

What Up Wit Dat? Teen Coalition Minutes from 9-8-08 Meeting

Attendees: Matt Anderton, Brianna Beesley, Laura Benson, Michael Bilbo, Piper Booth, J Boyd, Alanna Buckley, Whitley Carpenter, Kay Kay DeRossette, Mary Quinn DeRossette, Allison East, Ashtin Giambrone, Zach Greer, Sara Howington, Nick Mekus, Victoria Mekus, Jacoby Mixon, Jennie Newcomb, India Sprinkle, Morgan Teller, Alexandra Trichell, Paul Velazquez, Rebeca Velazquez, Sophia Vollar, Taylor Cook

Welcome: President, Mary Quinn DeRossette opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. She welcomed new members: Dustin Lewis, Whitley Carpenter, Alison East, Jennie Newcomb, and India Sprinkle.

Adult and Teen Coalition Partnership: Mary Quinn reported that Beth Maggio of the Make a Promise Coalition, was heading up a Mentoring program for the adult and teen coalition. She and Mrs. Maggio had met and paired teens with an adult coalition member. She reported that the adult member would contact them, and that they should try and meet once a month, and keep the adult members up to date on what the teen coalition is doing and other areas that might be of interest.

10th Annual National UDETC Leadership Conference: Victoria Mekus had drafted a 3 page report on the conference to present to the teens. We were unable to print the report for her to hand out, but worked on correcting that so that it would be available to the teens on the 20th and to the adults at their meeting on the 9th. Victoria went ahead and reported on various workshops, but mainly talked about the one entitled, "Message in the Music". She said that Nicole Bilbo was checking to see if that speaker was available to speak at the Sept. 20th Teen Meeting.

Fundraising Ideas: The teens decided that they wanted to do another Nintendo Wii raffle, and have the drawing by Thanksgiving. Contacts have been made for judges for the Vicksburg's Got Talent fundraiser to be held on Saturday, Nov. 1. The Outlet Mall has given the teen permission to use their parking lot on Sunday, Dec. 7 for a Drive-In Movie. A letter is being drafted to the City Board about sponsorship and use of their Inflatable Movie Screen and Projector. The teens said they would charge \$10 a car load, whether there were 2 people or 10 people in a vehicle. Teens divided local businesses to contact about doing concessions and them working the booths and receiving a portion of the profits. The Rebelettes, a local service club, has agreed to volunteer to help with concessions or wherever needed at the Talent Show and the Drive-In. The Outlet Mall is opening at 12:00 midnight, Thanksgiving evening. They have asked the teens to sell hot chocolate, and do a fun activity and will allow them to raise funds doing it.

Fast Fact: The Drug of the month is Steroids. Members of the Teen coalition took pamphlets on Steroid use to their High School coaches. J Boyd, Alanna Buckley (St.Al), Rebeca Velazquez (VHS), Michael Bilbo (PCA), Taylor Cook (WCJHS), Jennie Newcomb and Laura Benson too some to WCHS.

September is National Recover Month and that was discussed briefly by Nicole Bilbo.

September 20th Meeting: Mary Quinn announced that the meeting would be from 6-9pm. The teens would shoot the new opening for their What Up Wit Dat? Show, work on Family Night Boxes, Listen to a Speaker, and plan for the upcoming fundraisers.

Family Night: Mary Quinn reported on Family Night which is Monday, Sept. 22. She explained that the Chinese take out boxes that they were stuffing were to hand out to restaurants and families in hopes that they would sit down and have dinner together. The boxes are filled with questions for kids to ask parents and viceversa.

October 10 is National Depression Screening Day

October 26th – 31st is Red Ribbon Week – The teens took activity packets to hand to their Guidance Counselors and push for activities to be done during that week.

Dean Anderson reported to the youth that Sept. 20 – 27th was Child Passenger Safety Week and said the Police Dept. would have some activities going on that week. She may call on them to volunteer if needed.

Mary Quinn closed the meeting and reminded everyone of the Meeting on Sept. 20th.