

Community Health Action Team (CHAT)

MEETING SUMMARY



Team: North Port CHAT

Date: Wednesday, February 12, 2014

Time: 4:30 pm

Place: North Port Police Department, 4980 City Hall Blvd, North Port, FL 34286

Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 12, 2014 – North Port's City Hall, 4970 City Hall Blvd, North Port, FL 34286

Attendees: Mirna Mareia, Leah McCallister, Brie Southall, June Brady, Ro Mohamed, Sandra Goluch, Paul Wagner, Cynthia King, Janice Russell, Linda Yates, Vanessa Carusone, Buddy Hall, Ginny Donovan, Tom Davie, Kim Wiles, Deborah Robinson, Tom Jones

Meeting Goal(s)

- Explore issues and concerns related to NAB development process

Summary

Chief Vespia offered questions and concerns of the State Attorney and self:

- How will the NAB be sustained?
- How sustainable is volunteer-staffed NAB?
- Is a NAB really needed (i.e. the real issue may be a lack of reporting and follow-through on the part of Teen Court to DJJ?)
- Chief referenced Statute 985-12 and wanted CHAT to make sure that all points within the statute are covered in moving forward with a NAB
- Chief referenced language of the statute 'originating law enforcement officer's responsibility to follow through with juveniles not fulfilling teen court obligations'... but Chief pointed out that if Teen Court is not providing adequate and complete feedback to begin with, this becomes a broken process/approach
- If there are not enough juveniles being diverted to a NAB in NP, then it will be hard to keep volunteer engaged

Kim Wiles shared with the group that a completely separate statute governs Teen Court, itself.

Whole group revisited the issue of “WHY a NAB for North Port” and shared reasons previously discussed in prior CHAT meetings

Ginny Donovan offered to run the 44 teen crt names to see the number that went through DJJ, in order to further investigate the frequency/quality of communication lines

Kim Wiles reminded the group that diversion for first time offenders is not up to the NAB, but rather the arresting officer and that Civil Citation is part of that process to determine what track to place a juvenile on

Ginny shared that they can change a civil citation to a ‘delinquency’ and vice versa using their present computer program and process. Ginny asked Paul Wagner to track 1st time offenders to see just how they were diverted.

Vanessa Carusone volunteered for the NAB planning process and as did a few others and Vanessa shared that Charlotte County would serve as mentors in the planning process.

Next Steps:

Schedule a “Buy-In” meeting with Public Defendant, State Attorney, Chief Judge, Police Chief, and Charlotte NAB

Announcements

D-Fy Breakfast – March 1st, 2014 – to support the development of a cross-county Cloud membership database