

**WISCONSIN PREVENTION NETWORK
MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 17, 2004**

PRESENT

Karen Knudsen, Koller Behavioral Health
Susan Opheim, HOPES Wisconsin
Sue Allen, WI Positive Youth Development
Susan Rodriguez, Right From The Start Coalition
Shel Gross, MHA Milwaukee Co.
Ken Ramminger, citizen, prevention advocate
Ron Biendseil, Dane Co. DHS
Chris Wardlow, Outagamie County

I. BUSINESS

WPN financial report:

1. Balance in checking = \$8,768.98.
2. CD = \$6,097.97.

Expenses:

\$63.60 to WI PYD for reimbursement of website hosting fee.

Deposits:

\$25 membership

II. ACTION ITEMS

- Shel Gross agreed to coordinate the draft of an end-of-year report summarizing the 'swirl' of activity around prevention at the state-level during 2004. It was suggested that the completed report be posted on the WPN website to help people make sense of all that's transpired.
- Sue Allen suggested that the Best Practices section of the WPN website be expanded to include links to websites where people can get up-to-date information on effective programs in each of the prevention areas. Also, it was suggested that information be added on best practices related to suicide prevention, the prevention of child abuse and neglect, and strengthening families.
 - Chris Wardlow will e-mail the WPN Listserv to get input.
 - Ron Biendseil requested that Chris also create a link to the report "Benefits and Costs of Prevention and Early Intervention Programs for Youth" published by the Washington State Institute for Public Policy. The URL is www.wsipp.wa.gov/rptfiles/04-07-3901.pdf.
- Public Policy Committee will be meeting with Donna Wong of Governor Doyle's office on Monday, November 22. Suzie Rodriguez will join Ken Ramminger, Shel Gross, Ron Biendseil, and Chris Wardlow at the meeting. Shel is coordinating the meeting and wanted input/feedback on issues to be discussed.
 - Discussion points with Ms. Wong:
 - Support language in proposed DHFS budget for Family Foundations Initiative;
 - Universal home visitation for first-time parents with targeted follow-up as proposed in Kids First;
 - Funds to support Infant Mental Health initiative;
 - Increase funding for more family resource centers;
 - Promote "Brighter Futures" philosophy as model for prevention.
 - Those meeting with Ms. Wong will meet Friday, November 19, after RFTS meeting to firm-up talking points.

- ☑ Sue Allen indicated that WPN set-up a meeting with Greg Levenick, Supervisor, Bureau of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (BMHSAS). Sue indicated that Lou Oppor who coordinates the State Incentive Grant at DHFS is now in Greg's shop at BMHSAS. One of the SIG priorities at the state-level is to strengthen the state's prevention system. Greg has a number of ideas but is looking for input from key stakeholders across the state. He has no formal mechanism for providing such input but welcomes meetings to discuss these issues.
 - Chris will contact Greg to set up a meeting and then will notify WPN of possible dates.

III. UPDATES

RFTS - Suzie Rodriguez

RFTS is working on a plan to disseminate the findings of the POCAN evaluation as a way to advocate for the expansion of this successful model for preventing child abuse and neglect.

- Home visitation and strengthening families initiatives are also priorities of WPN as was reaffirmed at the July 21st meeting.

Beer Tax - Sue Allen

Sue Allen reported on an initiative being coordinated by Genevieve Kirtchman, CESA 5, to gain grassroots support for raising the beer tax. Genevieve is working with other SIG communities at this time and as indicated in the group's October 13th minutes "We're going to start w/ Governor, Joint Finance for THIS 2 year budget -- if we're not successful, we have started the conversation for the next two year budget. Getting a bill introduced would be a second possibility but might be more difficult to get a bill than to have it included in the budget . . ."

- Ken Ramminger will communicate to Genevieve WPN's support and request that WPN be kept up-to-date on progress and ways we can help. Ron Biendseil also suggested that we encourage the movement to explore nontraditional strategies for gaining support for this being that more traditional approaches have been squashed by the beer lobby. Maybe circulate petitions that will show mass support among the state's beer drinkers for the 2 cents a drink increase the tax would amount too if the beer tax were raised to the national average.

NEXT MEETING IS JANUARY 19, 10:30 - NOON, VIA TELECONFERENCE.

January Agenda Items

- Summarize the 2004 'swirl' of activity in the state around prevention (Shel with craft a summary).
- RFTS and POCAN update.
- Report from WPN members involved in Call to Action Work Groups.
- Public Policy Committee update and report on meeting with Donna Wong.
- Update on initiative to organize support for raising beer tax.
- 2005 Wisconsin Statewide Prevention Conference update.
- Website update.

FUTURE WPN MEETINGS*

November 17, 2004

January 19, 2005

March 16, 2005

May 18, 2005

July 20, 2005

September 21, 2005

November 16, 2005

January 18, 2006

*Meetings will be from 10:30 a.m. to Noon via teleconference unless notified otherwise.