

## **Advancing Our Youth Meeting Minutes for 11-7-02**

Place: Centennial Hall- Rousseau Room

Time: 1:30-2:45pm

Attendees: Betsy Carter, Curt Ledford, Grace Brooks, Betty Henning, Patti MacPike, Pat Alexander, Dick Wilson, Althea Buckingham, Janie Hogue, Camielle Call, Dyan Bessette, Laurie Orbeck-Ericksen, Walleen Whitson, Louise Brady, Mike Schlins, Nancy LeClerc-Davidson and David Sliefert.

Notified that they would not be able to attend: Tom Clarke, Dan Etulain, Dorothy Shepard and Holly Wells

### Old Business

1. Meeting minutes from October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2002 were accepted by group. They will be posted on the AOY website for viewing.
2. Flexible Funding Account: A) Account balance is \$5,536.42, B) Follow up regarding letter requesting \$1,000 funding from community agencies for FY O3. David informed the group that nearly every agency has responded and has already cut a check or will be getting a check soon. There was discussion to ask Planned Parenthood and Youth Advocates of Sitka to contribute and a request letter has already been sent out to the Youth Advocates of Sitka. David will follow up with both agencies and report back next meeting. We discussed not to seek funding from Sitka Medical Clinic, Moore Clinic or Dental agencies since other agencies already receive funding from them.
3. Update on DFYS position- Supervisor from Nome is working in the office to provided short-term relief. Laurie Orbeck-Ericksen expressed her disappointment that she will not be considering the Sitka post for herself and that she will be heading back to Nome at the end of November. Sitka DFYS office will be a one person show again and reports of harm will go to the Ketchikan DFYS office when the Sitka office is unavailable. Discussion amongst the group expressed great concern for the lack of attention the Sitka DFYS is receiving from the division and the group agreed to submit a letter to the governor, state representative, DHHS and to the local DFYS office. Grace and David will develop a draft letter for the group to consider at the next meeting.
4. Nomination of three community representatives for AOY board. The group agreed to select two additional seats to represent the community for the advisory board. Presently Dick Wilson fills the only community representative seat. Nominations for consideration are Betty Henning, Althea Buckingham, Melanie Reif and Rena Baty. David will contact them and see if they would allow there names to stand.
5. "Sitka's Promise for our youth" interview series update. Looking to interview all the providers who serve youth in the community. We (David and Dan E.) have completed three interviews with Sitka Prevention and Treatment Services, Seven Circles Coalition and Faith community's youth leaders. Upcoming interviews with

youth serving agencies and groups are being scheduled. Group suggested contacting United Forces (Ellen Frankenstein) and suggested a few youth who might co-host interviews.

New Business:

1. AOY celebration date is tentatively set for January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2003 from 12:30-2:45pm, which is our normal monthly meeting time. Group agreed to change the date to February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2003.
2. Agency News: Opportunity for providers and/or community members to update the group on new programs or staff, changes, grants, etc. (Ask to be put on list).
  1. Marc Wheeler- Big Brothers/Big Sisters was unable to attend due to foggy weather. Nancy L. informed us that they have several good applicants for the position at present.
  2. Grace Brooks informed the group that she is resigning as SAFV director as of July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2003. Any interested individuals should contact SAFV regarding position in the upcoming 7 months.
  3. Sitka Neurodevelopmental Clinic Update- Dyan Bessette informed the group that the first community clinic is scheduled for November 26<sup>th</sup>. It takes a full day to screen one child and she hopes to do two individuals in a day in the future. It is open to all ages for anyone with FAS/E, behavioral or neurodevelopmental concern. Her direct contact phone is 966-8629.
  4. Dick Wilson updated the group on his visit with representative Peggy Wilson regarding improving accessibility of health insurance to all Alaska's children. He spoke positively about their discussion.
  5. Pat Alexander informed us that STA would be hiring a Youth Program Coordinator in mid-December or early January.
3. Next scheduled AOY meeting will be **December 5th at 1:30pm** at Centennial Hall.

\*If you would like to be added to the email list let me know. If there are others that I may have missed on email list, please let me know. We want to continue to broaden community representation.