



**Healthy Communities Coalition Minutes
June 10, 2010
Silver Springs Community Center, Silver Springs, NV**

In Attendance: See attached sign in sheet

I. Introductions and Announcements

Stacey Rice, Nevada Hopes: the organization is again bringing the mobile HIV testing and information to the rural areas and has been at the task force health fairs. NV Hopes also can assist with housing, HIV programs, education and services

Quest Lakes, Healthy Communities Coalition Task Force Coordinator (HCC): Dayton Task Force held a successful health fair during Oodles of Noodles festival on May 15, and Mound House Task Force will hosted one on May 22 at Vondale Rose Park. Yerington Case for Change will host one at the Boys and Girls Club on Aug. 7. Yerington Task Force is also hosting a free suicide prevention training for the public with Office of Suicide Prevention at the Yerington public library on June 22 at 6pm. Silver City Task Force will host a Fun With Science class for preschool teachers and parents on June 17, and free art classes for children beginning in July.

Shaun Griffin, Community Chest (CCI): Tues, June 15 at 5pm is groundbreaking for new Storey Community Center. On June 19, there will also be a BBQ at Miner's Park in Virginia City to thank donors and volunteers (free music, BBQ 4-6pm)

Cassandra Darrough and Misty Allen, Office of Suicide Prevention (see updates under III. Overview of Suicide Prevention for region)

Stacy Dylan: new youth coordinator for Office of Suicide Prevention.

Darren Anderson, Silver Springs Mental Health: No updates at this time

Michele Watkins, Central Lyon Youth Connection: will do fundraising this summer for CLYC. It has been a rollercoaster of funding cuts this year.

Allen Veil, Lyon County Sheriff: Dept. lost 6 positions due to cuts. The Department can bring Gang Unit to Healthy Communities and other groups for presentations. Recent

trends show meth use among youth is down, while prescription drug use and heroin use is rising. Reducing demand here through prevention and interdiction will reduce the power of Central and South American drug cartels that supply some of these drugs (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) program reports)

Freida Carbery, HCC Volunteers Coordinator, Nevada Prevention Fellow: The Food Pantry is run by volunteer staff and is at a new temporary location at 4 Enterprise Way donated by BCB Ventures. The pantry served over 230 families last month, with over 50 new participants. The food pantry usually has fresh produce and other special items available as well, such as artichokes, potatoes and eggs, and is open Mon-Fri from 10am-5pm.

Mitzie Going, XL Hospice: There will be a fundraiser in Fernley called the 4th Annual Rick Maggi Golf Tournament for Friends of XL Hospice on July 17. They are also seeking auction items. There are grief recovery support groups in Fallon.

Angela Gross, Public Emergency Preparedness: working with Jeff Page and Dr. Robin Titus on emergency preparedness in Lyon region.

Darren McKay, Community Chest: Comstock Gardeners and Growers will open their Farmer's Market in Virginia City. Youth experiences this summer have included trail building, a ropes course near the Tahoe Rim Trail, work with Habitat for Humanity, and food banks. Algerian youths are visiting the region again this summer.

Donna McDonald, Walker River Community Coalition: Planning a July Community Healing Day with Cassandra Darrough of Office of Suicide Prevention. The Coalition has collaborated to change signage for Weber Reservoir designating alcohol free camping areas, and day-use alcohol free areas. There is now a park ranger patrolling the area 3 days a week.

Tzeitel Volberding, Stand Tall leader and Silver Stage High School: SS Stand Tall helped host Natalie Holloway's mother, Beth Holloway, in a school-wide assembly on alcohol abuse prevention and participated in Task Force annual Wellness Fair with substance abuse prevention educational activities.

Peggy Edwards, Project Success of Central Lyon Youth Connections at Silver Stage High: this has been a very difficult and challenging year for students due to economic stress. 8 or 9 became homeless. Youth meth use seems lower, but older adults in the area seem to still be using meth. Lyon County Human Services were crucial in helping them to get housing and education. Dayton Food Bank was also very helpful in providing summer food for students in need. There has been an increase in students going on to technical and career training.

Donna Ray, Silver Stage Health Nurse and SS Task Force: issues with students include health issues, pregnancy issues, and wellness promotion (fitness, nutrition).

Mary Boettcher, CLYC and HCC and EUDL: Working with Storey County to begin a task force there because focus on alcohol use prevention has broadened to suicide prevention, youth activities, etc. The Party House will be used as a demonstration for parent education about youth substance use at a national EUDL (Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws) conference in Anaheim this year. SSYO will hold a family fun day called Festival Of the Springs in conjunction with the 75th Anniversary of the Lahontan State Park on Aug. 14 from 9am to nightfall. It will include contests, demonstrations, presentations, cowboy poetry, and a volleyball contest between the Lyon Sheriff and Fire Departments. SSYO may acquire the old women's prison and renovate it to create their vision of a youth community center for the Silver Springs/ Stagecoach areas. If they acquire it, they will look for partners to collaborate on use of the building. They have nearly \$200,000 secured by Senator Harry Reid to begin the process.

Mary Henson, State of Nevada health nurse serving Fernley, Yerington, Fallon, etc.

Bridget Thompson, Healthy Communities staff: The Coalition has been awarded a federal stimulus grant called the Community Foods Projects Grant that will help fund community projects for the next 3 years. Dayton's Community Roots will host farmers' markets on Thursdays evenings this summer. Healthy Communities is hosting Dayton Valley Days this year and received a Room Tax grant to help with advertising. HCC hopes to raise funds for youth programs through the event. Boys and Girls Club in Dayton is up and running with nearly 125 enrolled already, and a need for 2 more staff. Old grants are being closed out now, and new ones will begin on July 1. Please watch your email for updates as we make the change to the new fiscal year.

Sara Brower, LC Human Services: Senior Centers are giving coupons that can be used at farmers' markets. Senior Services are restructuring to include disabled persons birth to 59 years as well. Central Lyon Fire Management program is helping reduce fuels in Silver City and Mound House through free clean up and disposal.

- I. **Special Presentation by Omar Mewborn of Army OneSource:**
 - A. The Behavioral Health Initiative educates communities and families about veterans, active duty and their families. Most needs for those returning are in the mental health area. 1.5 million have been deployed so far. Mewborn's job is to make sure Soldiers and their families are connected to the community and services when they return because many are unaware of the resources that available to them. Coalition members are invited to take the free, online courses, and can contact Mewborn with questions (775- 223-9768)
 - B. Community Covenant Signing Ceremony: Communities can pledge community support for Stateside (including National Guard on nonactive duty) and deployed Soldiers, veterans and their families in this ceremony. Typically key community leaders and officials sign the Covenant with the intention of developing long term, tangible connections. Shaun Griffin,

director of Community Chest Inc. (CCI) noted that he will ask Nevada Family Resource Centers and Coalitions to also pledge support. The Coalition as a whole voted to move ahead with this idea and will choose a date for a formal ceremony.

- II. Special Presentation by Julia Spalding of Nevada State Health Division:** statistics on all reportable diseases can be found on their website. Information is also available on communicable diseases such as STI's, TB, Hepatitis, and food born illnesses through traceback and analysis. If you have particular data needs, you can call Julia. Lyon County reports a very high rate of sexually transmitted diseases (STI's). The updated Healthy People Factors presentation could give an in depth snapshot of rural health and will also include info on tobacco use, etc. Accurate data is important because it is used to make decisions about funding for outbreak control, determining interventions, advocacy, and education. With regards to data collection, Bridget Thompson of HCC noted that the Coalition is updating its website and will post links to regional resources. She asked Coalition members to make sure their agency information is updated on Nevada's 211 referral site. Army OneSource, Lyon County Human Services, Partnership Carson City, Partnership Community Resources, etc. all have resource data bases as well.
- III. Overview of Suicide Prevention Progress in Lyon Area by Cassandra Darrough of Office of Suicide Prevention:** Yerington Task Force is hosting an Office of Suicide Prevention training on June 22, and there are still openings. On May 1, Healthy Communities and Fernley PTA hosted an 8 hour training of the trainers in which 16 people, including police officers and school staff, were trained by Misty Allen and Linda Flatt and are now trained to do introductions to suicide prevention. Darrough congratulated participants for giving up a Saturday for the in-depth training. Lyon Schools are expected to host a 2 day training for nurses and counselors and other staff in August this year (ASIST Training). In good news, Nevada's suicide rate for youth dropped this year. Tribal Resource Responders added suicide prevention to their community plans this year. A new text messaging suicide prevention project has been piloted in Pyramid Lake this spring. The calls go to the Crisis Call Center where trained professionals respond to the text messages. The issues being brought up by students through texting included suicide, pregnancy and sexuality. The Office hopes to branch out and pilot it in other high schools this year. Smith Valley and Silver Stage Schools have expressed an interest in piloting the text messaging program

Next Meeting: There will be no July meeting due to a summer break for Coalition meetings. **The next Coalition will meet as usual on Thursday, August 12, at 9am at Silver Springs Community Center** (meetings are always 2nd Thursday of each month at 9am). Note, the Sept. 2010 meeting will be a special session held in Yerington. See www.healthycomm.org for more information.

