

Parents Matter , Central SD
October 27, 2010 Meeting
Pierre Mall, former Pretzel Maker Space
Noon – 1:00 PM

Attendance:

Larry Weiss, Chair of Parents Matter
Ruby L. Douglas, SPF-SIG Project Coordinator
Katherine Van Gerpen, Riggs Student Senate
Elton Blemaster, Deputy - Pierre Police Depart.
Mark Swedsen – Dakota Radio Group Manager
Dennie Pfrimmer, Executive Director of CAC's
Dawn Tassler, Executive Director of Growing Up Together
Dylan Norris, Riggs Student – Youth Representative for Parents Matter

Larry called the meeting to order and asked if there were any changes/correction to September's meeting minutes. There being none. Dawn motioned that the September minutes be approved and Elton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Katherine Van Gerpen was introduced and asked to inform Parents Matter of the Verizon Grant which she had applied for the Student Council. The purpose of the grant application was to create awareness about Bullying/Cyberbullying and the impact that it has on individuals and the community. Katherine explained that once she receives notice of the award; she will be working with other students in setting up a dinner, forum, creating news releases, etc. in getting the word out to the public about the issue. Coalition members and Parents of the students involved will be assisting with this effort. Funding requested was \$1750. Parents Matter attendees expressed their gratitude for youth addressing this issue and appreciated the partnership with Parents Matter Coalition.

Discussion was opened up for the Halloween Night at the Mall and Parents Matter Open House. There were approximately 1250 youth and adults who went through Parents Matter space picking up treats as well as printed materials/information on a variety of topics. There were 32 people recruited to receive Parents Matter e-mails, newsletters, etc. There will be a follow-up letter to each of these individuals inviting them to become members of Parents Matter offering each an opportunity to share their talents and gifts with the Coalition in helping reduce underage drinking and the consequences associated with it.

Ruby and Dawn spoke about the SPF-SIG as to what expenditures were authorized. One of the expenditures included was the Pride Survey's in order to collect additional data for the needs assessment piece of the grant. Also, the TriEthnic Model Community Survey was discussed and the incentives for those who completed the survey. The Pride Survey's were expected to be administered in November in the Pierre/Fort Pierre Schools. The Alcohol Survey for Coalition's is expected to be sent out in November for discussion from participants at the Parent's Matter during the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Ruby also informed the coalition that the next scheduled meeting for the mandatory trainings for the SPF – SIG funding will be December 6, 7th in Chamberlain for both the Project Director and the Evaluator, Roland Loudenberg.

Other anticipated and authorized expenditures were for advertising for Parents Matter Coalition, Office supplies, connectivity, ancillary expenses, equipment and administrative fees. Notices had been e-mailed in regards to the Parents Matter Website update: www.parentsmattercsd.com/, e-mail: parentsmatter@pie.midco.net, telephone: (605) 222-0638, PO Box 713 and mailing address: 800 E. Dakota, % Growing Up Together, Pierre, SD 57501.

Dawn suggested that a way to build additional partnerships for Parents Matter was through membership with the Chamber of Commerce, After Hour events, Laura's weekly Chamber news, PACO meeting, Rotary, and Zonta Club meetings as a means of creating visibility in the community. Elton suggested maybe calling the school secretary and finding out who the PTO's/ or parent leaders were for the schools. He also suggested a letter to the School Athletic Departments explaining the Parents Matter Coalition's mission and inviting them to participate in the efforts. Mark was asked if the radio could have a radio interview once a month or news stories for Parents Matter.

Although Melinda Olson and Michelle Majeres from the Prevention Resource Center in Sioux Falls were scheduled to attend the meeting to provide technical assistance for the SPF-SIG, they were unable to attend due to the weather. However, a telephone conference was held later during the day for questions and suggestions about the SPF-SIG award.

Dylan Norris presented his "mapping" in regards to the density/accessibility of alcohol outlets in the Pierre/Fort Pierre area. The color coded map was perceived by those in attendance as a very useful tool for the coalition in generating a powerpoint presentation and also for the quality control checks. Elton asked if there could be different colors added and Dylan stated that the "map" was an example and that he would continue to work on the map as information became available.

Larry gave the September arrest report with 14 underage drinking arrests, 8 DUI arrests and 21 Drug Arrests. Though Larry noted that the arrests were down from previous months, there was still work that needed to be done.

The next meeting date is scheduled for December 1st at Noon. The meeting will be held at St. Mary's Old Hospital, 5th Floor meeting room. Enter the door from the back parking lot entrance and take the elevator up to 5th floor. We will be providing a light lunch so, please confirm whether you will be attending the meeting.

The A requested was made in regards to the possibility of changing the monthly meeting to a different week of the month.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruby L. Douglas, SPF-SIG Project Director