

Marion County Children & Families Commission

September 20, 2018 Meeting

11:30 AM to 1:30 PM

Grant Room, Broadway Commons

Commission Members Present: ~~Patrice Altenhofen~~, Jaime Arredondo, Sue Bloom, ~~George Burke~~, ~~Gayle Caldarazzo Doty~~, ~~Troy Clausen~~, ~~Jayne Downing~~, Ormond Fredericks, ~~Troy Gregg~~, Lisa Harnisch, Levi Herrera-Lopez, Chuck Lee, Krina Lee, Pete McCallum (by phone), ~~Cary Moller~~, ~~Carla Munns~~, Honorable Cheryl Pellegrini, Allan Pollock, Eric Richards, Jim Seymour, Sam Skillern, Shaney Starr, and Honorary Member Commissioner Janet Carlson

Guests- Robin de Alicante, Citizen Review Board; Andy Papendieck, Agape Youth; Eileen Casey White, Connections Consulting; Dave Williams, Agape Youth

Staff Present: Denise Clark, Tamra Goettsch

Meeting Summary Notes by Denise Clark

Introductions

Approval of Meeting minutes: Sue Bloom made a motion to approve the May 17 and July 19 meeting summary notes; Judge Pellegrini seconded. Krina Lee and Chuck Lee abstained. Motion passed.

Membership Changes/Recommendations:

- Tamra noted that Walt Beglau has resigned as he is retiring; Gladys Blum has resigned as a regular commission member and desires to become an Honorary Member instead.
- Eric Richards made a motion to elect Shaney Starr as chair of the Children and Families Commission; Krina Lee seconded. Motion passed. (Jim Seymour will be vice chair until the end of year.)
- Sue Bloom made a motion to elect Jayne Downing as vice chair; Shaney Starr seconded. Motion passed.
- Judge Pellegrini made a motion to elect new steering committee members Troy Gregg, Jayne Downing, and Eric Richards; Sue Bloom seconded. Motion passed.
- Other existing members on the steering committee are Sue Bloom, Gayle Caldarazzo Doty, Sam Skillern, Shaney Starr and Commissioner Carlson.

Agape Youth Presentation

Commissioner Carlson introduced Andy Papendieck of Agape Youth (children with incarcerated parents.) She met him when they came to talk to her about the re-entry initiative. The reason for them coming to this meeting is to identify members that might partner with their efforts.

- Andy is the Board Chair
- An Agape Youth video was shown of their youth camps which they've been operating for 7 years.
- Work with youth ages 7-17; want to expand the program to address 17 over years and also develop a sustainable housing program.
- They hold 4-day camps in which participants begin to feel like a family.
- The organization is based in Eugene.
- The concept came from Hawaii, a former inmate had started a similar camp.

Dave Williams the Executive Director was introduced and presented the following:

- Approximately 20,000 youth in Oregon are impacted by an incarcerated parent.
- The youth are at risk economically and are also academically challenged.
- Youth are provided t-shirts, toiletries, and sleeping bags.
- Care for the kids continues throughout the year following camp, developing longer relationships. In addition there's a summer program- dietary needs are met; summer activity/trips center around developing coping mechanisms. They connect with their mentor through these trips.
- Addressing men that are coming out of prison with a vocational job program called Grip (Genesis reintegration program.)
- Held a Salem camp in which 120 kids attended; want to move into Portland, Central, and Southern Oregon.
- For mentor outreach they have a marketing campaign to get the word out about the camp and have hired a mentorship coordinator.
- Participating youth are identified by programs like Angel Tree (gifts for children of incarcerated parents) and Prison Fellowship. They have connections within the prisons. Prison newsletters mention the camps. They partner with some schools.
- They have DHS contacts in Eugene but not in Salem.
- There is an application process for a parent to get a mentor for their child.
- They have no particular accreditation. However, their camp does have to go through intense reviews. They also hold regular staff training. The Angel Tree program is certified and they provide camp scholarships.
- The vision for Salem is to develop a camp that is a gathering point for kids in this area, to let them know that they are not alone; and to connect with a mentor in the community.
- Their infrastructure needs include getting the camp costs down. Perhaps partner with boy scouts and use their camps. Also can partner with the Boys & Girls club and other similar resource agencies.
- They rely heavily on grants.
- The Salem camp was held at Aldersgate in Turner, however it is expensive and has reached capacity. They are also looking at Camp Tadmor in the Lebanon area.
- SOAR, a reentry program for men, provides housing and job skills. Give them, and other re-entry programs, their camp materials for distribution to their contacts.
- Their organization needs 200 volunteers of various capacities to operate.
- Contact information will be sent out via email.

Together Towards Tomorrow (TTT)- Tamra

The 2019 TTT will focus on the importance of hope. Tamra is currently working on securing some infrastructure.

Eileen Casey White is working with Tamra's office to bring hope alive in the community and to put together a strategic plan.

Eileen said that she has been active in the Salem area for 8 years. She was a Program Coordinator at Chemeketa Community College bringing education and work force together. She has lived in the Salem area for 25 years and feels that the community is ready for this.

Sue Bloom noted that Eileen has been an incredible volunteer for the Boys & Girls club.

Book Club Debriefing- Sue Bloom

10 People attended the book club meeting on August 13.

Discussion Responses:

- Description words to describe the book- hopeful, ah ha moments, science/theory brought to life.
- Prevention is the key.
- Being aware of trauma's impact. People are marginalized; take away the stigma of ACES and the scores.
- Surprise impact of the school system on trauma.
- Be aware; help people understand their resources.
- Success involves knowing the family of origin and working collectively, bringing others into the conversations.
- The issue is very complex; so many moving parts; need to know how to help.
- What does "better" look like?
- Build capacity and trust within our organizations to be able to help others.
- Use common language across organizations.
- In severe cases, stress can adversely affect an individual's physical development.
- Relationships make the difference. How can I understand you more to be of help? Develop secure relationships.
- The book club was about making relationships amongst each other. "How do you do life together as a commission and then spread this work throughout the community?"

Sam observed that there is an easy aversion to this concept in the community. They don't understand it. Sam suggests having a handout or something. Tamra suggested getting the film out there to educate the community. Her staff needs to go with the film presentation per the licensing agreement. Perhaps arrange for some group viewing. There is also TED talks with the information.

Salem Progressive Film Series at the Grand Theater will do viewings of films with a conversation afterwards. (Cindy Kimball is the contact person.)

Jim noted that his staff is given two hours a week to address this; the staff work on mindfulness and communication that brings out the best in people. They are learning how to do "self-care." They have purchased a program called "Sanctuary." Their accident rates and staff turn-over have gone down since implementation.

There is not another ACES training scheduled at this time. Sue indicated that there is a professor at Corban that does self-care training, (Sue will send contact information to Tamra.)

Other:

- Harvard has short videos that can be watched.
- Trauma Informed Oregon has a nice website.
- DHS is working on a long term strategy to address staff trauma. They want to develop resiliency in their staff. All case workers have a mandatory 15 hours of training a year; 2 of those hours are trauma specific.
- Need to look at individual families and their needs across organizations.
- Identify which ideas are "actionable."
- Bring Arbinger training in for commission members.

Key Note Speaker Sponsorship- Tamra Goettsch

- The proposed TTT key note speaker, Nadine Harris, is not available in February; may have to look into another month.
- Ms. Harris's speaking fee is \$15,000 plus travel and accommodations.
- Looking for someone to help with fundraising; may consider organizational partnerships having multiple hosts.
- Shaney will look into her speaker's bureau information.
- It was suggested to have a dinner the night before with the speaker, or perhaps a training afterwards.
- Perhaps get the medical professionals involved.
- Find out who sponsors her in other parts of the country to know who to approach around here.
- Utilize a grant application process.

Subcommittee Updates:

FPAT- Working to increase the number of foster parents in the area.

YRAT- Haven't met recently; no updates.

Identify what the commission want these organizations to do with Hope Alive.

Announcements:

At the Marion County Board of Commissioners' Update on Nov. 5 at 3:30 they will be addressing the Family Checkup program.

Chuck Lee announced that Kelly Carlisle assistant school district superintendent has retired; Jim Orff will be the new interim deputy superintendent.

Janet – Working on the "Second Chance" breakfast which is October 25; there are about 40 seats left as of this time.

Sue Bloom- Oct 12 is the Kid's Night Out- an opportunity to connect with an elementary kid for a night; looking to develop new mentors.

Lisa Harnisch- Oct 22 from 6-8 PM will be holding a training for professionals on fetal alcohol syndrome and its effects on children.

Sam- the CPT's (Community Partnership Teams) are doing well. One thing the CPT's have accomplished is this Saturday (Sept. 22) is *Open Streets* from 11-3. It was originally designed to develop safe bikeways. There will be walking and biking, food, dancing, and health information. It's "one big block party."

Eric announced a new attendance campaign, "Everyday 24 J." Crime goes up with absenteeism. At the end of the month they will be having a conversation about school boundaries and the number of kids assigned to each school.

Tamra- October is *Hands and Words are not for Hurting* month. The county is taking the lead within it's departments. She can send out resource information for organizations.

Member changes:

- Walt is retiring; he will leave county employment the end of September. Paige Clarkson is leading the team as interim district attorney.
- Gladys Blum has decided to step down as a commission member but will be continuing on as an honorary member, attending meetings as time allows.

Jim- Catholic Community Services 80th anniversary celebration is Wednesday, October 26 from 12-1 at the Salem Convention Center. There are a few more slots available. They will be featuring three of their ministries.

They bought a building that they are going to remodel to work with young children with special needs it is in the Hollman Elementary area near the Krock Center. Space is available; they are willing to custom build to meet an organization's' needs.

Meeting Adjourned: 1:30 PM.