

DRAFT

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Implementation Team

Minutes July 12, 2007

Present: Nancy McNair, Marcia Massengale, Jolene O’Guin, Sherry Crader, Holly Cirri, Jamie Castlejohn, Ted Futris, Lou Kudon, Rick Dunn, Tim Johnson, Jeremy Tarbutton, George Maxwell, Mark Tavernier, Mike Blake, Mary Hood, Rev. David Nunnally, Tammy Webb, Irma Cadle, Staff: Jim Geiser

Rick Dunn opened the meeting and everyone introduced themselves. The minutes from the last meeting were approved with the following change:

“It was mentioned that much of pregnancy prevention is focused on relationships.”

was changed to:

“It was suggested that the pregnancy prevention effort include a focus on relationship education.”

The group agreed that they would focus on language that emphasized we are making recommendations and not policy. The hope of the group is that our recommendations would help create new policy. The group agreed that these “Recommendations” are necessary to produce the policy change desired. The group is not just presenting “Suggestions”.

The group then began discussing the various documents that had been developed by the group since the last meeting. Several suggestions were made for rewording the draft policy statement and guidelines. It was agreed that the group would work on these changes between meetings and that a new document would be circulated to the group at least one week prior to the next meeting.

Tim and Lou gave a marketing committee report. Lou would bring copies of the report to the next meeting.

The importance of including the males in this process was mentioned. They certainly contribute to the teen pregnancy problem-and need to be involved in the solutions. Providing sex education classes for parents so that they could better educate their own children was mentioned.

It was agreed that the Suggestions that were made for the Board of Education policy would be “held” and that those issues might be addressed more effectively through involvement with the school system’s sex education policy group with whom the group is seeking involvement.

It was agreed that the Mission Statement document and the Joint Community document would be incorporated into the recommended policy document.

Assignments and specific changes:

- Lou-reword the item “Presenting pros and cons as choices has not been demonstrated to be effective.”
 - Move “Community or school-based educators should be trained to teach about abstinence as well as provide accurate information about contraception and protection, including both use and local availability.” From “Additional Guidelines” to Education.
 - Ted-reword the item “Effective programming is based on convincing teens that not having sex is the right thing to do. Or, if having sex, using contraception and protection consistently and effectively is the right thing to do.”
 - Ted-reword the item “Healthy teen relationships should be part of the discussion, including gender differences in approaches to emotional intimacy, long-term commitment and family responsibilities.”
 - Tammy –reword the item “Facts about Georgia laws relating to legal and illegal sexual activity should be included in programs.”
 - Add some language about hope, career development, etc.—that the need is a comprehensive OneAthens solution.
 - Incorporate the other 2 documents into the recommended policy
 - In the “community wide” document change “that” to “who”.
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- Home Education / Home School Education... Teach parents to...
 - Marketing Committee Report: DON’T forget to include the males
 - Lou: In the initial document make the School Board Policy clearer under the Education section
 - Follow-up with the constituencies: focus groups with teens, parents, ministers, etc...

NEXT STEPS:

1. Complete the policy recommendation.
2. Get involved with the school system sex education policy committee.
3. Follow-up with various constituencies and have small group meetings with such groups as teens, ministers, parents, etc. This strategy could include sending letters of invitation to the ministers (and others) from the chairman and scheduling small follow-up meetings.
4. Develop and follow through on strategies to reach the parents. Some strategies may include:

- a. Educating parents about the consequences of teen pregnancy and STDs.
 - b. Work through churches
 - c. Working through DFCS, Goodwill, DOL, and other groups that have parents already engaged and share the information with them at those locations.
5. Make sure the education and marketing focus is on the entire OneAthens package and that it is not just focused on the teen pregnancy issue.
 6. Set up some district meetings to discuss this issue and other OneAthens issues with each community. School board members and commissioners would organize these meetings with their constituents.

August 21, Tuesday 10:00 AM is the next meeting