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August 3rd, 2016

1:00 – 2:30 pm

Centerforce- Lakewood, WA

Attendance: Nicole Zinn, Mirella Villagomez, Tina Barnes, Mandi Wilcox, Andie Gernon, Angela Collins, Alyce Brame-Galyean, Katie Blanco, Chad Tibayan, Andi Sledge, Kendria Dickson, Karmel Shields, James Leet

Announcements:

1. Rental Housing Inspection Ordinance passed 6 to 1 at City council meeting.
2. 1 idea that property managers have been open to in the past is creating space out of existing vacant units to have a safe place for youth to play & hang out in a small community room.
3. Building will begin shortly at Springbrook Apartments through momentum partners.
4. Springbrook Camp-out is happening Saturday August 27th from 11am-6pm at Springbrook Park.

Volunteers needed!

**CHOICE Updates**

* *Summer Successes: Springbrook Tour & Talk, Springbrook Block Party & Community Resource Fair, Lakewood’s CHOICE at Farmer’s Market, Boys & Girls Club Summer Daycamp (consistently 25-30 daily members w/ youth leaders), Consejo new fiscal agent.*
* *August M.V.P. (Most Valuable Preventionist): Cesar Granados for his leadership & engagement in Springbrook Summer Daycamp*
* *Action plan (Summary): Passed out our action plan summarized for this next year 07/16-06/17. Highlighted three things: Neighborhood Engagement Groups, Policy & Enforcement evaluation, Public Awareness Campaign.*

**CHOICE ACTION ITEMS**

* Quarterly community dinners/resource night

*James Leet shared that the focus of the quarterly community dinner events will be intentionally on substance abuse prevention & honing in on reducing access, increasing awareness, &/or creating healthy options for youth & families.*

* + ***Who do we want to reach?***

*-Youth & Teens*

*-Spanish Speaking parents*

*-Parents & Youth together*

* + ***What topics do we want to address?***

1. *Youth Leadership event with a youth panel & youth led activities*
2. *Hearing from youth first-hand what they want as a topic for a community dinner.*
3. *Teaching parents & kids small things to infuse substance abuse prevention into everyday life in small doses. Ex. Conversations at bedtime, over dinner, etc.*
4. *Building Awareness: Conflict resolution, teaching healthy coping mechanisms.*
5. *Creating a place for youth to learn about healthy, safe places to go: volunteer opportunities &/or safe places to go in the community*
6. *Q&A info. session on drugs/alcohol*
7. *Other ideas: combating peer pressure, youth empowerment, suicide prevention.*

* Proposed membership requirements of Lakewood's CHOICE members.

*A preliminary discussion about if Lakewood’s CHOICE should have a commitment requirements for its members. Andie gernon asked, “Why?” This led to a discussion about how we can engage with the community & ensure there’s opportunities for commitment. No decisions were made, but for example it could look like 75% attendance at coalition meetings, 1 event per year, participation on 1 workgroup.*

* Community outreach plans

*Lakewood’s CHOICE is planning to be more of a resource to community organizations & community members that want more information about substance abuse prevention, specific drugs, or our efforts in Lakewood.*

* Public Awareness Campaign Options –

*We discussed implementing a campaign directed at youth to prevent youth substance abuse, specifically marijuana.* [*http://listen2yourselfie.org/*](http://listen2yourselfie.org/) *is a campaign from DOH that addresses youth marijuana use. Kendria shared that there are customizable resources to customize the campaign according to our target audience of youth. Currently there are 5 templates to choose from. They may have them in Spanish, but that the website is the most accurate place to look. This campaign would be a community wide campaign involving billboards, social media, blog, & our September community dinner/resource night.*

* What is a Strategic Plan?

*Andi Sledge shared the background for a strategic plan. This year, starting July 1st, 2016 we are in the process of completing a whole new strategic plan. This involves a needs & resources assessment. A thorough understanding of where the gaps in services are, & an assessment & evaluation of what’s been working & what hasn’t. She shared this is something all of us get involved in & we really need to tap into our partners. If there’s partners that really like data, we’ll need their help. In the original formation, CHOICE was focusing on Springbrook, Woodbrook, & Tillicum. After, looking at all 3 communities, Springbrook was chosen as the community with the least resources in 2013. This strategic plan will take into account healthy youth survey data, focus groups, & many other data points that will help shape our strategic direction in the future.*

**REMINDERS:**

* **September 7th- 1:00 – 2:30** CHOICE meeting – Lakewood Boys and Girls Club
* **September 21st 5:30pm-7:30pm-** Family Awareness Night/Community Dinner