

Kootenai Alliance for Children and Families
Communities that Care meeting
Friday August 11, 2006
11:00AM

Members present: Amy Bartoo, Tammy Rubino, Kathy Reed, Anita Kronvall, Nancy Irvin, Marie Price, Linda Jensen, Shirley Thagard, Lindsay Hutson, Caryl Johnston, Sandra DeAngelo, Ioana Siegler.

Minutes from the August meeting were reviewed. Motion Amy, seconded by Kathy to approve the August minutes.

Evaluations for the Benchmark grant were completed.

Greg Johnson presented an update on the Strengthening Families (SF) program. They have 15 families identified for the program with 6 facilitators, 5 of which are schoolteachers and 1 from ICARE. Tammy expressed her concerns with the difficulty in getting the criminal history checks completed. Benchmark is holding the contract until the fingerprinting is done but they can't get in to have them done until the end of October. We have two people who have already completed the process who have agreed to sit in on the sessions until the fingerprinting has been completed. We are moving forward with the session next week. Anne Chatfield has agreed to chair a committee to promote the next sessions and to recruit new people who would like to be trained as facilitators. It was also pointed out that there is a move to promote a Strengthening Families program for the younger ages in our area. It was agreed that we need to collaborate with them on this project to work together with the ages 10-14 program that has already started.

Outreach Committee Report/update- The group met with a Chamber of Commerce member from Rathdrum on September 17 and we are planning to do a presentation for their organization in the next few months. Other chamber members were invited but did not attend. They are continuing to move forward with the two focus groups; Faith Based Community and Restorative Justice Committee.

Karin has been working on creating more stops from the Citilink bus system. She also suggested that we have a type of promotion where businesses/agencies sponsor covers from bus stops. These could be sponsored on behalf of local nonprofits with calendars of events, N.I. Family Magazines, and other information placed at the covered stops. Karin and Tammy will continue to work on this. It was agreed that it would be a wonderful project for the Alliance.

Shirley discussed the issues regarding restorative justice programs and how to provide alternatives to incarceration. Anita also expressed that they have a DUI offender who is incarcerated that wishes to speak at the DUI panels. She asked how to go about doing this and is it possible to have them released to come and speak?

KACF's fountain for the Fountain Of Wishes was sold for \$6,500. This will be split with KCSAC.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully submitted by Tammy Rubino