



Enforcement Team Meeting Notes

Wednesday, April 22, 2009 – 1:15-2:45 p.m.

Present: Dan Collins (Faribault Police Department), Kathy Cooper (Rice County Safe Communities Coalition), Becky Ford (Faribault Drug-Free Communities grant), Scott Hanson (Bethlehem Academy), Dave Osborne (Morristown Police Department), Mary Nelson (Northfield Healthy Community Initiative), Pat Parlin (Northfield ALC), Neal Pederson (Faribault Police Department), Scott Robinson (Rice County Drug Task Force), Kathy Sandberg (Rice County Family Services Collaborative), Martha Schultz (Faribault High School), Jim Severson (Discovery Public School), Bob Sletten (Rice County Sheriff's Office), Simon Tyler (Northfield ARTech),

Agency Updates:

Law Enforcement –

Sheriff's Department - Bob reported that there was a ZAP training on April 8th where a handful of officers received training in ZAP protocol. One officer from Lonsdale was in attendance, one from the Northfield Police Department, and 4 from the Faribault PD. Bob continues to collect data for the ongoing ZAP effort.

Northfield Police – No one present to report.

Morristown Police – Dave reported that a underage drinking party was broken up earlier in the month and 10 underage drinking citations were issued. Two individuals were under age 18. When officers went to the door, one person jumped out of a second floor window. This illustrates the point that when under the influence of alcohol young people are not thinking clearly. The owners of the home were very concerned and unaware that their adult son who is living in the home was hosting such events. Dave conversed with the father about liabilities, etc.

Faribault Police – Dan reported that there was a ZAP call out in Faribault, also earlier in April. The police officers were forced to obtain a search warrant before gaining entry to the home where an estimated 50 youths were drinking. The department also called in additional officers to secure the situation. By the time police entered the home, only 22 were cited for underage consumption. No adult provider was discovered, but over 100 cans of beer were seized. Twenty- one individuals were over age 18. One youth was cited for curfew violation. The homeowners were not home at the time and were unaware of the activity because they were out of the country. They were notified and will not be held responsible.

Community Corrections – No one present to report.

County Attorney's Office – No one present to report.

Schools:

Bethlehem Academy - Scott reported that on March 30 BA held a meeting for parents on the topic of substance abuse, prevention, drug dogs, etc. Fifty parents were in attendance! He has since received a lot of positive feedback. On April 17, students in grades 7th – 12th attended three separate presentations by Dr. Reznikoff, Shelly Cole and Scott Robinson, and the Faribault High School SPOTS troupe. The student feedback was very positive as well. The students who heard Scott speak, specifically said his presentation was genuine, real, but gave a good picture of the law side of this issue. On April 21, BA was in lock-down while the drug dogs searched the premises for illegal substances. Nothing was found and all procedures went as planned. Scott thanked everyone for all the support he and his school was given to make this series of events a success!

Scott briefly mentioned that using the drug dogs took two years to be approved by the BA school board, but because of the educational pieces that they worked in, the board was very supportive. Someone else mentioned that the Faribault Public Schools discussed using drug dogs for 6 years before approving it. Bob reported that he has received requests from Waseca and Owatonna schools for the drug dogs and senses that using drug dogs in schools is becoming more common and standard procedure.

Discovery School - Jim reported that there is a lot of talk about parties at his school. He praised the efforts of Double Impact for the activities they arranged last week. In addition to a MADD crashed car placed outside of the school, the students listened to a highway patrol talk about the effects of underage drinking and driving. Jim stated that his students were moved by the powerful stories they heard and read. The crashed car and corresponding story of the woman killed also drew attention from the surrounding neighborhood.

ARTech – Simon reported that Dr. Charlie Reznikoff presented to his staff last week on drug abuse. He and his faculty found it very helpful and worthwhile. He is currently looking for ways to share the information with parents and students. He also praised the efforts happening because of the Rural Flex grant. Simon also mentioned that rumors had been going around ARTech that students at the Northfield Middle School were bringing alcohol to school in pop cans.

Northfield ALC – Pat reported that the rumors Simon mentioned were true. There was a group of about 10 kids bringing alcohol into the school, but that school officials are aware and are taking steps to work with those students. Sarah Shippy from Omada Behavioral Health Services has been providing some CD counseling to the group. Pat also reported that Northfield High School had its prom last weekend and that it seemed to go well. No incidents were reported. The students also spoke highly of the after-prom party at the bowling alley. Northfield High School will also be holding its mock crash on May 13 @ 1:00 p.m. Both ARTech and NALC are interested in attending.

Faribault High School – Last week FHS, along with Double Impact, coordinated the “Every 15 Minutes” program. The program involves students being pulled from classes by a grim reaper every 15 minutes to symbolize the statistic of people who are killed in alcohol related crashes. Law enforcement then read the students’ obituary that has been prepared ahead of time to the class. Primetime classes then viewed a video and teachers led classroom discussion on the topics of underage drinking and driving under the influence. Next week the students will receive key chains with the phrase “Every 15 Minutes” to reinforce the message. B.A. will participate in this activity next week and

will also have a crashed car outside of their school provided by MADD. The Rice County Safe Communities Coalition has also been involved in coordinating the Double Impact activities at various schools in Faribault, as well as the mock crash in Northfield.

Drug Task Force

Scott credited BA with being a head of the game for prevention. He was very impressed with the parent turnout and how engaged the students were during his presentation. He enjoyed working with Shelly Cole from Family Focus and commented that we need to consistently present honest information in a genuine, contemporary manner to our youth. They can tell when we aren't being "real" and consequently will stop listening. He said he and others in law enforcement are ready and willing to talk with more young people.

Scott reported that they made another arrest in Morristown for a marijuana grow and seized 80 plants. This individual has been arrested previously and at that time had a larger operation. Scott talked about the economics of growing marijuana and the allure that it has for people struggling financially. Currently, a healthy marijuana plant will yield 1 pound of sellable drug. That pound sells for \$3,000 - \$6,000 on the street. It's easy to see why people go back to it in these tough economic times. Scott said this is the time of year when outdoor marijuana grows get started. The public should keep ears open to talk of transplanting a cloned plant or planting seeds. Often this activity happens in fields, wooded areas, and even parks.

Methamphetamine use is making a come back with a new one-pot method of cooking it. Scott reported people are able to make meth by dumping all their ingredients into a 2 liter bottle. He said if people find discarded bottles that look suspicious to call law enforcement. Also, there is a suspected meth lab somewhere south of Faribault. Scott also reported that crack cocaine has made it into the Somali community and that some of the dealers are Somali. Scott also has a new idea for a video. He knows a young person that ruined his heart because of meth addiction and received a heart transplant. Currently, this person is back on meth and just can't seem to stop. Scott would like to interview him for a video about the power of addiction.

Prescription Drug Disposal Update

Dan reported he is still looking for a box that will go in the lobby of the new Faribault Police Department building. He believes that he can secure funding through an allocation the department received for drug education and enforcement. Mary reported that she has convened a group of people to start working on the marketing campaign for the take back program.

Kathy reported that District One Hospital is sponsoring a presenter from Abbott Northwestern on "Acute Meth, Cocaine, and Heroin Intoxication - Recognition and Treatment" next Wednesday, 4/29 from 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Anyone interested in attending should contact Kathy.

Parent DVD

Kathy reported that the DVD is done! Scott praised Kathy for her tireless effort during this project. Kathy stated that Troy Temple did a great job and donated some of his time. Mary presented the DVD covers and each person at the meeting received a copy. The group discussed a community premiere and showing the DVD on FCTV and NTV. After our meeting Dan Collins volunteered to help coordinate a showing at Faribault City Hall. Kathy and Becky will help to organize that event.

Compliance Checks

Both Faribault and Northfield PD departments are currently coordinating their spring compliance checks. Bob reported that the Sheriff's department will wait until the rural resorts are open for business before conducting the county checks. Dan reported that a business in Faribault was selling tobacco without a license. The City Council granted a license to the vendor after all the businesses inventory was seized by the MN Department of Revenue.

Mary presented some informational panels titled "Got an I.D?" to law enforcement that can be left with the businesses after the compliance check is complete. The panels include basic information about what a compliance check is, how to avoid selling to underage buyers, etc.

Presentation on Addiction and Resources for Officers

Kathy asked the group if they would like further information about addiction and resources for law enforcement. Bob Sletten said that they had recently received de-escalation training that covered how to handle someone with symptoms of mental health issues or substance abuse.

ZAP Press Release Template

Becky presented a press release template to the group that can be used with local media to highlight the efforts of ZAP. The consensus was to release the information to the media jointly (from the involved department and the RCCHC). ZAP received some positive support from the Faribault Daily News this month in an article and staff editorial.

Bob mentioned that the ZAP fund has dwindled significantly because of recent call outs. Kathy stated that there is still money available in the Faribault Drug Free Communities grant which should get us through the end of the year if we are careful.

Becky asked two questions that come from community members from time to time. Question 1. When officers go to a house where underage drinking is suspected, do they automatically send someone to alternate exits? Answer: YES! Surrounding the premises is standard procedure. Question 2. Can reserve officers or volunteers assist in ZAP situations? Answer: YES! Both Northfield and Faribault have a reserve officer program and can be used to secure the perimeter, observe, transport, etc., they just cannot make arrests. The role of citizens would be similar.

New Enforcement Team Co-Chairs

Neal Pederson from the Faribault Police Department and Jim Severson from Discovery Public School have agreed to serve as co-chairs. The group expressed appreciation for Dave and Bob serving as our leaders and also thanked Neal and Jim for their willingness to continue leading our group.

Education Opportunities

Not What The Doctor Ordered
A Free, Public Domain Satellite TV/Webcast Program
Thursday, April 30, 2009
12:00-1:00 PM CT
Commissioners Room, Government Services Building

2009 Northfield Police Association Golf Tournament

**May 20, 2009
12:00 Noon**

Willingers Golf Club
6900 Canby Trail
Northfield MN 55057

**For registration info or
questions, contact:
Roger Schroeder
507-663-9322**

Other Business

The Kenyon City Council passed a social host ordinance making it a misdemeanor for anyone to allow an underage drinking party on their property. Kathy Cooper will check into the ordinance details. Rice County considered one a couple of years ago, but there was some question about whether the ordinances would hold up in court if challenged. It was recommended that we check-in again with the county attorney about a county social host ordinance.

Next Meeting Date:

Wednesday, May 20, 1:15 – 2:45 p.m.
Gov. Services Building – Room 3A (Regular Room)