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VDAPC

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Minutes
February 21, 2012

Attending: Paula Plante, Lt. Mel Hardy, Kim McTighe and Alan Slobodien
Guests: John Kopec, David Engelson, Melisa Luginbuhl, Haley Shupa

1. Today's meeting incorporated members of the Vernon Youth Services Bureau Advisory Board as the VDAPC and VYSBAB consider merging. Following introductions, VDAPC members and ERASE guests explained the work of the prevention council, funding sources and focus areas. Discussion regarding substance of choice and prevalence of use in Vernon ensued. This discussion included information on the substance use surveys that have historically been conducted at VCMS and RHS, the validity and reliability of the surveys was clarified and the difficulty with 2008 RHS data due to active consent issue.
2. Kim provided an update on SSNAP (Students Seeking New Achievements Positively) a group focused on healthy decisions. Current membership is approximately 30 RHS students who meet bi-weekly and carry out information/education campaigns that include substance use/abuse and texting while driving issues. The most recent education campaign focused on no texting while driving. 300 RHS students signed a pledge not to text and drive. Kim also reported that the annual Volley Ball Lock In is scheduled for March 16 from 10pm-6am. Chaperones are needed and can take 3 hour shifts or work as much as they like. It is anticipated that 250 RHS students will participate in the lock-in. Last year tickets sold out in 2 days.
3. Alan reported that he received a \$3,000 check from ERASE for the Drug Free Communities grant. Activities funded include: \$2,700 for compliance checks of alcohol sellers and \$300 for parent education. Lt. Hardy described the compliance checks and education of alcohol sellers. The compliance checks are conducted in cooperation with the alcohol sellers and encourage a partnership approach. At this point, Melisa discussed a region-wide media campaign that is being coordinated by ERASE and using Co-Lab Marketing to develop materials, PSAs, handouts and messaging. Alan then shared that the Local Prevention Council Grant in the amount of \$4,245 and STOP grant in the amount of \$3,600 also fund the work of the Drug & Alcohol Prevention Council. The Local Prevention Council Grant funds parent education activities/material purchases and a part-time position at the KIDSAFE drop-in center that serves at-risk VCMS and RHS students. The STOP grant funds activities related to preventing alcohol use and abuse, awareness campaigns and helps fund police overtime costs for the Volley Ball Lock-In..
4. Alan presented the most recent data from the YSB. Currently 149 students are provided on-going services with the Truancy Intervention Program, After School Program, Summer Youth Employment Program and RHS programs coordinated by Kim McTighe.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15pm following item #4 discussion.

Next Meeting: April 17, 2012 2:15pm @ RHS Library