

APCYF Meeting/Community Conversations: Consequences of Teen Drug & Alcohol Use
January 27, 2016
Notes

Attendance by APCYF Members: John Andelin, Dave Carlson, Sheila Fleischhacker, Alicia Guajardo, Judy Hadden, Linda Henderson, Anne O'Brien, Devanshi Patel, Christine Schaubach, Anne Vor der Bruegge, Kristine Wood, Mary Ann Moran, Caroline Verrecchia, Rachel Harlan, Cintia Johnson, Susan Noack, Rick Strobach, Brenda Wilks, Robert Vilchez, Kim Durand, Rebecca Hjelm, Sally LaBonte, Michael Swisher.

Despite weather conditions and horrible traffic issues, we had 60 people attend our second Community Conversation.

23 APCYF Members, 13 Parents, 17 Youth and 20 Other (some of our members identified as parents/other).

Of the people who signed in, 20 adults/youth were people that are not familiar to me.

We held the event at Walter Reed Community Center in Rooms B & C with 8 round tables, a podium and table for the panelists, one table for materials and two tables for food.

Due to the traffic issues, we began the program at 6:30. Devanshi welcomed everyone and did the basic introductions of our panel, which included:

- Kate McCauley speaking on the effects of drugs and alcohol on the adolescent brain;
- Margaret (Evie) Eastman speaking on the legal consequences of unlawful use of substances;
- Lauren Brice & Rachel Collins speaking about knowing your rights when interacting with law enforcement; and
- Kate Reen giving a bit of information on the Second Chance program.

Judge Wiggins was in the audience, and was asked to say a few words as well.

Each speaker, including the addition of Judge Wiggins, spoke for about 10 minutes with 5 minutes in between each for conversation and questions. Given the late start, we did not have the amount of time we had hoped at the end for more conversation and Q&A. The panelists have let me know that they will address any additional questions they received so that we will be able to send them out to the participants.

We were able to capture the majority of the panelist's remarks through iPhone, camera, and flip devices. We also experimented with live broadcast through Hootsuite which was posted to Twitter and Facebook. These will be edited and posted on our website and highlighted on social media.

We did a very quick and easy evaluation with 20 respondents. We received mostly 4s and 5s on a scale of 1-5 that our information was helpful and efficient.

The 4 threes and 1 two we received was in the area of "I would attend future Community Conversations."

Evaluation Comments:

What did you like most?

- I liked the format
- I liked how I learned more about my rights
- Speakers are knowledgeable
- My teens hearing this info from someone other than me
- Amazing amount of information in 2 hours
- Kate McCauley, give her more time
- Speakers and time to discuss at the tables
- Table discussions o “expert” info
- Rapid question-answer round
- Diversity of presentations
- Very informative
- The way the message was presented

How can we improve?

- Maybe have people move around the tables
- How to say no to drugs
- More time and more information
- List materials and books on the program
- Forums in Spanish
- Fewer speakers and more time for a longer presentation
- Get more new faces
- Room setup was uncomfortable
- More engagement with the audience
- More teens and take these to recreation centers

Future Topics?

- Street crimes
- Family Stress – the consequences and how to avoid it
- Parent engagement/support at school

We ended the program just after 8:00 p.m. with many people staying longer to finish up conversations and ask questions of the panelists.

NOTE: Our next APCYF meeting is on February 24, 2016 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. in Sequoia Room D. Also, the March meeting will be our Retreat from 6:00 – 9:00pm on March 30th (would regularly be March 23th, but that is during Spring Break).