



Green County United Prevention Professionals for Youth (GUPPY) Meeting Minutes

Friday, February 12, 2021

1:00 PM

Virtual Zoom meeting

Organizations Represented

Green County Human Services and Health Department, Blackhawk Technical College, School District of Monroe, School District of Albany, School District of New Glarus, FAITH Addiction Awareness, Sexual Assault Recovery Program (SARP), Family Promise, Greenhaven, UW-Extension Office, Community Health Partners, Green County District Attorney's Office, Pastor Tom Moe

Safe Haven Laws

- Craig Nolen (Green County District Attorney)
 - District Attorney Nolen has been discussing this topic with legislators and working to craft a state mandate in which education about safe haven laws is a mandated part of human growth and development units in schools that teach this curriculum.
 - One particular challenge is that in rural areas and small towns, people can be afraid of others knowing they surrendered a baby. There can be a stigma and anonymity isn't always realistic.
- Discussion about past strategies such as stickers in the window indicating a safe haven for a child. The community often doesn't know what locations babies can be relinquished.
 - The law states you can leave babies with any police officer, medical staff at hospital, or manned fire station. You do not need to give information if the baby is unharmed and 3 days or younger. Safe Haven babies can be reclaimed within 60 days of relinquishment.

- Discussed possibly advertising in locations that are out of the community as well, to help with anonymity.
- It is important to give sex education that is on par with where kids are sexually.
 - Incorporating Safe Haven Laws into 8th grade sex education curriculum
 - Struggling to educate due to some parents wanting their students to have certain information and not to hear other information
 - Discussed how education should be given more than twice in their youth during sex ed class at school -- ex: schools putting numbers in the bathrooms.
- Patty Reynolds with Community Health Partners
 - Before COVID, they had staff going into schools to provide education. Provided chapsticks with an 800 number where a student can call and get information if needed.
 - Do provide family planning services, can refer them to adoption services, do annual exams, STD testing, etc. Do take appointments, but if they show up, can be seen on the spot. Do not turn anyone away.
 - Do have brochures and prevention packets. Youth can come unaccompanied to the clinic. The clinic is confidential and will never contact parents.
 - There were questions in the Albany community about whether there was even a clinic such as Community Health Partners.
- Pastor Tom
 - This has been a divisive issue in Albany, as anonymity is a huge issue. Has found better luck with framing discussions like this as “What would you do if your friend was in this situation?” Most parents who are reluctant allow their children to be educated about things such as this if it is put in this wording.
- SARP has a bystander intervention presentation they have prepared to give to youth.
 - Possibly giving education to parents regarding this to help reach all of the right people. Krista from SARP is ready to help reach out and educate the community as a whole. Suggestion to record a presentation for parents to watch.
- Important for teens to know that teen pregnancy, once it already happens, is not going to ruin your life. There are options. There are so many resources.
 - Green County Public Health has a Family Resource Guide that lists all resources in Green County. This does go out to all schools. Suggestion to send these to churches as well.

Intentional Networking

School District of Monroe

- At Monroe Middle School, approximately 75 students who have been identified as at-risk (or are part of the special education or ELL program) have been invited to return to full-time learning. This has been done while still maintaining physical distancing and safety protocols.
- Today was our first Learning to Breathe virtual mindfulness group, facilitated by Hannah McMunn at UW-Extension. This is a six-week program that 15 students will be participating in.

UW-Extension

- 4-H is working hard to do youth activities virtually.
- Pie workshop! Registration deadline is today.
- Daily Arts- judged events on art, open to students in K-12th grade. March 7th is the registration deadline. Youth do not have to be in 4-H to participate.

SARP

- April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Denim day celebration. Take back the night walks in different communities, weather pending.

Green County AODA

- Navigator position open, 20 hour/week. Job posting is on the Human Services website.

Next month- Clinic developing action plan and are doing a survey they could present on. Possibly daycare initiative.

