



Skagit County Child and Family Consortium

October 17, 2012

Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome and Introductions

Andy Wheeler, SCCFC President, welcomed attendees and explained the new sign-in procedures. He noted that “members” have attended three or more meetings and “guests” have attend meetings, but have not attend three in the past year. There is also a sign in sheet for people attending the Consortium meeting for the first time.

2. SCCFC Board Position – Member at-Large

Kari explained that this position includes attending the monthly Executive Board meeting and greeting members/newcomers. If there is interest, please contact Kari at kcoo300@dshs.wa.gov.

3. Featured Presentation: Truancy Program, Ericka Christensen & Joelene Meckstroth

The 1996 Becca law requires schools to file petitions with the courts when truancy occurs.

The Skagit County Truancy Intervention Program offers support for re-engaging in school. Truancy Intervention Specialists work with students, families, schools and the community to address barriers and reinforce positive supports to help students stay in school and be engaged in learning.

The S.W.A.P. program is collaboration between the Skagit County Truancy Program, local organizations, and schools to increase the number of sites that provide truant students a learning environment, opportunities for restorative accountability and the chance to build positive relationships. This program is starting in Mt. Vernon with the Board make-up consists of a school board representative, school representative, and community resource agencies. The student and school give information and the board provides a written plan for the child and parent. Follow-up is done by Ericka and Jolene, if this resolves the problem the student stays out of detention.

4. Consortium Discussion: Marijuana Legalization and the Potential Community Impacts

Members made personal comments. The correlation between truancy and marijuana use is being seen. Currently alcohol theft is higher now especially with the placement of alcohol in stores is near the entry doors, what will this mean for marijuana. Underage youth are indicating in the Monitoring the Futures survey that the reason they don't use marijuana is because it is illegal.

5. Roundtable

Brian Humphrey – Work Source gave an update on Eye on Jobs. The schools participating are La Conner, Concrete, and Burlington-Edison with great success. There will be a Job Fair for Veterans in November.

Jeff Brown BE Special Services commented on the success of the Eye on Jobs.

Jodie – ESD. They are looking for more Mental Health Therapists. One has been hired and will be working with the Sedro-Woolley and Concrete school districts.

Kari Cook, DSHS – The Cultural Fair was a great success. Skagit Connections is the Facebook page for quality resources for Skagit County.

Jonna Zieber – CCS they have openings for families and are very busy.

Kathryn Lyons – Brigid Collins they have created an Adult/Child Policy that organizations can put into place to prevent sex offenders from participating in agencies. This comes from the Out of Darkness curriculum.

TJ Larick – Director of Samish Tribal Vocational Rehab

Benjamin – Samish Tribe introduced their new Family Service Specialist, Michelle Johnson.

Lyndie – Invited everyone to stay after the meeting to discuss the HIDTA funding.

Next Meeting: November 21, 2012 ~ 9:00 – 10:30 AM

Attendees:

Andy Wheeler, NWESD, Discovery School
Benjamin Jojola, Samish Indian Nation
Bonnie Kiilsholm
Brian Humphrey, Workforce Development Council
Brooke Freeman, Catholic Community Services
Carol Hawk, United General Hospital
Ericka Christensen, Skagit County Community Services
Jean Champagne, Mount Vernon School District
Jed Cates, Burlington Police Department
Jeff Brown, Burlington-Edison School District
Jodie DesBiens, NWESD Prevention Center

Joelene Meckstroth, Skagit County Community Services
Jonna Zeiber, Catholic Community Services
Karen Rose, NW Early Learning
Kari Cook, DCFS
Kathryn Lyons, Brigid Collins
Lisa Mitchell, Arthritis Foundation
Lyndie Case, SCCFC Coordinator
Michelle Johnson, Samish Indian Nation
Mick Rasch, Upper Skagit Tribe
Ryein Kitchen, CMS
Sarah Hinman, Skagit County Community Services
TJ Larrick, Samish Indian Nation
Wenda Cross, Skagit/Island Head Start

Our Vision:

Skagit County is a community where everyone feels included, hopeful, connected and motivated to maintain a healthy environment for ourselves and future generations.

Our Mission:

The Skagit County Child and Family Consortium will promote and strengthen a seamless continuum of support and services to foster safe and healthy children and families within the Skagit County Community.

Our Purpose:

Empower Skagit communities to support and respond to the needs of individual families and children. Improve the responsiveness of service for children and families.

www.sccfc.org