

Skagit County Child & Family Consortium

Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2007

9:00am – 10:30am

- **Welcome & Introductions:**
 - Lyndie Case called the meeting to order and introductions were made around the table.
- **Nuestra Familia, Our Family – DVD Clip:**
 - Not shown due to technical difficulties.
- **Capacity Building/Recruitment Plan Update**
 - The committee has met twice and identified agencies to be included in this group. The agencies were then divided into the categories of basic needs, transportation, prevention and intervention. The committee is looking for a key person in each agency and will have another meeting the last week of January.
- **RTL Program:**
 - Chris Tobey gave a brief overview of the history of the Readiness To Learn (RTL) program that seeks to remove non-academic barriers to learning through funds provided by that grant. Because of the unfortunate closure of the Best SELF program \$20,000 previously budgeted for that program is available for the 7/1/06 – 6/30/07 period. The SCCFC discussed unmet needs of Skagit County children and families at the December meeting and these issues were compared to the RTL mission and objectives to determine which might be incorporated into the Skagit RTL program. A handout was distributed listing eleven such needs. These needs were discussed with Ron Hertel, OPSI and he was very interested in the establishment of a position as a follow up to a recent Gang Intervention/Prevention Event. This position would work with the task force that came out of the Gang Intervention/Prevention Event to provide education and early intervention to those youth and their families at risk to gang involvement. Chris then made a motion that a narrative and budget for this position be developed and submitted to OSPI to utilize the \$20,000 redirected funding. Karen Rose seconded and the motion carried. Chris will draft the proposal and e-mail it to the group for input.
- **Safety Assessments in Skagit County:**
 - Dave Ahrenholz gave a presentation to the group on the Skagit County Student Safety Assessment Team. This is a multi-agency approach to managing situations and students of concern based on the key findings from the Safe School Initiative. Those findings included the facts that incidents of targeted violence at school are rarely sudden, impulsive acts. Prior to most incidents, other students knew about the idea or plan but the attackers did not directly threaten their targets prior to the attack. Two items of particular importance in any plan then should be a complete safety threat assessment should be done and there needs to be a cultural change that would “break the code of silence”. In Skagit County there is a Safety Assessment Protocol in place with both building level and county level assessment teams trained. Skagit County has the only countywide team in the state and Dave Ahrenholz/Chris Tobey will be giving a presentation at the RTL Conference in Yakima the end of March.
- **Survey:**

- Jennifer Fix distributed “Point In Time” surveys to those in the group that haven’t already filled one out and gave a brief overview of how to do so and the purpose of the survey. Jennifer also announced a free training “Substance Abuse Prevention Specialist Training” (SAPST) to be held January 23-26, 2007 at the Cotton Tree Inn.

- **Program Updates**

- Lyndie Case - Children’s Council Resource Fair - Friday, February 9, 2007 11:00 am – 1:00 pm
- Linda Nelson – SS/HS website will include SCCFC’s updates and ongoing information
- Veronica Hinojosa reports several staff changes Carla has transferred to Smokey Point and Crystal Wagner, previously JRA, started yesterday. They are looking for candidates for the open supervisor vacancy. They are also making preparations for accreditation in June.
- Karen Rose reports they are working on summer programs. Camp sign-up day will be 4/21/07.

1.) Next Meeting:

February 21st – 9:00am - 10:30am