

Sampson County Meth Task Force
Meeting September 28, 2007
Minutes

The Sampson County Meth Task Force met on September 28, 2007 at Sampson Community College in the Warren Student Center Board Room.

Chair, J.W. Simmons, called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. JW gave the Invocation.

Present: J.W. Simmons; Sarah Bradshaw; Gary Connolly; Renee' White; Oscar Rodriguez; Joni Fetterman; Gene Hales; Dr. Carl Barr; Lillian Wells; and Janet Rosenberger.

The minutes for the July 23, 2007 meeting were approved by a motion from Sarah Bradshaw and a second from Dr. Barr.

OLD BUSINESS

Sarah Bradshaw discussed the lack of Sub-Committee meetings and thinks they could combine a meeting with Event & Community Relations and Business & Industry to work on the Meth Taskforce cards giving contact for information for intervention assistance. This is a great idea to assist in making the Taskforce visible to the public. JW added that the card could be disseminated in pertinent locations. Sarah stated that Dr. Ward with Fayetteville State had contacted her regarding possible community work projects for students. We could possibly have them assist the subcommittees with the completion of this information card and pulling it all together.

Dr. Barr added that the Hispanic community needs this information as well. Cards could be placed in any public place that would reach a diverse group. Gene Hales stated that we could make this part of other community outreach like the mobile unit at Wal-Mart. Several ways to raise community awareness were discussed. Sarah added that we need to be at the table at Latino community events.

Oscar Rodriguez stated they are planning to bring the Mexican Consulate to Sampson Community College early next year. We can get information out quicker with contact at DSS and U Care as well as post information in Premium Standard. Also, posting info on the church board would be a good way to reach the Hispanic community.

JW mentioned that we should do the card in English and Spanish and make it understandable. Dr. Barr added that we need a liaison to help us understand the Hispanic population's diversity and culture.

JW handed out a flyer on gang activity. The gang activity is bringing in a lot of Meth trafficking. They will be working on another conference to educate the community possibly held in October or November.

Sarah mentioned that the Taskforce had developed a Mission Statement in the beginning but, we realize that it needs to flow with changes to all addictions. It's been revised to include other drug awareness along with Meth. JW will email the revised copy for Taskforce review. Sarah shared a letter from Roy Cooper to all Department of Social Services regarding information they've developed for educating the public about Meth. Resource information can be found at Outreach@ncdoj.gov or questions can be answered by calling 919/716-6783.

NEW BUSINESS

Sarah reminded the Taskforce that it was discussed at the last meeting that we possibly conduct the bi-monthly meetings at Outreach locations. We would have to publicize the schedule out to the community so they'd know about them. We need to continue to focus on community awareness and understanding of the issues.

JW mentioned that there will be a significant program in October or November on gang awareness. Gene Hales added that there needs to be strategies devised to direct the youth away from gang activity; possibly develop clubs for them.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00am.