

MUSAP May Meeting Agenda
May 5, 2010
MCPS Administration Building

In Attendance: Rosie Buzzas-Flagship, Jules Pitts-Project Success, K Michelle Schaeffer-St Patrick Hospital, Loraine Bond-Big Brothers-Big Sisters, Marianne Moon-MCPS, Koby Callahan-National Guard, Specialist Cathleen Dobson-National Guard, Karen Orzech-Justice Court II, Peggy Seel, Office of Planning and Grants, Lonie Hutchison, Ivy McGowan-Strategic Prevention Solutions Community Change, Scott Brodie-Missoula Police Department, Josh Jones-City Life, Kari Watkins-Zip Beverage, Loraine Bond-Big Brothers-Big Sisters

- Introductions-5 minutes
- Attendance Discussion

Peggy Seel informed the group that the City Ordinance making refusal to submit to a breathalyzer a criminal offense has passed.

Rosie Buzzas informed the group that she is writing a grant for an elementary based program. She reports that this is a program based primarily on developmental concepts and small amounts of substance abuse prevention. This is a program that is already in existence in Ravalli County for the last year. She reports that the counselors have incorporated this into the health curriculum. It is a best practice and is based for 2nd to 5th graders and is 8 to 10 sessions.

Michelle Schaeffer reports that the St Patrick Hospital Foundation has agreed to give \$500.00 yearly to the local Missoula Meets the Challenge a charter of Mariah's Challenge. It was suggested that we meet in July to determine the future for this group. I contacted Leo McCarthy after the meeting who reports that he is in complete support of this local scholarship foundation as an umbrella of Mariah's Challenge. He reports that all proceeds from the Missoula Marathon will be donated to this Missoula County Scholarship Foundation. He also reports that Mariah's Challenge is in the process of developing a MC License plate. This plate will be unique in that the fee associated with the purchase will be donated to Mariah's Challenge. He reports proceeds from all plates bought in Missoula County will be donated to the Missoula Meets the Challenge Scholarship Foundation for local scholarships. A subcommittee was suggested to continue this conversation and this momentum around the Missoula County Scholarship Foundation and Mariah's Challenge!

Michelle Schaeffer reports that Leo McCarthy spoke at the Trauma Conference at St Patrick's. She reports that he was bombarded with parents after his presentation requesting information.

There was a discussion led by Karen Orzech regarding the DUI Court here in Missoula. Below you find a summary of that discussion; however there is so much to this discussion that if you missed this, you should seek out Karen Orzech to personally hear about what is happening regarding DUI Court here in Missoula.

Karen reports that DUI courts have been in existence in other states for approximately 20 years and have shown to be very successful. Based on 20 years of research, they are Best Practice which reduces repeat offenders and either rehabilitates the offender or habilitates them. There are three in the state of Montana; Mineral County, Billing Municipal and Kalispell Municipal.

The basis of the program is based on immediate rewards and sanctions. DUI courts are to keep people sober! There are based on a team approach involving law enforcement, prosecution, Probation, treatment professionals, statistician and the judge. She reports that this will integrate treatment with the court process. This is primarily for 2nd and 3rd DUI offenses and will incorporate a variety of elements into the process. That process needs to identify individuals early on, provide access (real and immediate access) to treatment and rehabilitation, requires abstinence and frequent testing to assure compliance with abstinence, understands that relapse is a part of the process, continues to monitor and evaluate, focuses on 2nd and 3rd DUI offense, requires constant professional education, partnerships within our community and ultimately public support. Some other elements include SCRAM bracelets, weekly check-ins and potentially jail time. Jail can be very motivating and is based not only on community protection but can include rehabilitation as well. Often times it involves a contract with an offender to remain clean and sober.

She reports that in 2008 she was approached to begin on in Missoula County and has been working on achieving that. Karen reports that we are lacking treatment in Missoula-primarily due to long waiting lists. She repeats that waiting lists don't work because the sanctions need to be immediate.

There was some discussion of the new ACT course which is now called Change for Life. Missoula County/Turning Point is the first county to begin teaching this new course. She reports that the challenges to DUI courts are training all the individuals involved in the process, the initial buy in, finding and paying for incentives and changing laws in Montana. Problems with current Montana laws include justice court not being a court of record and when a case is appealed it goes directly to District Court. Other issues are that jurisdiction with a case is often not long enough to make long term changes with the offender. Karen is optimistic in making this happen here in Missoula and feels that this will be in place within the next year.

NEXT MEETING:

It was decided that Peggy Seel will chair the June 2, 2010 MUSAP Meeting. That meeting will be held at the MCPS Administration Building.

