

Orono Healthy Youth Board Minutes

Date: 5-13-10

Place: Discovery Center

Coordinator: Melanie DeLuca

Chair: Catherine Russin

OHY Members Present: Catherine Russin (parent, teacher), Melanie DeLuca (Coordinator/CE Director), Kelly Goddard (CAPSH), Leah Weycher (WeCan), Laura Iverson (Promise Fellow), Ted Knutson (Befrienders, Rotary, VFW), Marvin Johnson (City of Independence), Margaret Buschbom (community member), Maryanna Massey (mentoring & outreach), Courtney Flug (IOCP), Dave Garwich (Faith Representative)

Collaborative Partners: Cheryl Schweitzer (Hennepin County), Jane Leeper (Orono MS/HS Social Worker)

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: June 3

Motion for Additions and Approval of Mar. 11, 2010 Minutes - approved

Jane Leeper – report on what she sees from a school social worker perspective

Not a lot different from previous years - anxiety, family issues (family violence), school performance. Relate grant has been a fabulous resource for kids. Melanie worked on the original planning of this effort with other districts and Relate and obtained sign on to the grant. It is now providing on-site therapeutic services for students with a mental health diagnosis and is coordinated through the Special Services Dept. Jane started in her position as MS/HS Social Worker in 2002 and was funded through OHY funding until just recently when her position was incorporated into the general school district budget.

Promise Fellow

Laura Iverson gave a program update – spring is much harder to keep kids on track. New kids are still being referred. Two service projects have been done recently – one in the Orono Nature Center and the other was going to the Voyageur camp which is a Boys and Girls Club of America camp. They provide week long camp experiences for inner city kids. They will be offering a local camp in August. We asked Laura to check if they would offer lower rates for low income children from our area. She and Maryanna Massey discussed programs for summer including 3 week remedial morning program, 3 weeks of character and asset building information, Links PM will be offered by Laura in the afternoon based out of the Discovery Center – two three week sessions.

Summer Program Discussion

Reference Center for Summer Learning Research – Talked about the importance of engaging summer activities and learning activities. Catherine gave an example of summer park runs and a book club – both of these activities are planned to be low or no cost. OHY scholarship dollars have made a huge impact on providing opportunities for low income students to be involved in positive summer activities. Remedial & academic classes, afternoon park programs and bussing are all areas that are given priority for scholarships because they meet learning needs, improve access and offer significant hours of programming to prevent children from being home alone.

There was a discussion of Youth Development structure and Peter Block's book on Community – The Structure of Belonging. How do we as an OHY group celebrate our connectedness and help others access both formal and informal opportunities to belong?

Comments from IOCP – OHY’s work to help families access services, scholarships, and transportation makes a huge difference. Timing of programs is key for working families. Many of the families feel isolated and see their situation as a huge barrier.

Motion to move fundraising dollars from OHY in the amount of \$15,110 to the Family Service Collaborative Fund to pay for mentoring programs. Motion Marvin/ Second by Margaret Approved Unanimously

To prepare for our June meeting when we will be planning for 2010-11
Bring fundraising ideas
Bring or e-mail education topics
We will review scaled back budget

Sharing

WeCan April Gala – May 20th at Lafayette Club
CAPSH moved to new location in St. Louis Park, 8800 Hwy 7 – Old Bremer Bank location. Open House on May 27th – invitations have been sent – go to entrance on the East side – go to 4th floor. Energy assistance applications due by the end of May. IOCP Plant Sale today through Saturday – just east of 101 north – at 17400 12th Ave N, Plymouth. IOCP is working with Common Bond Communities for a project in the Orono area. Step To It Challenge for Independence and Maple Plain. EC committee had last year end meeting. Did a comprehensive survey on EC programs that resulted in over 80% return rate. Maryanna shared news of a very committed new mentor from Brazil who is a young adult and working with multiple kids in several of the schools.

Next Meeting: June 3

Motion to Adjourn: Ted/Margaret