a conversation about chemical health with their love ones. We also encourage your organization to include Chemical Health Awareness into your sermons and other faith activities during the week such as Sunday school classes, confirmation classes, bible study groups and other related activities.

We welcome faith leaders to participate in our CHI faith leader meetings. We meet once per quarter for approximately 1 hour. We welcome your input and ideas! If you are interested in participating or offering suggestions, please contact Stacy Larson, CHI Coordinator/Project Manager at (651) 385-6105 or via email at stacy.larson@chi-goodhue.org



For more information, visit our website at:

www.chi-goodhue.org