



TOWN OF MANSFIELD
OFFICE OF THE YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU

Patricia Michalak, MA
Youth Service Bureau Coordinator

YSB Advisory Minutes
October 9, 2012
12:00 noon @ Mansfield Town Hall
Conf. Rm. B

Board Members

Present:

Ethel Mantzaris, Chair
Frank Perrotti, Assistant Chair, Resident
Patricia Michalak, YSB Coordinator
Kathy McNamara, YSB Social Worker
Kevin Grunwald, Human Services Director
Chuck Leavens, E O Smith Counselor
Candace Morell, MMS Vice Principal
Christine Lee, Director of STARR Program
Steven King, Resident State Trooper
Steven Martin, Graduate Social Work Intern
Eileen Griffin, LCSW Resident
Genevieve Rigler, E. O. Smith High School Student

I. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 12:03 PM by Chair, Ethel Mantzaris

II. Approval of minutes

- Meeting minutes from September 11, 2012 were accepted

III. Reports

- Director's Report – Kevin Grunwald

Job Position: Licensed social worker position has been advertised.

Food Share program: Program had two successful deliveries, reaching over one hundred people to an array of age groups, Uconn volunteers and program department staff assisted. It was suggested to increase advertisement of program, and remind families of food drop-off dates. Department will be collaborating with the Town employee volunteers, considering working with

Eastern Highland Health District to promote healthy recipes that would be included with food delivery for families.

NECASA Grant: Funding has increased based on new population eligibility; money will go to COPE and a program targeting middle school students. Possible partnership with Villari's Martial Arts Studio.

- Coordinator's Report – Patricia Michalak

Overview: September is the beginning of school and many of YSB's programs; it is also the time that our volunteers and interns begin their academic year with us. They have been a help to YSB and continue to learn about the planning and implementation of services. YSB attended the elementary school open houses, members of the Uconn Baseball team participated which both the children and families loved. September is a month of planning, enrolling, and organizing students and volunteers who will participate. This year we have thirty-eight student volunteers, the most YSB has ever started with.

Cope: Cope has started, at two of the schools we are at maximum capacity and have started a waiting list. The decided theme is "teamwork/family work".

Big Friends: All the Big and Little friend matches have been made; we now have a waiting list for this program.

Multi-Family Group: Two Uconn Pharmacy students have started to volunteer for the MFG.

Leap: LEAP went on a team-building leadership experience at MMS.

Grandparent Raising Grandchildren Group: The City of Hartford's Grandparents Program has organized its 10th Annual Grandparents Day Family Fair. This event is dedicated to the thousands of kinship families in our great city and across Connecticut at Bushnell Park by the carousel.

Girl's Group: Annie Zinn, an Uconn Graduate Journalism major, who has previously volunteered with YSB is working with Gui Estes and the eight girls who are working on improving their writing skills. All are enthusiastic participants. We are fortunate to have such amazing volunteers.

IV. Old Business

Possible social work position to work in elementary schools is continuing to be explored. Staff met with Principal and Superintendent and will follow up with job description and cost for a potential position.

V. New Business

Christine Lee gave a presentation for a new sexual education curriculum, "Positive Choices"

VI. Other

Chuck Levins reported on successful prom fundraising to continue a Junior and Senior prom. Steven King reported one child abuse case, in which DCF got involved.

VII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1:06 p.m. November 13th, 2012 next meeting