

National Network for Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities
Mayflower Hotel – Washington DC
June 7, 1998

Meeting called to order by Cathleen Olson at 8:45 a.m.

Members present include:

Milt McKenna, Maryland

Liz Jones, Georgia

Linda Johnson,

Mona Durham

Judy Airhart, Ohio

Linda Trahey, Maine

Promise Lee, Colorado

Otistene Smith, Arkansas

Gerrit DenHartog, Missouri

Lew Whitney, Oregon

Edith Vincent, Delaware

Ron Linden, New York

Mary Vanderwall, Colorado

Janelle Krueger, Colorado

Christina Reagle, Alaska

Ross Rogers, Arizona

Chris Gilmer, Mississippi

Roger Richards, Maine

Roger Svendsen, Minnesota

Spencer Sartorius, Montana

Gus Dallas, California

Carolyn Ward, Kansas

Beth Shober, Alaska

Arlene Cundiff, Virginia

Kay Beth Stavley, Texas

Leticia Pena Martinez, Texas

Mary Weaver, California

Eva Kubinski, Wisconsin

Harvey Lee, Hawaii

Audrey Peraly, Colorado

Joyce Thomas, Virgin Islands

S. Pauline Anay, New Mexico

Arlene Sheffield, New York

Pat Aaby, Washington

Barbara Stewart, Kentucky

Mike Lowther, Oklahoma

Denise Fitch, Washington

Susie Roberts, Washington

Tia Pennell, Washington

Housekeeping – restrooms and coffee, etc.

Important time for us – reauthorization of SDFSC act. Cathy talked about the many handouts she had available that did not arrive. They will be here on Monday. Handouts contain:

Minutes, Revised by-laws, SDFSC Reports (SEA, Gov. portion information that provides a program description by state.) June 25, 1998 is the cut-off date to get that information to Cathy. Report will be to all congressmen. Similar to the report that was compiled by the former National Steering Committee. Is a descriptive account of programs by state.

Cathy needs state to step forward to provide the printing and mailing of the final report. Lew Whitney indicated he/center would be willing to help. Cathy explained that this is a voluntary organization, and exists on a minimal budget. The tentative date for printing and mailing is mid July.

Cathy also shared information related to the latest roster of state representatives.

Cathy shared that we now have a lists Serve. This was volunteered by Ralph Baker of Wested. The address is natnetsdfsc@wested.org

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Introductions of all coordinators and DE representatives.

Cathy talked about the committee that is to meet regarding the National Recognition Program. 2 days have been added to the conference week regarding the recognition program. Reviewers will be given 2 days notice to visit those programs who have been notified. Otistine shared that coordinators would appreciate more than 2 weeks lead-time to get the information out to coordinators. Cathy said this was a priority for Bill M. to have this program available this year. There were also some of the SEAs that did not receive the information until after the due date. There is concern that there may have been time enough to get anything turned in. Some school administrators were angry because of the short turnaround time. Some schools may be out for the summer, when the reviewers come out to visit the program. Overwhelming concern about the short timeline. If the program is to be taken seriously, then there needs to be a longer turnaround for applications and closer into the beginning of the year. Question regarding why the communities were not involved in the recognition programs. Cathy will take these recommendations and concerns back to the committee and Bill.

Susie Roberts, Wash. State shared her concern that when the Feds came out to do a comprehensive review, that the gov's people were not involved.

Meeting dates and times.

NPN Conference - Aug 30-Sept 2

Regional IASA Conferences: Chairs for those meetings

Portland, Or. Oct. 19-21, Denise Fitch and Lew Whitney
Denver, CO - Nov. 18-20, Mary VanderWall and Cathy Olson
Nashville – Dec. 15-17, Otistine Smith, and Mary Jane Kerwood

There is some concern regarding weekend meetings. Some folks find it a problem because it is their own personal time. It was also shared that plane tickets are cheaper if you stay over on a Saturday. Cathy also shared that there is a meeting in January that is a mandatory meeting according to the by-laws. Susie shared that it isn't often that she gets to come to DC and it is the only day that she can get out to see things. Janelle shared that she is the leader of her youth group at her church, and she is concerned about the modeling. Economics is also an issue, it was suggested that perhaps it be looked at about contracting with a single carrier to get a better rate.

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Otistine shared that there was a difference between the regular rate and the conference rate and the hotel was going to charge the two different rates.

Denise shared that the government rate was cheaper than the conference rate at the hotel. She recommended that Cathy ask about the gov. rate prior to booking the meeting so that she has a little bargaining power.

Question was raised about the Jan meeting. We have to be careful not to conflict with the Superbowl and holidays. Last year the executive team met on the 31 of January in order to make sure we were in compliance with the bylaws. The membership meeting was Feb. 1-2. This is the meeting that is always held in DC.

Mike Lowther shared information on the NPN conference. He will find a room for the meeting for the National Network. Mary VanderWall will host the meeting at the NPN conference with Mike. The meeting will take place on Sunday, Aug. 30, 1998, from 1-4 pm.

It was shared that the Nashville meeting is prior to the release of school for Christmas vacations. There are several programs that parents attend at the school for their own children. He recommended that it be moved up one week. The department of ed. Should not be having a conference the week of Dec. 15-17, they should value the responsibilities of parents with regard to their own children's education and holiday programs. Otistine shared that there was a time that they used to be aware of this issue and did not schedule conferences at times that were not convenient for parents/coordinators. Lew shared that it was not done purposefully, but there was a conflict in Nashville with other times. It was also shared that people can go to other conferences. Sentiment of the group that the east coast is always the group that has a conflict with these dates. Mike L. shared that perhaps moving the conference up one week would be an option.

SDFSC grants program notice came out. It is a pre-notice and is available for comment. Contains the criteria and they are looking for comments on the proposals. They recommend that you start preparing your proposal now, which indicates that it will be a

short turnaround. Priorities are data collection and model programs. Higher ed will be out shortly.

Principles of Effectiveness is out from the Dept of ed. They are available on line. Research based programs – districts need help determining and selecting programs. This information is available in the non-regulatory guidelines for the principles. The website is: <http://ocvo.ed.gov/gophroot/4fedreg//grantann/060198c.txt>

Lew shared the information about the conference. There are 7 breakout sessions that will be available. Packets will be available and have information and space for notes. On Wed. sea and gov reps will be meeting with Bill and the Atty regarding the principles. There will be a determination of what is needed as far as TA for the states. States will then meet to determine the next steps for implementation, especially since there is the expectation of a July 1, 1998 implementation. Cathy shared that this is the first conference that truly focuses on TA for the Principles of E. Lew shared that there were over 400 applications to present at the conference and that there was no way that all could present. He thanked those who applied and were not selected. He would like feedback from us regarding the effectiveness of the program.

There have been some states that have been providing TA regarding the principles prior to their distribution. There is some concern that that there is information in the principles that may be different than what other states have been doing. There was also a large concern regarding the date of distribution and receipt of the document. Paul shared that most states have already submitted their comprehensive application. The information, in order for the state application to be accepted, already reflects the principles.

Cathy shared that she feels that Bill supports the Network.. She feels that his support is being reflected in the conference and that some of the decisions are based upon network input. It was expressed that Bill refers to the act as just the Safe and Drug-Free Schools program and does not talk about the community portion of the program. It was shared that some had talked to him about this issue and he said it was not intentional. Susie recommended that the network send a letter to Bill that expresses concern about the lack of recognition of the community portion of the SDFSC act.

There is another study : The National Study of Delinquency Prevention in School. Partnered with Westat. Going to LEA's, SEA's have not seen it. Cathy thought it was interesting because it mirrors a bit of the monitoring reports. California was part of the committee to develop this research study – to look at characteristics of schools that are supposedly safe and drug-free. 2 different studies that are going on, surveys are going to principals that looks at what is working and what is not. It is directly related to SDFSC funding and how they use the money. Kaybeth had a lot of contact with her LEAs regarding these surveys, because they were much like the questions in the monitoring reports. Also concern was raised that the SEAs did not know this information was being collected.

School Reform Models Catalog– NWREL – update will be on the web within the next 2 weeks. Looks at the spirit of the Obey-Porter funds. These are school improvement models, not focused on SDFSC program. NWREL has developed a matrix that is a cross-program analysis. The Enabling Component fits with the SDFSC program..

NWREL
101 SW Main
Portland, OR

Evaluation models: Pennsylvania – Sample - Not enough copies, list being sent around.

CSAP released a guide regarding what is scientifically defensible. Goes in to some detail about how they define scientifically defensible models.

CSAP Draft Report

Science-based Practices in Substance Abuse Prevention: A Guide (working draft) can be obtained by calling (301) 654-6740.

There will also be available documents from California regarding principles and some samples of the binder will be available at the conference.

Centers for the Application of Prevention Technologies: Roger Svendsen, Mike Lowther, Chris Gilmer.

Chris, Roger and Mike presented on these centers and the information and programs they have going. Chris is president of the CAPT program. Single state agencies that receive the SAMSHA funds is their primary points of contact. State incentive Grant Programs, Barb will be able to better answer those questions regarding those grants. Chris is the chair of the system, Mike is the vice-chair.

Mike spoke about the state incentive grants and the fact that there will be new grants awarded soon. Mission from CSAP is to bring research to practice. The center's job is to define that research. Try to sort out what is meaningful for state and local practitioners. Technology transfer practice. They talk with the states and identify what their needs are and what is it they need to know. They then look at the technologies about what the system and the program needs, market and provide TA around those needs. Use locally based experts to provide TA, building a system to put research into practice. Also going to utilize technology to share information.

Roger shared that one of the purposes is to repackage different kinds of research based programs and get that information out to people . They have identified the faith community as a group to help take something that has been found to be effective, repackage it so that it is meaningful for the specific group that may be interest in that application or program. They have a technology assistance group that is available to schools and communities what and how to use technology effectively. Working with other groups to meld some of the prevention activities.

They put together a tobacco policies best practices review, and looked at the differences among policies and practices. Recognized that with the tobacco intervention, it is an opportunity to review SAP interventions and practices relative to tobacco discipline.

Chris talked about the diversity of the CAPTs. He feels that CSAP developed these centers with that diversity in mind. They are developing a National Network and meet on a regular basis. They are looking at ways that the USDE and the Centers can work together.

Gus asked about the criteria developed that they use to determine effective and research based. Barb talked about the information in the document about Prevention mentioned previously, that it is a working document and she doesn't know what it will look like in final form. The websites for all of the centers are linked directly to each other. Lew stated that it would be a good idea to link with the comprehensive centers and their websites. www.miph.org/capt. Chris talked about the "prevention cookbook" that is currently under development. Question about when we ask CSAP directly for assistance and when do we ask the centers. They would like to do as much as they can with the little that they have. They will refer a person on if there is a request that they cannot handle.

Susie asked if there was a way that the gov portion could be involved with the centers. Coming down the pike is the Secretary's initiative on prevention conferences. They want to bring in local entities in the planning process. A broad planning base is certainly something they would support. The governors are meaningfully involved in the incentive grant applications. The governor must make the application and decide how the organization will be structured. Strong role of Alcohol and drug agency to take a strong leadership role in this process. The next 16-18 awards will be made in July.

Cathy had a comment regarding the small amount of money for the SDFSC funds. Chris said they would like to attach it to other funding. There are schools that need help regarding the TA with schools regarding curriculum salespersons and what questions to ask.

Cultural relevance is an issue that the centers have been very aware of, looking at staffing and responsiveness of cultural norms. Minnesota has 4 cultural resource centers, and they are partners with that center when services are provided.

Coordination and collaboration between the comprehensive centers and the CAPT centers. The primary clients for the centers are not school based – but are seas and community organizations. The missions of the two centers are similar, but serve different clientele. They are working hard to be part of a collaborative process with the comprehensive centers.

The CAPT centers have an advisory committee that includes schools and gov representatives of the SDFSC programs. Concern was raised over definition of "research based". It seems that all of the agencies have different definitions. Mike shared that there is a committee at the federal level to deal with that issue, so there is a common

definition. They are working with the faith communities to be part of the local comprehensive prevention program. Using the faith communities in their preaching and teaching to talk about prevention. Parenting programs will be another targeted area. They are in the adoption phase of that program.

Cathy asked about the tobacco document the center has produced. The book hasn't been written about cessation yet, but they are having a success rate of 25-28 percent. Some kids take 5-6 efforts before they actually quit. Looking at policies that would refer disciplinary sanction to one similar to drug use, as an intervention of education and cessation. Lew asked about the issue of chewing tobacco. Roger stated that it is included as part of tobacco prevention. Harvey Queen talked about the struggle that schools and communities face, the one shot activities that occur and the conflict of programs and communities generating much of their funding through tobacco and alcohol sales. Schools cannot make an impact on their own, it needs the help of the entire community. They are looking for information on event-driven programs and how they are related to effectiveness. Harvey cautioned that schools mission is to focus on the academic achievement of students, and that the schools get a lot added to their plate that may belong in the community.

Denise asked about information related to tobacco in the centers. They stated that they will include it as part of "other drugs".

Question about best practices and the packaging of programs. They would customize that information to meet the needs of the community or state client. Question about translation was asked. Mike said they would do their best to make that happen, and many of their publications are currently in Spanish. Harvey said that there are 9 languages in his region that could use that information.

Cathy talked about the New Coordinators Packet, and that there has been a lack of time and this has not yet been developed. Mike said the Comp Centers and the CAPT centers should collaborate on this project. This is a priority with the National Network membership.

Harvey asked about the possibility of developing link sites so that we could have national network meetings and link up sites throughout the nation using technology.

Look at the development of rubrics if a manual is developed.

Susie asked if the two centers could decide which of the two will serve the gov's portion. The education centers do not to an adequate job due to the fact that community programs are not represented in the law.

Mike talked about the science-based criteria that allows someone to manipulate the information in an effective manner that is scientifically based.

He shared that when progress is made that we all need to congratulate ourselves for making even a small stride. We need to be honest with our public officials, about prevention and that it truly is not a war.

Colorado commented about strategies vs programs. Non-regs talk about promising practices as well as research based programs. Help is needed about specific strategies that may not be tied to a specific strategy. Need to compare and contrast research – to provide clarity about this issue.

Programs – variables – behaviors

Needs must be addressed. Program may not be based on a solid needs assessment.

Denise shared that information about the research and clarity about which specific populations and community size the programs will work best with. Mike shared that he has not yet seen anything like that. If the program doesn't fit the population, it may not be successful.

Susie shared information about reauthorization and developing language that provides a structure in the SDFSC program. This structure is based upon the risk/protective/asset model and provides clarity regarding data collection.

Reconvened at 1:30 pm

Meeting began with Denise Fitch, Susan Roberts, and Pat Aaby presenting materials for reauthorization. Susan Roberts gave background information. Pat gave additional information pertinent to the work done so far. Denise led the group through the reauthorization language—Section 4112, section by section. Questions and discussion followed: I.e.

Set-aside projects, flexible with funding (30 % --baseline allocation) limit number of contractors through competition (best programs—also based on need), some states can't limit—must fund all school districts.

LEAs—gives them sufficient money. LEAs should be given the option or be able to determine how the 30 percent of funds should be expended. Suggestion that there be some rules on how the 30 percent should be allocated so the funds cannot be manipulated because of “new” people, etc. Also discussed the 5 - 10 percent...waivers....take out consortiums.....use other words instead that would still allow 2 or more schools to join together. 30 percent could be a problem for some states-.student population—highest needs. {Suggestion that poverty rate should stay in.)

2(ii) - no action taken.

More work needs to be done -group is open for suggestions.

Governor's portion – Susan Roberts

Take out LEEP. Rationale because local communities can fund it if they desire.

Comment: Making major revisions can be dangerous, policy makers who don't like the SDFSC Act, can make other cuts, reduce funding, etc. Law Enforcement agencies have said that it's soft money and don't like it.

Suggestion: leave in d, but put period behind activities. And delete 1, 2,

Feels it would be a mistake to take out LEEP, in some states LEEP is a great program.

Use the word permissive

Suggestion: Subsection 13 – move to 2, but don't make it mandatory, instead use permissive or may....

Infrastructure

Add probation officers, or rather criminal justice....move to 2.

Public Health Model....some states would be adverse (California) to it because of treatment emphasis. Use Principles of Effectiveness instead. Use this phrase throughout if it fits.

Local Applications:

Reference to risk and protective factors...re-examine these terms, look for broader approach. Use the word assets. Comprehensive Needs Assessment – should rather read Principles of Effectiveness – don't box in folks. Delete 2 and 7.

Page 12, section 2a....substitute Principles of Effectiveness for Public Health Model.

An analysis of the entire document should be done.

Page 13: No. 1. after illegal drugs, add violence. Strike remaining part of sentence.

3. add period after violence. strike out underlined words.

Figure out what is acceptable to Congress regarding risk and protective factors, assets, principle of effectiveness, etc.

Outcome data is key.

Name Factors related to use. Can use whatever model of evaluation is in place.

Help media to focus on other than use, i.e., attitude, intent.

Number 9 on page 14—take out risk factors, include other language.

Page 15 – want documents--information in a timely manner.

Use quantify presence.

Page 21

Under materials:

Illegal and wrong taken out...substituted unlawful and illegal.

Greg from Senator Patty Murray's office sat in on the afternoon meeting. He is very interested in hearing what states have to say.

A conference call will be set up for those who wish to continue looking at the legislation.

A cross-walk with the Principles of Effectiveness should take place.

Network materials can be picked up in the exhibit room on Monday.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.