

Arlington Partnership for Children, Youth & Families

June 23, 2014

Attendees: John Andelin, Bill Browning, Dave Carlson, Rebecca Goodhart, Judy Hadden, Linda Henderson, Anne O'Brien, Anne Vorder Bruegge, Weadé Wallace, Katie Maleckar, Rene Madigan, Mary Ann Moran, Rachel Harlan, Cintia Johnson, Laura Lazour, Jim Tuomey, Tom Wallace, Robert Vilchez, Keith Miller, Siobhan Grayson, Kim Durand, Whitney Strand, Michael Swisher, Cynthia Hilton, Sheila Fleischhalem, Partick Brennan, Mary Zambrano, Jennifer Endo

Introductions: Members were asked to introduce themselves and share what they wanted to be when they "grew-up." Answers included: run a gas station, play basketball, be an architect, a teacher, a pharmacist, a sewer cleaner, a nun, an astronaut, a stewardess, a cab driver, a doctor, and a mom among others.

Guest Speakers: Mary Zambrano and Jennifer Endo with AHC, Inc.

Jennifer and Mary gave us some history of AHC, Inc. and shared a few specific programs they run. Originally just a housing agency, staff noticed the kids congregating in open areas and decided to use a vacant apartment to give the kids things to do in their free time. Immediately, they received rave reviews having less incidents of vandalism or other disruptive behaviors. They have built upon this idea to work with schools, families and the community to provide after-school opportunities for Arlington's youth.

They offer programs to kids grades K-12 in 6 Community Centers. The elementary programs are offered Monday – Thursday after-school for -3 hours. They provide healthy snacks, homework time, project based learning and theme based learning. They hold 2 parent workshops per year, they offer three field trips and they survey participants for feedback.

The Teen Program serves youth grades 6 – 10. They work with around 100 students three times per week from 6:00 – 8:30. They offer academic support and additional help when needed. There are also six workshops per year for development, goal setting, financial planning or college visits. They had 10 – 15 tutors at each center to help with this program.

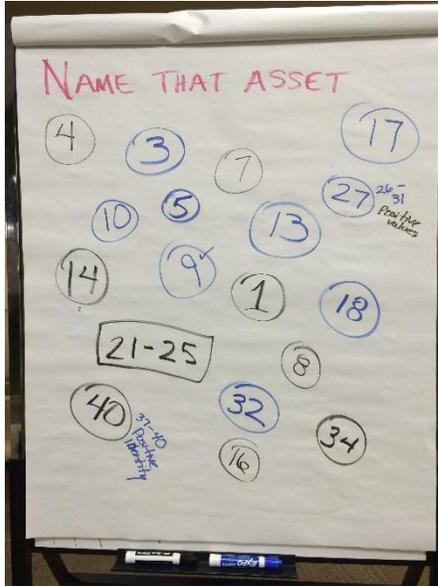
For the older students, grades 11 and 12, they encourage the students to go out on their own, but still provide support on a more individualized basis, helping them with deadlines, SATs, applications for employment or college, or other supports as needed. They strive to connect the dots for the youth, so when they work hard, they'll see results.

They are bilingual in Spanish/English, and try to get additional support for other languages when needed.

AHC, Inc. partners with other agencies and organizations in Arlington to help promote family activities to their communities. They get volunteers through Craigslist, Facebook, ArlNow, Volunteer Arlington, Twitter and word of mouth.

They always need more volunteers, if you are interested, or you could pass along their information, that would be very helpful. Additional information may be found here: <http://www.ahcinc.org/index.html>

Name that Asset:



After hearing about the ACH, Inc. programs, we were challenged to name the Developmental Assets that were mentioned.

The complete list of assets are attached, but at the meeting, we felt that these were built through the programs that were discussed:

- 1: Family Support
- 3: Other Adult Relationships
- 4: Caring Neighborhood
- 5: Caring School Climate
- 7: Community Values Youth
- 8: Youth as Resources
- 9: Service to Others
- 10: Feels Safe in Community
- 13: Neighborhood Boundaries

- 14: Adult Role Models
- 16: High Expectations
- 17: Creative Activities
- 18: Youth Programs
- 21 – 25: Commitment to Learning
- 26 – 31: Positive Values
- 32: Planning and Decision-Making
- 34: Cultural Competence
- 37 – 40: Positive Identity
- 40: Positive View of Future

This exercise of naming the assets will hopefully help us when talking with community members about Developmental Assets: what they are and what they can do. Through this discussion, we also talked about how these programs build assets for adults as well!

Updates:

Teen Network Board (TNB) Summer Work: Katie Maleckar, Co-Chair, reported that the Leadership Team has been meeting to prepare for the coming school year. They have the orientation packets ready for their Fall Kick-Off meeting to be held on August 17th. They have 29 returning members, and 24 new applications. They are interviewing new candidates now, and will continue recruiting as needed at the County Fair and into the first few weeks of school.

CADCA Conference: CADCA is the Coalition of Anti-Drug Coalitions of America. The READY Coalition is a member and attends these conferences annually. Whitney Strand and Chair of the READY Coalition, Sara Duke attended with two Teen Network Board Members: Stephen Stavrou and Susanna Kelley. The TNB members identified underage drinking and marijuana use as their number one issues, and that peer influence and availability were the reasons they were such a

problem. They felt that more prevention/education around these issues, especially in 11th and 12th grades, would be the key.

YADAPP Conference: The Youth Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Project (YADAPP) Conference was in Farmville, VA and was attended by 4 teams: Wakefield, W-L, Yorktown and a READY Team. Kim Durand along with three Student Resource Officers served as adult participants. Students were able to experience motivational speakers, opportunities to meet others working on these issues around the state, and develop a plan to bring back to their schools. The plans they worked on are called STAN Plans – Strategies to Act Now. Kim will work with the READY Coalition and the TNB to review the plans and determine how best to support the teams in their work as they move forward.

Positive Youth Development Institute: The Bolster Collaborative held this conference in Biddeford, Maine. It was a wonderful experience for Kim Durand to connect with others from around the country that have adopted the Developmental Assets framework. Many shared strategies, like memorizing all 40 of the assets, to help spread the word. Kim also received the curriculum for a parent workshop called *Say Yes to No* by Dr. David Walsh. If anyone would like to review any of the conference materials or the curriculum, please let Kim know.

Report Card Update:

The Report Card Committee is continuing to meet and discuss the 2014 Report Card. Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, August 5th at 7:30am**. If you would like to review a current draft, attend, or get a more detailed update, please contact Kim Durand.

Support Letter for Library Grant:

Earlier in July, Rachel Harlan requested a letter of support from the APCYF for the program called *Telling our Stories*. Through this program, Libraries will work with families and youth to collect, preserve and disseminate cultural stories in multiple languages. It is believed that this program will:

- build stronger family ties by highlighting the importance of cultural stories,
- help parents and children develop important skills in reading, writing, the structure and organization of stories, translation, public presentation, video production, and
- create a cadre of community mentors and leaders.

This program supports a number of Developmental Assets, particularly Cultural Competence. It also dovetails nicely with the Care for a Change program by celebrating the diversity of Arlington and by encouraging community involvement.

If the grant is awarded, it will be \$175,000 over three years. Rachel will report back to us as soon as she hears. The support letter, which was reviewed by the Advocacy Committee, is attached for your review.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Communities in Schools:

Patrick Brennan with Communities in Schools is starting a program at Wakefield for incoming 9th grade boys. They are looking for tutors and mentors to support 25 boys and would like a commitment of 2 or more hours per month, bilingual, male volunteers preferred. I have attached the announcement.

Out-of-School Time Asset Conference Presenter Proposals:

The Out of School Time Council is inviting session proposals for its third conference on Developmental Assets, to be held on October 18, 2014, from 8:30am-2:00pm at Kenmore Middle School, 200 South Carlin Springs Road.

This year's theme is "Sparking Youth Creativity and Involvement in the Community" They are seeking session proposals that will build off last year's successful conference, which drew over 220 people! Successful proposals will provide attendees with:

- a greater understanding of the 40 Developmental Assets
- real-world practices and programs that build Developmental Assets that can be applied throughout the community: at afterschool programs, at home, on sports teams, clubs, churches, etc.
- Special consideration will be given to sessions that focus on creative expression and/or giving youth a greater role in the community.

The primary audience is adults who interact with youth ages 3-18, including coaches, parents, scout leaders, and youth service providers. Presentations can be for audiences with beginning, intermediate and advanced knowledge of the 40 Developmental Assets.

Youth presenters are strongly encouraged! Adult presenters are urged to work with one or more youth in creating and presenting their session. It can be powerful when adults hear the youth perspective on the developmental assets and youth-adult interactions.

Sessions will run for 1 hour and 15 minutes, for approximately 20-25 participants. The concurrent session times are 9:30am-10:45am and 11:00am-12:15pm. You may submit as many proposals as you wish. We may ask you to present the same session twice during the day.

FYI – APS Academic Planning Sessions with the Superintendent

APS is holding sessions to discuss student's Pre-K-12 academic career. These sessions are geared to parents. They will discuss the importance of preparation at the elementary level; taking rigorous courses in middle and high school; the Advanced Diploma and Standard Diploma requirements and the math course pathways and world language options. RSVP to Claudia.mercado@apsva.us

- August 11 6:00pm – Academic Planning Sessions with the Superintendent at Fairlington Community Center
- August 18 6:00pm - Academic Planning Sessions with the Superintendent at Gates of Ballston

Upcoming Meetings/Events:

August 5 7:30am – Report Card Committee Sequoia Room 139

August 5 8:15am – **CANCELLED** Community and Parent Education Committee

August 7 1:00pm – Steering Committee Sequoia Lower Level Room B

August 8 – 10 – County Fair VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Let us know when you can help: <http://doodle.com/t3chk4qb2mumzqnx>

Currently, we're asking for 2 hour shifts.

August 13 – 8:00am – APS Administrative Conference at Wakefield High School

August 21 – 8:00am – Board Development Meeting Sequoia Lower Level Room A

August 25 – 6:00 POT LUCK DINNER at Quincy Street Park (Rain Location: Central Library Auditorium)

