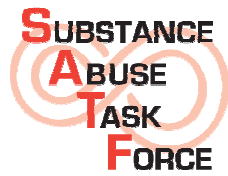


BRANCH COUNTY



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Branch County Substance Abuse Task Force Minutes

Tuesday July 1, 2014

Call to order: 9:03 am

Introductions: Keith Eichler, Joe Scheid, Sue Germann, Harold Sneath, Jim Coleman, Steve Johnson, Rod Olney, Breanne Harmon, Frank Snyder, Rebecca Stoll, Courtney Dirschell

Approval of Minutes: Harold motioned, Jim seconded.

OLD BUSINESS:

Newsletter Articles:

-June Articles - Boating article appeared in the paper during June.

-July Articles: It was discussed that with the 4th of July, maybe a firework safety/alcohol article be written. Joe Scheid reported that fireworks will now be sold at WalMart in Coldwater so it's assumed we will see a lot of fireworks in Branch Co. around the 4th of July. Joe offered to write this article. A smart summer article will also be written in regards to the campaign.

Presentations/Campaigns:

Town Hall Meeting: 38 evaluations were received with very positive results. Community input regarding underage drinking included: continued education and presentations in this manner, increased legal consequences, additional monitoring of children, designated driver program, sentencing parents, to "there's nothing that can be done".

Smart Summer: Based on weeks 1 and 2 so far, our reach via facebook has been more than 20% which is above national average.

Parks Program Summer Prevention: Bree is providing prevention information based on Life Skills curriculum to the children present at the Parks Program on Monday's and Thursday's. So far the children and park's staff have been very receptive.

Meth Container: 5 meth incidents in May: 3 labs and 2 dumpsites. The state has hired two full-time analysts who will track via an interlinked computer program the sales of pseudoephedrine to help track down meth use.

Med Box: 42 lbs. Brief discussion on ways in which the types of medications that were being dropped off could be tracked in order to determine whether opiates and other addictive drugs were getting off the streets and into the med box. Sue will look into this further.

Website Stats: 66 users with 144 views. Courtney shared that our facebook page has 85 fans, 29% being women between the ages of 25-34. The fans represent each area of the county.

NEW BUSINESS:

Underage Nicotine & Alcohol Checks: Retailer Checks will be conducted over the next few months.

2014/2015 Prevention Plan: The executive committee will be meeting soon to discuss next year's prevention plan recommendations.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Kim Hemker - Backpack Buddies lunch at Applebee's - she reported that with the continuing growth and money raised, the program is looking at expanding to other towns in Branch County next year --- possibly Bronson or Quincy.

Kim Hemker - Bridges Out of Poverty - An educational forum on why individuals make the decisions that they do. She stated they have speakers coming in and will be presenting the information in 2 sessions.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 am.