



**Kenyon/Wanamingo CHI Council
Kick-off Meeting Minutes**

Date: 1/27/2010

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Healthy kids







Healthy families

Healthy communities

Attendees:

Name	Sector/ Organization	Name	Sector/ Organization	Name	Sector/ Organization
Jeff Evert	Education, School Superintendent	Barb Starch, RN, DON	Director of Nursing at Kenyon Sunset Home	Kris Kincaid	Community Education
Carmen Nesseth	Faith Community, Youth Director	Van Bakko	Al-anon Group	Nancy Benrud	Business – Security State Bank of Wanamingo
Dan Rehtzigel	Goodhue County & KW School	Missy Sviggum	Parent Representative	Stacy Larson	Coordinator/ Project Manager, CHI
Lee Sjolander	Law Enforcement				

The meeting was called to order by Stacy Larson. The meeting started with individual introductions of each member. All members were present with the exception of our youth representative. Each council member was given a CHI Binder that included the following information:

-  Key Coalition information
-  CHI structure flow documents
-  Council member responsibility document
-  Council Chair responsibility document
-  Meeting Agenda
-  Meeting Presentation that included Coalition information along with key statistics regarding the Kenyon/Wanamingo community along with Goodhue County data.

Key Discussion Items:

Council Mission/Vision/Goals

Stacy presented the Coalition documentation which included our Coalition description document and CHI structure flows. The council mission, vision and goals were explained and presented to group. As we started going through the CHI meeting presentation, we also went over the slide that explains who we are not. Presented that we are not law enforcement or the courts system, however, we do support their efforts in enforcing and upholding the law. The third bullet states that we are not against legal, responsible alcohol use. It was pointed out that this is a common misunderstanding and in the past, individuals have hesitated to get involved because of this misunderstanding. As we promote the CHI and look to collaborate with community members, this is a good thing to keep in mind. We are all here with the same goal to keep the youth and members of our community safe and healthy!

CHI Websites

Stacy provided a brief overview of all the CHI websites including:

- www.chi-goodhue.org Main Coalition Website
- www.chi-parentnetwork.org CHI of Goodhue County Parent Website
- www.chi-howie.org CHI of Goodhue County Youth Website
- www.facebook.com Social Networking Site (CHI has a group and a page.)
- www.twitter.com/CHIParentNet Social Networking Site

It was mentioned that the www.chi-parentnetwork.org site includes important information relating to alcohol, drug and tobacco use, in addition to, local information such as community curfews. Stacy mentioned the Safe Homes Directory which we are currently working on promoting. The group thought this was a good idea. For more information on Safe Homes, go to the chi-parentnetwork.org site and click on the Safe Homes tab.

It was also mentioned that the www.chi-howie.org site is youth focused. There is a Suggestion Box on this site where the members and youth of our community can submit ideas for community events/campaigns and comments.

Missy asked if the sites are publicized in the paper or other media outlets. Stacy mentioned that the Red Wing group came up with ideas for promoting the sites where we should talk to other coalitions, companies, cities and organizations to see if we could have them put the link to our main website on their site. The main page of our main coalition site includes links to all of our other sites.

Local Statistics

Stacy presented local Kenyon/Wanamingo statistics that were collected in the 2004 & 2007 student surveys, as well as, some statistics that were gathered in the 2008 survey. Please see the CHI presentation for details. In this presentation, it also included a comparison of Kenyon/Wanamingo to the Goodhue County stats.

Current Business Items

Council Chair Position

Stacy nominated Dan Rechtzigel for the Council Chair position. Lee Sjolander motioned to approve the nomination and the rest of the council unanimously approved. All were in favor so the vote was final to vote Dan Rechtzigel into the Council Chair position for year 1.

Council Vice Chair Position

Stacy mentioned that it is best practice to adopt the structure to have a Vice Chair appointed to the council. It is up to the council on whether or not they would like to adopt this structure. Stacy mentioned that the responsibility of the Vice Chair is to act as a backup to the Council Chair and learn/understand that Council Chair responsibilities for the duration of year 1. Then the Vice Chair will assume the Council Chair position for year 2. At that time, a new Vice Chair will be nominated and appointed.

The council voted to proceed with the Vice Chair structure. Stacy asked if there were any volunteers or nominations. At that time, Lee Sjolander volunteered to assume the Vice-Chair position. The council unanimously approved. All were in favor so the vote was final to vote Lee Sjolander into the Vice Chair position.

Regular Schedule for Monthly Council Meetings

It was determined by the council members that they would hold the council meetings on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.

Location Schedule for Monthly Council Meetings

Previously it was mentioned that it would be good to alternate locations between Kenyon and Wanamingo so that it will accommodate members in both communities. It was determined by the council that the meetings held on the “odd” months (January, March, May, July, September, November) will be held at the Kenyon/Wanamingo High School in Kenyon in the AJ Conference Room. Meetings held on the “even” months (February, April, June, August, October, December) will be held in the Kenyon/Wanamingo Elementary School in Wanamingo possibly in the library.


Stacy will work with Kris Kincaid to reserve the room(s). If there should be a conflict, the council members will be notified.


Future Meeting Format


Treasurer report. Stacy informed the council that there is a fund setup for the Kenyon/Wanamingo council which has a balance of \$3,000. It is up to the council whether or not they would like to take control of the fund at a local bank, and then have a council treasurer manage the fund or if they would like to continue to have Goodhue County manage the fund. This will be discussed further at a future meeting.


We discussed that typically we conduct sector reports so that we can get an idea of what is happening in each sector and share updates on current activities related to CHI. We discussed that the next few months will be mostly open discussion as we are starting to understand the community temperature along with responsibilities and brainstorming activities.


Open Discussion/General Comments


 Missy and the other council members agreed that one big concern of this community is that there is no place for the youth to hang out. It would be good to have somewhere for the kids to gather. Lee mentioned that there are times when the kids gather at the park so they keep an eye on them there but it would be good to have a place for them.


 Carmen mentioned that as a youth pastor, they try to engage the kids in activities but as Carmen and Kris, from Community Ed, mentioned it is getting harder and harder to reach the kids and get them engaged these days vs. years ago.


 Nancy mentioned that they are seeing that the kids these days have more financial freedom than ever where they are taking large withdrawals out of accounts. Missy asked if these accounts required parental signature. Nancy said that it is all dependant on what type of account is set up, some parents require that they sign, some don't.


 Dan mentioned that there are good kids, making good decisions that get no recognition.


 Talked about perception being everything. Dan mentioned that when he attended the Kenyon High School, there were a few kids that did pot and they were labeled as “Potheads” and with that came a negative perception. Not many kids did it back then. Now it is the “cool” thing to do. It is easy for kids to get a hold of and they think that it is safe.


 Discussed how punishment for marijuana is very light, not a deterrent for kids or adults. Talked about implementing tougher punishment for offenders. In the schools, it is not illegal for the kids to come to school “high” as it is illegal for them to come to school “drunk”.


 Discussed ordinances. Stacy mentioned that there has been progress within the Kenyon/Wanamingo communities in this area as Kenyon adopted the Social Host ordinance and Wanamingo has the Seller/Server ordinance in place. The only other municipality in Goodhue County that has these ordinances in place at this time is Red Wing. This is something that we would like to focus on in the near future. Our goal would be to have these ordinances in place throughout Goodhue County. Lee provided the group with an overview of the Social Host ordinance and Stacy provided an overview of the Seller/Server ordinance. Discussed "Township" ordinance and how that would work. Dan mentioned that this could be brought to the Township and proposed at that level; however, it does get difficult since the township does not have their own Police Department. The other option is to adopt it county wide. Nancy mentioned that there are certain liquor stores that have to punch in a date of birth before making the sale. They don't always look close at the ID and then just punch in the DOB which could be off of a fake ID. Circumvents the system. Dan mentioned that the most effective approach for checking is to setup a sting and send in a decoy. Lee mentioned that they have done this in the past and they use a youth who is not from the area.


 Buckle up campaign was done in the area. It has been a concern that this has promoted that there is one person that needs to be responsible for driving and buckling up, however, it is a worry that it has promoted binge drinking by the others. Peer pressure is a huge contributing factor to alcohol and drug abuse!

 Barb mentioned that marijuana abuse is not only a youth issue but also an issue with adults in the community. She said that they do routine drug screenings at the Sunset home for new hires, in addition to, existing staff and they have had to terminate four individuals for marijuana use.

 Lee mentioned that we really need help and assistance/support groups for other drugs including Meth, prescription drugs, marijuana, etc. The existing groups have focused on alcohol abuse but have not been viewed as fitting for those with drug issues. We need a good overall addiction support network. If Al-anon could include everything that would be good.

 Lee brought up that the kids are now using over the counter drugs such as cough medications & DMX.

 Lee mentioned that today Marijuana comes in so many different forms and can have as much as 28 THC's where as when we were growing up it was made up of about 3 THC's.

 Lee mentioned that they have done locker searches, etc. in the schools which sends out a message to the youth, not to use or bring it into the schools. This is so important to have and continue! There has been an increase in copper thefts in the area and now there is a use of Fluff which is a very light, refined form of meth. There was a question as to if there is Heroin use in the communities, which there has not been much here. This has been more of an issue in the liberal college towns but not so much in the blue collar areas.

Meeting Wrap-Up

- Next meeting is scheduled for Wed. February 24, 2010 at 5:30 at the Kenyon/Wanamingo school in Wanamingo. It is planned that we will meet in the library.
- Next meeting we will invite a Council Chair from one of the other CHI Council's in Goodhue County to share his experience and to present past activities.