



WAHKIAKUM NETWORKING CAFÉ
MONDAY DECEMBER 1, 2008 6:00 – 8:00 PM
SUMMARY

September's Networking Café began at 6:00 with a working dinner and networking opportunity.

Attending were:

Joy Niemela	Cathlamet Christian Fellowship
Sara Niemela	Home School Education
Susan Schillios	Charlotte House
Lauren Head	Children's Home Society
Karen Fleming	Wahkiakum School District
Lisa Ridout	Public Education
Kari Schillios	Wahkiakum School Board
Carrie Kennedy	WSU Wahkiakum Extension
Colleen Theisen	Washington State Department of Social & Health Services
Chris Holmes	Wahkiakum Human Services
Erin Wilson	Wahkiakum County Drug Crimes Steering Committee
Tammy Peterson	Wahkiakum Community Network
Lia Sealund	Wahkiakum Community Network

FOCUS OF EVENT: INTERVENTION/PREVENTION

Following networking opportunities, presentations were delivered, focusing on the December theme of **Prevention/Intervention**. This includes both formal and informal supports systems for families in Wahkiakum County. Written reports focused on answering the important question, "Are we doing the work *right*?" To answer that question, several pieces of information were necessary; including the following elements:

- ❖ *What are the identified goals of the service's provided, as intended by the legislature?*
- ❖ *What is the current status of the families, children and the community as it relates to the goals of the services provide?*
- ❖ *How is the service provider collaborating with other agencies within the community and state to achieve its goals? What agencies do you collaborate with?*
- ❖ *What options are available, or that you would like to see in place, to address specific barriers to success or to make improvements?*
- ❖ *What are your current successes?*
- ❖ *What are your current or anticipated challenges you would like to present to others for brainstorming?*

PROGRAM REVIEW

Violence Prevention and Victims Assistance

St. James Family Center's Susan Schillios presented data and a report from Charlotte House domestic violence shelter for Wahkiakum County. In the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008 the Charlotte House served 32 adults and 26 children. The average stay for these clients was 22 days.

During their stay, clients were provided a variety of services, including:

- Advocacy Based Counseling
- Child Care

- Crime Victim Compensation Assistance
- Crisis counseling/intervention
- Employment Assistance
- Housing Assistance
- Legal Advocacy
- Medical Advocacy
- Support Groups
- TANF/Welfare advocacy
- Telephone information and referral
- Telephone Crisis “hotline” calls

Additional services offered to the community related to prevention include sexual education in prevention at the school-age level. The Charlotte House worked with high school students to deliver date rape and sexual assault prevention at the 8th grade youth mobilization Cispus project. The youth mobilization project separates 5th and 8th grade youth. It was suggested the material be revised to be age appropriate and delivered to 5th grade students as well. Charlotte House also reaches out to students through bullying prevention and interacts with the high school to deliver educational materials. Extensive discussion time was spent discussing reaching home-schooled students. It was recommended that perhaps Wahkiakum Community Network might begin a youth group for this sector of the hard to reach community.

Wahkiakum Community Network presented a multitude of benchmark measures obtained from Research and Data Analysis, Washington State Department of Social and Health Services county report, Community Outcome and Risk Evaluation GIS, July 2008 report, related to violence in Wahkiakum County to assess whether the work that is being done, is affecting the problem behaviors in the community.

Domestic Violence: Outcome trends suggest there has been a slight increase in 2006’s number of domestic violence-related offenses. However, prior to 2006, the rate of offences in Wahkiakum County has consistently been lower than other counties like us and Washington State. Discussion revolved around 2006, and identifying external issues influencing the increase. It is noted that the three year average does not yield significant increase.

UPCOMING WAHKIAKUM NETWORKING CAFÉ’S

*March: Community and School Services
March 4, 2009*

*June: Brainstorming/Evaluation
June 3, 2009*

Community Mobilization	Brainstorming, evaluation
Childcare	
Early Intervention & Educational Services	
Drug & Alcohol Abuse Prevention & Early Intervention in Schools	