CHIP Community Health Improvement Partnership | NORTH PORT Community Health Action Team

*Community health depends on community voices*

**North Port CHAT Meeting Summary**
**September 12, 2012**

**Present:** Sam George, Dave Powell, Janis Russell, Bob and Sonja Taylor, Tom Jones, Linda Jericka, Monica Becket, Teresa Carafelli, Brenda Reid, Lisa Bareiss-Jayhan, Diane Ramseyer

**Welcome and Introductions** – Chair, Sam George, welcomed everyone and introductions were provided.

**Community Updates**

North Port Coalition on Homeless and Needy Children – a February Gala will be held – watch for more information. The group has received a large anonymous donation which will help them greatly. They spent the summer filling family bags and are now returning to the student bags.

**Committee Updates**

Health Services Committee - The committee will again host several nursing students on several projects. They will continue their work on a behavioral health assessment in North Port and will also provide presentations on Adult Immunizations. Any civic, church or other organization interested in a presentation, please let Diane know.

NP-ASAP/NP D-Fy – NP-ASAP is entering its second year in the Drug-Free Community Mentoring Grant with Drug-Free Charlotte County. Diane and Monica finished week 3 of the 3 week National Coalition Academy in Mississippi. The coalition is growing and has representation from all sectors of our community.

NP D-Fy has signed 1333 North Port Teens as members since May 2010. Imagine Schools have invited the group in to their schools to take memberships and screen. Chapters in Venice and Desoto have started, with others in works for Sarasota and perhaps even in Englewood. The documentary filmed last summer will be premiered on October 17th at 7 pm at the North Port Performing Arts Center. This will be a free event – open to all. Please come and see NP D-Fy showcased in this film. It has been shown elsewhere in the Country, but, this will be the first in our area.

**Old Business** – We need to start looking for a chair to replace Sam when he moves out of the community. Please consider who might be interested.

**Community Announcements**

Teresa Carafelli, a board member from Sarasota Memorial Health Care System, offered the group a note of thanks for all the work the CHAT did to help get the emergency room in North Port. The ER is on pace to have 23,000 visits in 2012. They are continuing to recruit physicians to the area. Orthopedics is coming and Cardio-Pulmonary is in place. They are also working on a Occupational Therapy program and have just started a Lactation program.

Bob Taylor from Knight Owl Kiwanis shared information on a "Shrimp Fest" being held to help support their efforts raise funds for its work on projects for children and youth. This is an "all-u-can-eat" shrimp event. He shared ways all three Kiwanis Clubs help our community youth. The funds raised will support these worthy efforts. The event is November 3rd at the Royal Palm Marina in Englewood. There will be a nautical flea market followed by the "All-U-Can-Eat" dinner. $20/adult for the dinner with Shrimp in all ways.

Lisa Bareiss-Jayhan shared information on the program that provides in-home counseling for children. She is a licensed Clinical Social Worker. Children's Therapy Solutions in Bradenton.

Janis Russell shared information on the programing coming up at the Library. Shine Medical enrollment day for Medicare issues on Thursday, November 8th – all day long. Jack Swanton will be back to do his popular programming on healthy living.

Janis also shared information on voting issues from the League of Women Voters – complete with a synopsis of each issue. With 11 amendments, it is crucial to understand the issues.

Tom Jones encouraged all to support the NP D-Fy Movie premiere on the 17th. He also suggested it is time for the group to review its strategies and community needs to identify the next steps for the CHAT.

## Next CHAT MEETING

**October 10th - 4:30 pm - Next CHAT– North Port Police Department**
**October 8th – 8:45 am – NP-ASAP – Peace Christian Church 3010 S. Sumter Blvd.**

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**October 17th – 7 pm – "Silent Majority" Film premiere (featuring NP D-Fy) North Port Performing Arts Center. Free – come walk the Red Carpet with NP D-Fy!**

Our Mission: Through the efforts and activities of the North Port CHAT, we will achieve a safe, healthy community where individuals and agencies collaborate to assure the physical, social, and emotional well-being of all residents. We will accomplish this through advocacy for an integrated health and behavioral health care system, evoking community action and collaboration to reduce substance abuse among our youth and adults, promoting the value of "connectivity" in all aspects of the development and growth of our community, and most importantly, providing an effective way for the voice of the community to be heard and active in North Port.