

Douglas Special Action Group Minutes
12 January 2004
Douglas Police Department Conference Room
300 14th Street
Douglas, AZ

Introduction

Jenny Hunter began the meeting by passing around the sign-in sheet and giving copies of the agenda and minutes from the last SAG meeting in September 2003. Everyone introduced himself or herself (Name & Organization). Jenny passed out a Photo Consent Form to everyone and asked that everyone read and sign it. She explained to the group why this form was necessary. Jenny then asked everyone to take a moment and look over the minutes from the meeting in September to see if anything was missing or was misrepresented. No typos or errors were pointed out.

Results of the Wilder Collaboration Survey

At the Douglas SAG meeting in September 2003, the group was asked to fill out and return the Wilder Collaboration Survey. The reason for this survey to be administered to the Douglas SAG is so that the SWCCHP can find out what really works in communities and in prevention as well as what's working in this group and what's not working in addition to any needs that should be discussed. The SWCCHP would like to document why this group is successful and what are and have been some of the challenges faced by the group. It is very important for the SWCCHP to have a broad picture of this group. The data was entered and analyzed by Rosie Stewart. Rosie then went on to present the results delineating the group's strengths and weaknesses. She went through the Collaboration Survey Executive Summary with the group. Copies of this executive summary are available upon request, please email Rosie Stewart at Rsbeamer@earthlink.net. The overall results, which are in table format, were not handed out to the group. However, if you would like copies of these tables, you can email Rosie Stewart at the above email address to request them.

School Activities

Presentation to PTSOs

Lourdes Fernandez gave a brief update on the PTSO presentations. PTSO presentations have been done at the following schools: Huber, Faras, and Stevenson (including Family Night). One school, Clawson, is pending at this time. Elsa Obregon informed the group that the presentation is scheduled for January 22nd at 6 pm. Elsa, Evelyn Markee, and Blanca Robles or Lourdes will be helping with the Spanish translation. Presentations at Carlson and A Ave. need to be scheduled. The Med and Health Clubs will be asked to help with the high school presentation tentatively scheduled for March 25th. Drs. Gary Spivey and Mary Kirkhoff along with Evelyn will help with the presentation to the high school. Lourdes or Blanca will help with translation.

Lourdes explained that the subcommittee has been presenting to parents, but now they want to target the School Board. Mary Robinson stated that we need to get a group of parents together. We need to take an active interest in our schools. People of Douglas are not aware of what is

happening in our schools. Dr. Mike Lebowitz asked Mary how to get parents involved. Mary replied that it is difficult. It has to be a direct confrontation to speak to the people who are bilingual. We need someone who cares and is willing to speak the truth and who is educated. Rhea Morales explained that each of the schools has site councils, which are comprised of parents, 2 teachers, the principal, and community members. The site councils meet every month. She stated that we should target these councils. Jenny added that it is important to get the community and parents involved. A good way to bring them in is by the presentations that we are currently doing. Lourdes stated that the presentations are given in both English and Spanish.

Lourdes explained that the subcommittee's next step is to start working with alternative fundraisers for the next school year. Lourdes informed the group that one option would be to start targeting the Student Council meetings of the schools. Other options that the subcommittee talked about was to go to the School Superintendent and School Board to ask permission to be put on the agenda for one of the School Board meetings in order to inform them about what we are doing and to show them alternatives that can be used to raise money. Elsa commented that if the Superintendent and/or the School Board ordered schools not to sell candy or other things that the schools would cooperate and do it.

Lourdes stated that the subcommittee agreed to meet again to brainstorm and create a good presentation to the School Board. The group wants to explain to the School Board what the SAG is doing in regards to the PTSO presentations on diabetes awareness and why the presentations are being done. Also, they would like to present school tax credit information and alternatives for fundraisers.

The subcommittee will be finishing up the presentations at the schools and plans to make the School Board presentation before this school year ends. The subcommittee will meet again the first week of February to work on the presentation to the School Board and be ready to present in March. Jill Guernsey de Zapien stated that it would be a good idea to have a dialogue with the School Board in February/March 2004. This way, by the fall, we can have a plan in place. We need to go in and say that this is the workforce willing to work on this. Timing is very important. Mary mentioned that we needed to let the School Board know that parents are also interested. Lourdes stated that she would call or email the subcommittee members with a date and time for the February meeting. For this next school year, the subcommittee would like to focus on banning candy sales during school hours.

School Tax Credits

Yolanda Caruso mentioned that her school did get pamphlets out on the school tax credits. She passed around an example of the pamphlet. They received \$22,000 this year compared to \$8,000 last year. The pamphlets went to staff. This is an alternative way to raise money. The goal would be to pass out to parents and to translate the pamphlet into Spanish.

School Health Index (SHI)

Yolanda explained that there are little steps and we are getting in there. Douglas High School is ready to implement the SHI. She also mentioned that the SHI is a good tool to get things started and moving in the right direction.

Gary explained that Ray Borane is almost through all of the modules. They have three more to go. The nutrition staff is difficult to get together. Once the modules are completed, they will then start the process of implementing the plan. Douglas High School will start implementing the SHI on January 29, 2004. The principal at Sara Marley is very interested in the SHI. Gary also mentioned that success filtered to other schools.

Jill made a quick announcement regarding childcare services being provided for the meeting tonight by the Med Club.

STEPS Grant

Carol Moore thanked everyone for being invited to the meeting and she stated that she would like to be a regular member. She went on to explain that the STEPS grant is huge and deals with prevalence of asthma, diabetes, and obesity. She stated that Douglas is way ahead of the other communities and will be getting money first. The first year of the grant is a planning stage to get things established. She mentioned that there are 4 positions that they will be filling this year from the County: 1 Program Coordinator, 2 Health Educators, and 1 Administrative Coordinator. There is a core set of internal staff. Most of the money is going to the communities to implement programs that focus on prevention. They will be working with physicians and the healthcare community.

Throughout the state of Arizona, 3 intervention teams have been established that will develop intervention strategies (Cochise, Santa Cruz, and Yuma Counties). Next year we would like to include the Tohono O'odham Nation. The University of Arizona is doing the evaluation piece. They want to enhance on-going programs to expand the services being provided. In the schools they want to enhance the following: PLAY program, WIC, Tobacco Control, and Nutrition. Jill added that the STEPS grant would also focus on changing policies in communities not just the implementation of programs. Since Douglas already has a coalition, they will be working with Douglas initially. The first planning meeting will be held on January 28th in Douglas from 4-8 pm at the First Presbyterian Church. Carol invited all SAG members to attend and come with a wish list. This will be a brainstorming meeting on what every one wants to accomplish. A total of 12 STEPS grants were awarded. Seven were awarded for urban communities, 1 was awarded for a tribal community, and only 4 were awarded for rural communities.

Mary asked Carol what plan they have other than just reaching health departments, so that people know what they are doing? Carol stated that it is a collaborative approach with communities. The health department, who is the fiscal agent for the grant, is just administering the grant. The communities will be providing the information on what needs to be done. Every community will be different. The Binational Task Force and tobacco programs can be utilized. Karen Redwine added that when they were applying for the grant, they approached different organizations for letters of support and those organizations were given a heads up on what they would like done. Information got out even before the grant was awarded. Carol added that there would be a large media campaign to heighten awareness. Promotoras will also be utilized. Jill explained to the group that the planning meeting was very important and that any who can attend should to let their voice be heard. It takes community participation to know what's going to be done. STEPS will be working with the Douglas SAG as well as utilizing the Border Health Strategic Initiative (BHSI) model, SHI, etc. Carol stated that they would be more than happy to help with the

school candy/fundraising issue. At the planning meeting they will develop action plans on what they are going to do and how they are going to implement STEPS for years 2-5. It will be a fluid process. Carol urged those that do attend the planning meeting to come with ideas on what resources are necessary to make things happen in the community.

Carol also mentioned that they would be partnering with the culinary institute out of Scottsdale. They will be giving workshops on how to prepare foods. Carmen Ramirez mentioned that Geri Lester from the Arizona Department of Health Services could not attend tonight. She is chairing the diabetes intervention team. She sent some information/resources available through the Internet in Spanish. Carol mentioned that the “Could you be at risk?” test from the American Diabetic Association could be downloaded from the Internet.

Updates

Chiricahua Community Health Centers, Inc. Expansion Grant

Ginger Ryan explained that she would be passing out a short needs assessment for people to fill out. She explained that the clinic wants to know what kinds of services the community wants. They would like input from the SAG members as to what Douglas needs. Some examples are gaps in services, not enough providers, and/or financial barriers. Ginger mentioned that they are going around to a number of these coalitions asking for input. They will be implementing a focus group with the Turning Point Coalition. Ginger introduced Anita Wood, who is a sociologist by training and who is in charge of this needs assessment. The clinic wants an idea of what Douglas’ needs are. Everyone took a few minutes to fill out the survey.

Information for Action Conference

Jill Guernsey de Zapien announced that the 5th Border Health: Information for Action Conference will be held on April 29-30th in Rio Rico, AZ. The deadline for submission of abstracts has been extended to January 28th. Registration and abstract forms are available electronically. If you are unable to access them electronically, please contact Mary Contreras at contrerm@u.arizona.edu or 520-318-7270, ext. 10.

Pasos Adelante—Community Nutrition/Walking Groups Program

Lourdes explained that they would be having the 8th class tomorrow, January 13th. The participants have passed the mid-point. There are a total of 12 classes. Recruitment for Round 2 has begun and so far 27 people are interested. Lourdes and Blanca plan to have about 60 people recruited for this next round. Lourdes also mentioned that the walking groups have been difficult due to the weather and the holidays. They hope to have better luck with the next walking groups in the spring.

SAG Minutes on SWCCHP Website

Jenny explained that a website is being set-up to let everyone know who the SWCCHP is and as a way to let other communities know what the Douglas coalition is doing. The SWCCHP would like to place the Douglas SAG meeting minutes up on the website. We will also be placing the meeting minutes from the Yuma and Santa Cruz County SAGs. She asked if there was any objection to this? No one had any objection. The website address for the SWCCHP is <http://swcchp.publichealth.arizona.edu>. Jenny also explained that a newsletter has been created for the SWCCHP. It will be published twice a year and will be available on the website. She

encouraged the group to submit articles to be included in the newsletter. If you have an article/community story that you would like included in the newsletter, please contact Rosie at Rsbeamer@earthlink.net or 520-318-7270, ext. 11.

Douglas Community Food Bank

Lea Dodge explained that the Food Bank is working with 21st Century on an after school program through a mini-grant from the Diamondbacks. 21st Century has used up the funding and will not be continuing this coming semester. The Food Bank still has mini-grant money and gives presentations to schools. The Food Bank has another mini-grant concentrating on the high school and working with the Med Club. They are currently recruiting students interested in diabetes/health careers.

Other

Rhea explained “Club Ensalada: Our alternative to birthday cake,” which she has been implementing in her 4th grade classroom. It focuses on alternatives to junk food.

Mary asked everyone using written materials translated to Spanish to make sure that the translation is correct.

If anyone wants to put anything on the agenda for the next meeting on April 5, 2004, please email Jenny Hunter at jhunter@coph.arizona.edu.

The next SAG meeting will be held:

Monday, April 5th, 2004
First Presbyterian Church
760 10th Street
Douglas, AZ
6:00-7:30 pm

There will be a subcommittee meeting held before the SAG meeting:

Monday, April 5th, 2004
First Presbyterian Church
760 10th Street
Douglas, AZ
4:30-5:30 pm