

**PARENTS
MATTER**



**Coalition
of Pierre
Fort Pierre**

Let's make a difference

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**Parents Matter Coalition of Pierre/Fort Pierre
June 12, 2013 – Minutes of Meeting
5th Floor Conference Room,
Avera/St. Mary's Hospital**

Parents Matter Coalition of Pierre/Fort Pierre met at Noon on June 12, 2013, in the 5th Floor Conference Room at the Avera/St. Mary's Hospital. Members in attendance: Jessica Paxton, (RN – SDUIH – Substance Abuse), Dawn Tassler, (GUT –Fiscal Officer), Teresa Schmidt (Avera St. Mary's), Amy Fowler (DOE – Civic). Colleen Weiss (Volunteer), Andrea Klein (4-H – Youth Representative), Bonnie Nickels (St. County, Community Health), Carmella Bourk(Community Health Nurse- Health Representative), Kat Haarstad (Teen Court), Larry Weiss (Chairman PM), Melinda Olson (PRC – Guest Speaker), Barb Rohrbach (Parent Representative) Denice Moore (Other Volunteer Representative) Elton Blemaster (Law Enforcement Representative) and Ruby L. Douglas, (Project Director).

Introductions were made and Larry moved for a consensus on the May Consent Calendar and Agenda. Colleen Weiss made a motion to approve followed by a second from Barb Rohrbach. Motion carried to approve.

Melinda, guest speaker, was introduced and presented on cultural diversity, "Dealing with Change, Dealing with Differences". Melinda handed out a sheet with information stating that only 10% of "culture" is visible to the eye, but most elements of culture are hidden or difficult to see. In order for the Parents Matter Coalition to do their work, culture must be taken into account in order to select the appropriate programs to address underage drinking and use in a respectful and responsive way. We have to be aware of what matters to people or take note of what they believe in order to make changes. Young people are a part of a group who need to be included as agents of change. We need to find out what their challenges/concerns, feelings or what they think as their part in the process. A suggestion was to meet with the youth and form an advisory council to represent their group. What Parents Matter Coalition is working to do is change the safety and the health of youth in South Dakota. We are charged with preventing something from happening before a decision is made prior to impairment. Impairment problems that affect ones well being/health such as unplanned pregnancy, car crashes/injuries, assault, violence/crime, etc. Our intention is to address the culture of the youth including those groups of individuals who are outside of the "average" such as looking at gender identity/sexual orientation. Youth who are not considered "mainstream" are often the object of bullying, isolation and often experience "ongoing stress" which

affects the quality of life. These “elements” of culture or differences must be acknowledged and included and accepted as part of our community culture.

Melinda was “thanked” for her presentation as it was well received and timely as we move forward in the process of our coalition work.

Agenda item was discussed about the meeting with Jon Heller (Walgreen’s Manager) regarding Homecoming and Halloween activities. The meeting is scheduled for Noon on July 9th at the Country Kitchen. Everyone is invited to attend and asked to bring their ideas to the table for discussion. Jon also requested that perhaps one of his pharmacists/home office individuals could possibly provide a speaker/information regarding Over-the-Counter and Prescription Drugs. Larry volunteered to speak to youth who would perhaps be willing to participate in the meeting/events.

Ruby spoke about the Halloween/Activities at the LaFramboise Island sponsored by the Game Fish and Parks. Ryan Raynor, who organizes the event, will be contacting Parents Matter to confirm the date and register their booth.

Elton provided the arrest report for May and noted that there were no issues during the Graduation season. Elton did note that “ingestion” arrests were high and that 95% of all arrests involved alcohol or drug use.

Larry commented on the Bank West presentations and stated that the employees were given information about Parents Matter Coalition work. The presentations were delivered to the BankWest employees at the home office and four other satellite sites. Denice Moore also provided a separate presentation on, “customer care”. It was very informative and a good reminder to be at our best when we are interacting with others.

Elton reminded the group that Oahe Days will be held at the end of June and that he and other committee members were working to prevent youth from accessing alcohol.

Ruby reminded everyone that there will not be a regular coalition meeting in July. The next Parents Matter Coalition meeting is scheduled for August 14, 2013, Noon in the 5th Floor Conference Room at Avera/St. Mary’s Hospital.

There being no other business, meeting was adjourned at 1:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruby L. Douglas, CPS
Project Director

Parents Matter Coalition Sector Member Representatives: Cheryl & Tito Arguello, Captain Elton Blemaster, Carmella Bourk, Amy Fowler, Dr. Kelly Glodt, Jeanne Kelle, yAndrea Klein, Janice Johnson, Tony Mangan, Diana Melvin, Denice Lee Moore, Barbara Rohrbach and Jeri Thomas