

Minutes 6-16-09, 3-5 p.m. PST
Safe Schools Coalition Meeting
Facilitating: Stefanie Fox; Recording: Heather Carter

HELP NEEDED items are in RED

INTROS ... welcome new faces/voices

In attendance:

Heather Carter - Youth Suicide Prevention Program and Safe Schools Coalition (SSC) Co-Secretary; Helen Stillman - American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), SSC Speakers' Bureau Manager and Lambert House; Beth Reis - Public Health – Seattle & King County and SSC Co-Chair; Hanna King - Garfield High School Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) President and Washington BUS Fellow; Maya Troll - Garfield GSA; Stefanie Fox - SSC Co-Chair, Mental Health, Chemical Abuse & Dependency Services Division, King County; Chris Johnson – King County Sexual Assault Resource Center; Sherry McGregor; Amy Durning - Seattle Schools, SSC Intervention Specialist; Kathryn Durning - Center School

By Phone:

Gabi Clayton-SSC Webspinner/Membership Chair/Trainer, Families United Against Hate (FUAH), Youth Guardian Services (YGS), and PFLAG-Olympia

Don't forget: we're moving to summer hours for July & August-so, meetings are from 2-4 PST.

(1) SSC LEADERSHIP TEAM

a) 15 minutes of SHARING TIME:

- **Garfield H.S.** conducted a very successful/peaceful counter protest to **The Westboro Baptist Church's** protest there on Monday. The coolest thing was that the crowd consisted of half the student body and reflected the diversity of the school! Please read the articles written about the event under Media Swat Team - Great Job Hanna in organizing this. Eduardo Brambila of **AFSC** also organized a GREAT protest the day before Garfield's, bubble machine and all.
- YSPP has another training day for AFSC youth panelists who have joined the youth work group that developed a **GLBTQ youth suicide prevention curriculum**. They will be conducting their first trainings in July. Western Washingtonians can contact Heather Carter @ heather@yspp.org if you'd like to invite the youth into your organization or school to have a free workshop facilitated by GLBTQA youth.
- Helen will not be replaced at **Lambert House** until September. The Queer Rec. Program is also on hold because the host program has been cut. So...during July and August expect there to be a lull in programming at Lambert. But Lambert House has GREAT, FREE pride events coming up: (button making, tie dye, cape making, dance party, breakfast on pride day) ... More info: <http://blogs.myspace.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=blog.view&friendId=183754067&blogId=494307001>
- **Reel Queer FREE summer program**. Make a video in four days with queer and questioning youth media makers. Explore issues of gender, sexuality, and representation in the media, then learn the tools to make your own media in response to these issues. Videos produced in this camp will screen at the 2009 Seattle Lesbian and Gay Film Festival this September! Program Dates: July 20, 22, 27 and 29, 2009, 10am-4pm. Program Location: Reel Grrls New Media Lab in Seattle's Central District, 1409 21st Ave, Seattle WA 98122. Program Ages: Queer and questioning youth of all genders aged 13-19. More info or to apply: www.reelgrrls.org/reelqueer

(2) SPEAKERS BUREAU REPORT – Helen, Beth, Joyful

- a) We'll be introducing Helen's replacement next week via the listserve**
- b) We said a bunch of heartfelt thank yous and goodbyes to Helen – soon to leave for grad school. Please join the Helen celebration & Volunteer Appreciation at Cal Anderson Park (under the shelter) on July 10 from 530-730**

- Everyone in the room had nice things to say about Helen and the great work she's done for AFSC & SSC. Beth said the speakers' bureau is more active than ever and she's heard ZERO incidents of negative feedback such as presenter didn't show while Helen was running the program. Outspoken is running well and feedback is always great on the work they do! Chris ran into Helen at the Bullying Conference and saw the impressive Outspoken brochure - he decided he needed to reconnect with SSC and came to the meeting. Helen has also been immensely supportive of Stefanie's work and Heather's work in the community (including the work she does @ Lambert House). Hanna first met Helen at age 11, when she first arrived at Lambert House. Helen was also able to talk Hanna's mom into letting her go on a queer youth camping trip when she was 12. She's helped her connect to the whole queer community and has been a huge positive influence in her life.
- c) **Recent training/speaking gigs:** 5/22 Evergreen School (Helen) – 16 participants; 5/28 Healthy Schools Summit (Beth) – 8 participants; 6/1&2 Morningside Academy (Beth) – 6 sessions with a total of 60 students
- d) **upcoming training/speaking gigs:** Odyssey Youth Conference
- e) **Recent youth panels:** 6/2 SOAR Conference – 10 participants; 6/4 Puyallup ESD – 25 participants; 6/7 Teen Link; 6/8 Roosevelt HS - 6 panels with a total of 152 participants; WA State Bullying Conference – 200 participants
- f) **Upcoming youth panels:** Washington MS, Casey Family Programs
- g) **Recent outreach tabling:** 5/26 Green River CC Health Fair (Helen), 5/28 Healthy Schools Summit (Beth & Heather), 6/6 Voices Rising (Helen), 6/8-9 WA State Bullying Prevention Conference (Beth, Rolfe, Janet, Helen), 6/9 Seattle Central CC resource Fair (Helen)
- h) **Upcoming outreach tabling:** Gender Odyssey Conference & we have confirmed tablers (to include SSC literature on their organizations' tables) at Pride festivities in Olympia, Bellingham, Tri-Cities, Spokane, Renton, Vancouver, Tacoma and Seattle. Thank you to all who are tabling at Pride events for us.

(3) MEDIA SWAT TEAM NEWS – (AKA Amelia Earhart Brigade) Stefanie, Hanna, others

- a) The goal of this group is to organize a coordinated response to events, issues, and messaging for the coalition. The team is beginning to study the book **News for a Change: An Advocate's Guide to Working with the Media** by Lawrence Wallack, Katie Woodruff, Lori Dorfman, and Iris Diaz. They will let us know in the near future when they are ready for new folks to volunteer.
- b) Hanna was featured in a 6/10/09 Seattle Times column by Danny Westneat, **Haters Meet Hanna** http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/dannywestneat/2009320620_danny10.html for organizing Garfield students' response to the Westboro Baptist Church's virulently anti-gay picketers. Also see this article on the counterpicketing (what Hanna calls a "celebration") of the GodHatesFags folks at Garfield High School, led by Safe Schools Coalition's Hanna King: http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2009339984_garfield16m.html Hanna reported that she was interviewed multiple times by press. One of the common questions was whether or not she felt it was the right thing to do (counterprotesting) or whether they should have ignored it. She was very clear that ignoring it wasn't an option. The media was very respectful in their questions and attitudes.
- c) **ARTICLE FOR Seattle Gay News (SGN) -** Stefanie wrote a great piece on the Speakers Bureau at the request of SGN's editor-in-chief, George Bakan. It will be published in the 6/19 edition or the Pride edition (the following week).

(4) WEB SITE REPORT – Gabi

- a) May 2009 stats:
 - **Total Hits** -- 185,820
 - **Page Views** -- down slightly from last year but way up from a decade ago: May 1999: 4,951; May 2008: 45,837; May 2009: 43,235
 - **Visitors** - - down slightly from last year but way up from a decade ago: May 1999: 2,430; May 2008: 31,464; May 2009: 26,443
 - **Average length of visit** -- up from last year and way up from a decade ago: May 1999: 30.81 seconds; May 2008: 3:21; May 2009: 4:07

- b) In May 2009, **39% of our visitors were from outside the U.S.** and we served folks in 109 countries altogether, including places with little or no other LGBTQ supports, such as Slovenia, Uganda, Peru, Afghanistan, and Viet Nam. After the U.S., the countries that used the site **most** frequently were, in order, France, China, Canada, and the U.K.
- c) People found the SSC web site this month, among other referring sites, from:
- <http://www.myspace.com/cristinamarrero>
 - <http://safezonefoundation.tripod.com/id23.html>
 - http://best.lovetoknow.com/Top_Teen_Lesbian_Web_Sites
 - <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gay>
 - <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transman>
- d) **Sherry has volunteered to take responsibility for sending Tweets (Twitter posts) on behalf of SSC! THANKS!**

(5) MEMBERSHIP REPORT – Gabi

- a) New member applications: None this month
- b) Progress on invoicing member orgs: Stefanie Fox, Kathy Kaminski and Gabi have been working on updating the member database and getting the renewal reminder letter ready to go out. They plan to send it out as an email with a letter and membership form attached first with a return receipt requested, and then if we don't know it was received or if it doesn't get response we will send a snail mail letter. Also, they are continuing to look at how to improve tracking members. **If you have DATA MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE or enjoy crunching numbers-please consider contacting Gabi to volunteer to help with this:**
<http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/contact/?id=6>
- c) **Please, check and make sure your organization is active - if not, please check to see if they want to remedy that.** Save us having to contact you to remind you to renew or join. **Renew or join for 2009 online right now:** (Don't worry -- you don't need your agency's credit card – you can ask, right on the form, to have an invoice sent to you and dues are negotiable!)
http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/members_join-renew.html

(6) ENDORSEMENT DECISIONS – Beth

- a) **Washington Families Standing Together** (www.wafst.org) ... a coordinated campaign to help keep the WA State Domestic partner law from being repealed. **We agreed by consensus to endorse the campaign – after discussing its relevance to the Coalition's mission in terms of the optimism of LGBTQ youth about their future and the current well-being of children in LGBTQ-headed families.** Opponents of gay rights in Washington are trying to qualify a referendum for the November 2009 ballot that would seek to repeal the domestic partnership expansion bill passed by the legislature. **If you are a Washington State resident, you can take the pledge not to sign Referendum 71 petitions. Click [here](#) for more information.**
- b) **Seattle OUT Protest** (www.seattleoutprotest.org) ... a response to the Westboro Baptist Church's pickets-another successful counterprotest to Westboro Baptist Church's protest. **The Leadership Team did endorse the protest; there wasn't time to wait for a monthly meeting.** The Protest was organized by Eduardo Brambila of AFSC - Great job!

(7) LISTSERVE REPORT – Beth

- a) **Welcome** to recent subscribers from:
- *New York, NY*
 - *Boone, NC*
 - *Eden Prairie, MN*
 - *Ferndale, MI*
 - *El Dorado Hills, CA*
 - *St. Paul, MN*
 - *Boise, ID*
- b) We currently have **811 subscribers** in at least **11 countries** (not all subscribers indicate where they live): Australia, Belize, Canada, China, Finland, Pakistan, Serbia and Montenegro, South Africa, United Kingdom, the U.S. and New Zealand.

- c) In Canada, the **5 Provinces** we serve include at least Alberta, British Columbia, New Brunswick, Ontario and Quebec.
- d) In the U.S., we serve people in at least **45 states** (AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, SD, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WY) plus **Washington D.C. and Puerto Rico**.
- e) Within Washington State, we serve at least **27 counties**: Benton, Chelan, Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Ferry, Franklin, Grant, Grays Harbor, Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Kittitas, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Spokane, Thurston, Walla Walla, Whatcom, Whitman and Yakima.
- f) **Maya has volunteered to take over sending the Opinion & Right Wing Watch digest emails for the list serve. THANK YOU!**
- g) **HELP NEEDED: We still need one volunteer, anywhere in the world with Internet access, to devote 2 to 4 hours/week to job digests. This person will send a weekly message about jobs and internships relevant to our subscribers all over the world. Interested in getting trained? Contact Beth: <mailto:beth@safeschoolscoalition.org>**
- h) **There are two ways to subscribe.** Signing up for "IMPORTANT NEWS" gets you an average of 1-2 messages a week, mostly action items, meeting minutes and major announcements. Signing up for "NEWS" gets you those messages plus news, opinion, events and job digests totaling an average of 2 messages a day. Not subscribed? Need to change the address we send to or to switch lists? Go to: <http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/listsub.asp>

(8) SPECIAL EVENTS

- a) **Get tickets online for the June 23rd comedy night: Laugh OUT Loud** is 8:30-10 pm @ Comedy Underground (109 S Washington St) in Seattle's Pioneer Square. **Please order your tickets in advance from the SSC web site! Advance orders cost you less and save us more.**
 - We have distributed 20 or 30 comped youth tickets to youth at Shoreline SSC, juvenile detention and AFSC speakers' bureau.
 - George Bakan, Editor-in-Chief at the Seattle Gay News has offered to try to fit free ad space into the next issue of SGN.
- b) **June 28th Seattle Pride Parade.** We will have our traditional yellow school bus in the parade. Your member org is welcome to join the SSC contingent. Any member org is welcome to ride on or walk with the bus, hang your banner on one or both sides of the bus, eat our food and drink our drinks, help staff the bus by handing out gifts to the crowd, and help rock the bus and otherwise participate in the mayhem. **To ride on or help staff the bus, you must RSVP: <mailto:LLove@seattleschools.org> or 206-252-0982.**

NEW NOTES:

- **We're walking together with PHSKC** [turns out we're not; the parade lineup didn't turn out as promised, but still ...] **The first 7 people to tell Lisa they want one will get a Public Health T-shirt to wear on/with the bus!! We're walking together with PHSKC and there will be 2 safe schools placards to carry.**
- **SSC pencils have been ordered – we will hand them out to the crowds.**
- **WHO CAN BRING SNACKS AND DRINKS??? All we need is someone to do a COSTCO run. Who's up for it? Contact Beth: beth@safeschoolscoalition.org**
- c) **Webinar: Unlocking the Data for Program Planning & Decision Making;** Wednesday, **July 15th**, 2009; 2:00 – 3:30 PM PST; by the Washington State Department of Health Injury and Violence Prevention Program – **Amy & Sherry volunteered to represent SSC. THANKS AGAIN!**

- d) **Transgress, Transform, Transcend:** A National Conference of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) Asian Americans, South Asians and Pacific Islanders (API) August 14-16, at the University of Washington in Seattle, WA. More info: <http://www.ngapia.org/nc2009.html> - **We decided we'd like SSC to exhibit at this event (Beth will contact Helen).**
- e) **13th annual Links & Alliances conference.** For GLBTQ youth and the adults who serve them. Nov 14, 2009 at Everett (WA) Community College. For more info: Brenda Newell 425-339-5239 or bnewell@shd.snohomish.wa.gov or Kelly Grimsley 425-339-5241 or kgrimsley@shd.snohomish.wa.gov **We decided SSC will sponsor and will donate \$75 & Heather volunteered to table (Beth will contact Helen about our exhibiting)**

(9) INTERVENTION TEAM REPORT – Penny

- a) An Intervention Specialist has been working with the family of a Pierce County 12-year old who's been bullied at school and at a school-sponsored camp. Family has been trying to get help – before we were involved – from police and the district superintendent. The SSC Intervention Specialist has been problem-solving with the mom and will be meeting (or has already) with the parent(s?) and principal.
- b) An intervention is also beginning with a family in eastern Washington. The student wrote "I'm here and I'm queer" in a friend's yearbook and was suspended for making sexual advances!! An Intervention Specialist is working with the student and parent.
- c) A third Intervention request from Eastern Washington is dealing more with racial discrimination. The Intervention Specialist is referring the student to the Human Rights Commission but also chatting with the mother and principal.
- d) **HELP NEEDED: If you might be interested in volunteering with the Intervention Team, providing guidance and referral, and when appropriate, advocacy with law enforcement, school authorities, or families on behalf of – or beside – bullied students and staff (Thursday is the day we need to cover), please contact Penny: <http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/contact/?id=10>**

(10) CONSULTING – Beth

- a) **Answer, at Rutgers University** (the folks who run the SexEtc.org web site) are developing an online GLBTQ workshop for teachers and sought our input. Hanna offered to provide a youth's perspective as well, on what teachers need. Beth will hook her up with the Rutgers folks.

(11) PREVIEW ONE OF THE FRAMELINE "YOUTH IN FOCUS" FILMS – Beth

- (12) **FISCAL UPDATE: Raynier Institute and Foundation** asked SSC to submit a proposal for a \$5,000 grant. Kathy Kaminski submitted it. Raynier is a great supporter of both SSC and Youth Suicide Prevention Program - THANKS RAYNIER!!!!

UPCOMING MEETINGS ... contact the chair if you have agenda items to suggest or if you need instructions about attending (in person) or calling in (by conference call). All are welcome - you do NOT need to be a Coalition member to attend.

July 21st, 2-4 pm [summer hours], Pacific Time. Stefanie facilitates and Daniel records. Stefanie: 206-263-8936; Stefanie.fox@kingcounty.gov

Aug 18th, 2-4 pm [summer hours]. Heather Murphy facilitates, Heather Carter records. Heather M.: 206-616-6361; hmurphy@u.washington.edu

Sept 15th, 3-5 pm, Pacific Time [**back to school year schedule**]. Kyle facilitates and Matt records. Kyle: 206-322-6711 ext 32190; KRapinan@casey.org