

Sundre Interagency Meeting Summary

January 30, 2007

Community Conference Room

In Attendance:

- Marita Stermann – Greenwood Neighbourhood Place
- Leah Jensen - Greenwood Neighbourhood Place
- Verity Pickering – Community Van & Palliative Care
- Donna Morency – Welcome Wagon
- Charlie Fisher – Pastor of McDougal Chapel & Ministerial Society
- Frank Johnson – Minister of Sundre United Church
- Wendy Tredger – Family Wellness (River Valley School)
- Karen Grudeski – Family Wellness (Sundre High School)
- Janelle Rab – Nutritionist DTHR
- Isabel Bartholow – Ladies Hospital Auxiliary
- Shannon Finnerty – Caseworker for Child & Family Services Authority
- Darlene Pohl – Mental Health Outreach
- Russ Poulliard – Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Audrey Hobbs – Volunteer Resources DTHR
- Erin Sather – Foster Care & Adoption (Child & Family Services Authority)

Agenda:

- Introductions & Updates from each representative
- Communication

Greenwood Neighbourhood Place & Sundre FCSS

- Marita Stermann – Program Co-ordinator
- Marita handed out a draft of a referral guide that she has been working on. Additions, changes and feedback are welcome. Once the guide is completed, they will be distributed through the mail to all residents.
- Currently, a county business directory is being developed by Mountain View Publishing. Marita will be working with Rhonda at the Sundre RoundUp to provide a complete and comprehensive package. Information was passed around to all to provide additional information for this publication.
- Sundre Community Event Calendar – There is an email form on www.sundrepeople.com to send information on current events and activities to be updated to the Community Calendar.
- Safe Food Handling course through DTHR will be coming to Sundre soon. Please contact GNP for more information.
- 2007 Community Appreciation Event & Volunteer Appreciation Event will be combined into one evening. GNP is working with the Chamber of Commerce to host this evening on April 21, 2007. Ten specific awards will be presented. Information sheets and nomination forms for awards were handed out to all in attendance.
- Mountain View Society for Community Learning Calendars are now available that include new programs in Sundre and the county.
- Parent Link – Events schedule passed round for information on this great program.
- Percy Leinritz of the Sundre RCMP passed on a letter regarding new workshops that are available on personal safety, bullying, harassment, etc. Resources can be accessed by agencies to host these workshops.

Volunteer Resources – DTHR

- Audrey Hobbs
- Sundre Palliative Care Volunteer Training is coming up in March. Also coming soon, a volunteer workshop for Mealtime Assistant Training.
- DTHR does have volunteer drivers available from Olds to Sundre for medical / psychiatric appointments. Contact Audrey at 507-8105

Family Enhancement Worker – Child & Family Services Authority

- Shannon Finnerty

- Update – Keir Kutney workshops coming soon to Olds at Deer Meadow School. Call to register at 507-8038.

Welcome Wagon

- Donna Morency
- There were approximately 80 visits in 2006, about half newborn and half newcomer visits. There is also a newlywed program running in Sundre as well.
- Welcome Wagon participated in the Community A-Fair/SPOG's Neighbours Day, which was very busy, and it has taken all fall to catch up with the visits generated from that day.
- Many new families are arriving from Calgary, looking to get out of the city. Sundre's amenities are a draw. (Aquaplex, doctors, hospital, oilpatch, sunpine, seniors programs)

Ladies Hospital Auxiliary

- Isabel Bartholow
- The Ladies Auxiliary is in desperate need of volunteers.
- They meet every 3rd Monday monthly at 1:00pm at the hospital.
- The showcase at the hospital, as well as the Thrift store, generates funds for new equipment in the hospital.
- Currently there are 14 active members, as well as 15 members that operate the Thrift store.

McDougal Chapel & Ministerial Society

- Charlie Fisher
- The Watoto Children's Choir will be performing at the Sundre Community Centre on February 1, 2007. This group has been brought to Sundre by the McDougal Chapel in coordination with the Ministerial Society.

River Valley School – Family Wellness

- Wendy Tredger
- River Valley School is the largest school in the division with 735 students, which keeps Wendy very busy.
- National Non-Smoking Week went very well last week, with several daily activities to promote the message. Activities included a tobacco facts contest, a video presentation, Black Angels day and the penny drop to illustrate how many people die each day of tobacco related disease.
- It was again discussed that the AADAC presence is very ineffective in Sundre. Currently, AADAC visits twice monthly, which is too infrequent to make an impact. The community needs to "make a noise" to address this issue. Wendy's suggestion is to gather letters from all avenues within the community to provide a unified voice to promote a stronger presence in Sundre.

Action Item ***[Please submit letters to Wendy Tredger by Feb15th!!!](#)*** Letters can be faxed to (403) 638-4552 or email to wtredger@chinooksedge.ab.ca

Big Brothers and Big Sisters

- Russ Poulliard
- Cell# 403-586-0110
- Working on initiating a program in Sundre to match volunteers to children between grades 2 – 4, for one hour per week, in the school setting.
- The Mountain View County Mentoring Program wants to promote growth to facilitate a larger Big Brother / Big Sister presence.
- A criminal record check is required for mentors, as well as 5 references, 2 interviews and an extensive background check to become volunteers.
- Family wellness workers in local areas will be instrumental in selecting the children for this program. At this point it is solely a school based program.

Sundre High School – Family Wellness

- Karen Grudski
- Karen has started a breakfast program at the high school, feeding up to 140 students two times per week. They have partnered with Nutrition for Learning and are hopeful to continue towards a very successful program. The program definitely needs volunteers. Marita suggested that GNP will try to come up with a volunteer bank / recruiting idea for all these agencies that are needing volunteers.
- There is an open parent meeting scheduled for February 6th, to address teen issues and get feedback from parents on what programs are needed in the community.

- Karen works 25-40 hours per semester to educate students on various teen issues. As well the summer program will continue this year as well.
- SHS is working towards having Get Real /Challenge Day back again.
- The Family Retreat was very well received and Karen and Wendy are looking to host it again.

Palliative Care & Community Van

- Verity Pickering
- Palliative Care – They are also in desperate need of volunteers. As well the Palliative Care partners with the Ladies Auxiliary to purchase equipment for the hospital.
- Community Van – New fee schedule was handed out. Discussion that the Community Van is not just a seniors van, it is a *community* van for all to use. Medical appointment trips are usually taken in private vehicles, unless the individual is in a wheelchair, and then the van will be taken.

Sundre United Church

- Frank Johnson
- Frank introduced himself as the new minister, and is currently looking for a place in Sundre. He now lives in Red Deer, but is looking forward to moving to Sundre and becoming more involved in the community.

Olds Mental Health

- Darlene Pohl
- Darlene is a mental health outreach worker, whose territory includes Sundre.
- Clients come to her through a referral and intake process. They must meet certain criteria to access help. There have been many referrals, with a wait list in many communities. She has been busy with addiction problems, and strongly agrees with the need for a stronger AADAC presence.
- There are walk-in services available Wednesday afternoons at the Olds Mental Health Clinic.

DTHR Public Health Nutritionist

- Janelle Rab
- Introduction as Kathryn Cunningham's replacement during her maternity leave.

Foster Care & Adoption – Child & Family Services Authority

- Erin Sather
- Erin works with families that want to become foster / adoptive parents.
- There is a huge need for foster & adoptive families in Sundre. Expression of ongoing need is strong. It is very hard to secure families due to the industry boom.
- Currently, there are 350-400 permanent care children looking to be adopted. Wendy Tredger suggested that Erin work closely with the ministerial society to recruit families.
- Supports for Permanency do follow an adopted child in order to assist the adoptive family with care of the child once the adoption has taken place.
- Foster parenting is a very large change to family and lifestyle. Erin can meet with families considering it to further educate them on what to expect, because it is an ongoing responsibility.
- The largest numbers of children coming into care are elementary school aged children.
- Kinship Care is a foster program that promotes a prior significant relationship with the foster child.
- Handouts were passed around to all regarding the program.

Updates will follow regarding the AADAC initiative and volunteerism...Let's use this Interagency group to facilitate a great flow of communication within our community!!!

The Sundre Interagency group will continue sharing information by email. Please send any information you want to share to GNP for distribution.

Sundre on the Go will be published again by the end of March, so please send any submissions to Marita for inclusion.

Please remember: All meetings will now be held at the Sundre Community Conference Room.

2007 Meeting dates are as follows:

Jan 30th, Mar 27th, May 29th, Aug 7th, Sept 18th and Nov 13th.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15.