



City of Waterbury

Waterbury Prevention Policy Board • 95 North Main Street • Waterbury, CT 06702 • (203) 568-0575

Waterbury Prevention Policy Board Meeting
March 10th, 2010 – 12:30-2:30- Family Services of Greater Waterbury

Meeting Notes

Present: Lydia Granitto, Kathy Lang, Tricia Harrity, Nancy Vaughan, Sheila Torres, Stacy Propfe, William (Terry Brown), Debbie McCusker, Laura Hadder, Jackie Lundie, Louise Allen Brown, Elaine Skoronski, Gary Steck, Carol O'Donnell, Joe Gorman, Angie Medina, Yoellie Iglesias, Kelly Cronin, JoAnn Reynolds Bolanda, Jennifer DeWitt, Mary Bruce, Shannon Longo

Staff Present: *Lori Hart and Nicole Porto*

Welcome & Introductions: Jim O'Rourke, vice chair, welcomed everyone to the PPB meeting and called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM. Introductions went around the room of all who were present.

U.S. Census 2010:

Sheila Torres, Partnership Specialist for U.S. Census Bureau, came to speak briefly about census participation and what PPB can do to help increase better participation. The Census Bureau continues to be surprised by how little people know about the census. Sheila began her presentation with a brief quiz.

Sheila stated that on the 2010 Census there are only 10 questions and it will only take 10 minutes to complete. This version of the Census provides more options regarding race so individuals can better describe themselves. The Census is available in 6 languages (English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese and Russian).

Sheila asked PPB to:

- Sign the contact sheet so updates can be sent about what's happening
- Become an advocate for "Mail Back Your Form." Then, starting April 20, become an advocate for: "It's not too late, cooperate with Census Taker!"
- Publish and provide flyers on where assistance is available:
 - Questionnaire Assistance Centers in Neighborhood – March 19 – April 19
 - Telephone Assistance Centers
 - Comcast on Demand Video Tutorial
- Get involved with the April 10 Blitz
 - Come to see and be seen on that Saturday when we try to make on last big push to increase the number of mailed forms in key neighborhoods
 - We will provide promotional items. You and yours can help with the hoopla

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- Invite all your constituents to make a joyful noise about responding to the Census!
- We're working on an incentive drawing for that day. More about that later

Committee Updates:

- *Child Health & Development:* Gary Steck, co-chair, reported that the committee has met once and canceled and canceled. The discussion at the first meeting was that the committee wants to produce touchable results and also motivate each other. The ChildFIRST Project may serve as a dual purpose meeting since the Bridge to Success Plan has the same objectives. Gary noted that it seemed Bridge to Success was written with ChildFIRST in mind. The next CHDC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 25th, 2010 from 12:00-2:00PM at United Way of Greater Waterbury. Gary also noted that on March 14th at 2:00PM there is a ChildFIRST meeting and all are welcome to attend.
- *Family Focus Partnership:* Mary Bruce, co-chair, reported that at the last meeting Kelly Cronin gave a presentation on LIST and asked for our feedback. This coming month's meeting will include a presentation on bullying. The next FFP meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 23rd, 2010 from 9:30-11:30AM at United Way of Greater Waterbury.
- *Early Care & Education:* Debbie McCusker, co-chair, reported that a survey of 8 questions has been drafted to distribute to parents throughout the community regarding why/why aren't they using Pre-K. The survey will be distributed within targeted neighborhoods as well as local stores such as Stop and Shop, Shop Rite, and Target.
- *Family Engagement:* Lori Hart, staff, reported that the Family Engagement Committee is working on the following:
 - Formulating what a neighborhood hub might look like.
 - Develop plan for Hubs – opportunities to learn
 - Look at planned Hubs
 - Look at Family Resource Centers
 - Template of what Hub should look like in city
 - Work with Early Care & Education committee
- *Workforce Development:* Terry Brown, co-chair, reported that the committee has met twice since the last PPB meeting. They have worked on the headline indicators of success and have decided to relate their activities to the 40 DAC. Two initiatives the committee is currently looking into to implement are:
 - Summer Employment Program – This would include professional development along with making money.
 - Day on Campus – Day would expose HS students to NVCC. The committee would identify youth to shadow college students for a day and already have a group of willing students.
- *Positive Youth Development:* Lori Hart reported that the Positive Youth Development Committee is working on the following:
 - Creating a city-wide 40 Developmental Assets Campaign
 - Providing increase number of out of school time activities that engage youth in learning, and foster relationships among youth and adults as well as among youth and their peers
- *Mayor's Task Force Against Substance Abuse:* Joe Gorman reported that this committee needs closer contact with Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking. They **Supported by Connecticut Community Foundation, United Way of Greater Waterbury, Office of the Mayor, City of Waterbury, and Waterbury Youth Service System Inc.**

have a meeting scheduled for April 14th. From there, they will then chart out their next steps. More information will be presented as available.

- CAC: JoAnn Reynolds Bolanda, chair, reported that the committee is looking into different opportunities to distribute their legislative agenda. They have decided to give a presentation to the Board of Alderman as a way to reintroduce themselves and stress the 40 Developmental Assets. They are also looking into having Developmental Asset posters hung in downtown businesses which will change on a monthly basis as well as having students at WAMS creating Developmental Asset videos. Finally, they are looking at sustainability issues.
- 40 DAC: Jim, chair, reported that with the help of Joe Gorman and the 40 DAC, the survey will be administered in the middle schools during the week of April 5th - 8th and the high schools during the week of April 20th - 23rd. Volunteers will be needed – approximately 6 per each middle school and 12 per each high school. Approximately 1500 survey need to be completed. A letter will be mailed home to the parents of students in grades 6,9,12 and a public notice will run in the newspaper. Posters will be available to hang in agencies. Jackie Lundie requested a letter that she can send home to the parents in her organization.
- PPB EXEC: Jim O'Rourke, vice-chair, reported that during the last meeting, they discussed how committees are working since a tremendous amount of work is going on. There may be a shift in responsibilities in order to free up staff. We need to refocus where we are and have committees still feel powered to move forward.

Updates:

- 40 Developmental Asset Pre & Post Test: Lori Hart reported that
- LIST: Kelly Cronin noted that LIST –Local Implementation Service Team is a group of people who will look at the Juvenile Justice System to see where the gaps in service currently exist. On January 29th, the group will meet with local judges and prosecutors to discuss the system. Kelly noted that there may be funding going forward and the RFP will be community based not state based.
- Give Kids A Smile: Christine Bianchi informed PPB that on February 6th, StayWell Health Center will be holding free clinic for uninsured kids who need dental treatment. Christine will send Lori the flyer to send out to PPB members.
- Robert Woods Johnson: Jim O'Rourke stated that February 17th - 19th the Dream Team will be going to Washington, DC regarding childhood obesity.
- Safe Places: Kelly Cronin talked briefly about Safe Places which is a program designed to let children know that if they see this particular sign they know they can get help. Kelly noted that in the past Waterbury Youth Services had this program, but lost funding. They would like to reapply for funding this year to get this program implemented back into the City. Kelly noted that the fire departments have already signed on. Specific training for staff is necessary for any building with a sign. Kelly noted that the problem right now is that most programs/agencies are opened from 9:00 AM-5:00 PM, but what do we do from 5:00 PM-9:00 AM. Part of the funding that Waterbury Youth Services is looking into is to have an on call staff person who would be in charge during the night hours in the event that a child goes to a fire department. Kelly also noted that the old signs have been taken down and new ones will be put up. Currently Waterbury Youth Services, Catholic Charities, YMCA and the Fire

Departments have signed on and are trained.

- National Mentor Month: Nancy Vaughan stated that January is National Mentor Month and the Mayor will give a proclamation on Tuesday, January 19th, 2010.

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:30pm.

The next meeting of the Waterbury Prevention Policy Board is on **March 10th from 12:30 -2:30 PM** at Family Services of Greater Waterbury