SHAC Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2015

Attendance: Patricia Aranibar, Jean Begala, Julie Blankenship, Cecil Fueston, PJ Holland-Rasor, Lauren Hickman, Elyse Jensen, Karin Klemm, Madison Jackson, Wendy Hanna, Chris Schell, James Shoemake, Danielle Stewart, Denise Gawaran, Cynthia Morton, Carrie Dewey

Meeting opened by Julie Blankenship at 6:40pm

Minutes from May 14, 2015 meeting reviewed, motion made by Chris Schell Second by James Shoemake and approved.

Madison Jackson (Primary Prevention Coordinator for Turning Point Rape Crisis Center) and Cynthia Morton (principal at DAEP) The Turning Point Rape Crisis Center is the only rape crisis center and education center in Colin Co. for last 30 years.

FREE services to rape victims and their families.

FREE education for the Community and the schools, middle and HS.

Madison Jackson presented The Epic Project : Be Educated Pro-Active Influential Changed

Holistic approach. Creating prevention skills which could carry into the community.

Funded by the CDC The CDC wants a more focused model.

Have a more focused 9 session lessons with 15 students at a time.

The outcomes have grown by doing more of a focused model.

Risk factors decreasing and the protective factors are growing.

Prevention groups 9+ sessions to address risk factors.

Epic Ambassadors – leadership roles (HS students) to empower students/community.

The Epic Project – splits the various topics by age group.

Professional Trainings – Sexual Harassment and school district compliance with sexual harassment policy.

Ms. Morton discussed that DAEP wants to offer the 9 session curriculum so that the time a child is in DAEP, they will have access to the 2 day EPIC program, creating an overall atmosphere of the right way to act - Cultural Change.

Chris Schell asked if there is a program for youth opening up to being Homosexual, Madison stated yes. There is a more specific group that is offered thru the Gay/Lesbian program in Dallas.

All staff are Allied trained.

Cecil asked if a victim is identified in a training how is that handled. Madison stated that it goes to CPS and then Ms. Dewey and Ms. Morton.

Ms. Morton stated she wants all students to feel safe.

Ms. Morton verbalized how wonderful the training was for their staff.

Including House Bill 121

These programs are very important as kids as young as 6-8 graders are growing up much faster than the past. This type of information is very much needed even at this age.

Ms. Dewey states that Madison talked about how music and social media use teens to sway their perspective.

Madison states they use television and social media to find who is in the news, who is being victimized.

MISD has great policies already in place to protect gender based harassment as well as others so that MISD is compliant with the Texas laws.

Ms. Morton is very interested in doing the pre and post testing to see how these programs are working in their school.

Amy Marland asked how the parents respond to this program.

Madison stated there are parent letters to discuss the specific details and they get parental consent. There are other programs that work with Mom and Daughter groups, girl scouts, etc. These teach how to have the skills to prevent the crisis/violence from happening in the first place.

Cecil stated that these programs really need to be presented to the children. The parents are important, but the real lesson is with the students. Madison added that teaching the parent how to talk to the child is very important. How to ask the questions and give them the vocabulary to talk with their children will help more parents be comfortable with talking about these topics with their children.

PJ asked if the prevention group is separated by gender, Madison said yes.

The Ambassadors are taught leadership skills to get the message out to the school. It also can be separated boy/girl. The length of the EPIC presentation is a 2 day presentation.

Ms. Morton stated that kids spreading the word of mouth about the programs causes kids to want to hear it, and be a part of the lessons/groups.

DAEP wants to keep small group to 8.

Start with the 6th grade girls and 8 th grade boys.

Ms. Morton stated this will be a very powerful and impactful program for these students, especially at the middle school level. There is a lack of communication between boys and girls and this will help bridge that gap.

Julie asked if the committee wanted to put forth a motion to have this program at DAEP.

Amy Marland made a motion to approve the program and Cecil second the motion. The information will go before the Board for approval.

Meeting closed at 7:36pm