

Safe Schools Coalition Minutes June 17, 2012

Facilitating: Mo Lewis; Recording: Penny Palmer

Attending: Mo Lewis, SSC Co-Chair, King County Sexual Assault Resource Center; Penny Palmer, SSC Co-Sec., Intervention Team Coordinator; Stacy Prince, Beyond the Bridge; Cody Blomberg, Artist; Lisa Love, Seattle Public Schools; Katrina Pestano, SSC Speaker's Bureau; Beth Reis, SSC CO-Chair, Public Health -- Seattle & King County; Mathew Wilson, SSC Co-Chair, OASIS/Pierce County AIDS Foundation; Frank Couch, SSC Co-Sec.

By Phone: Gabi Clayton, Safe Schools Webspinner, PFLAG Olympia, Families United Against Hate, Youth Guardian Services; Michelle Munro, SSC Co-Chair, SSC Treasurer

You will find HELP NEEDED requests in RED.

INTROS

1. SHARING TIME

- a. Congratulations to Gabi and Alec Clayton for receiving and having an Activist Award named after them by Capital City Pride. You both really deserve this and so much more for all your work.
- b. Mo shared the P.O.P! group's I "heart" Consent stickers they will be giving out at Pride.
- c. Katrina will be at Pride and also at the Vigil for Danny Vega.
- d. Cody will also have a booth at Pride.

2. SEATTLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS NEWS – Lisa

Thanks Lisa for once again making sure the "Yellow School Bus" was **rockin** in the Pride Parade. It is a great symbol of the Safe Schools Coalition.

Also thanks to Lisa for all your work for transgender and gender non-conforming students in the Seattle School District.

3. MIDDLE SCHOOL ANTI-BULLYING ART PROJECT – Cody Blomberg

The project is STOP BULLYING ME! and is a multi media art series that focuses on the bullying of LGBTQ youth and the ways people can intervene. The series will be exhibited in a local gallery and in partnership with the SSC (using funding from Beyond the Bridge – see below) will go to middle schools for staff workshops and panel discussions with students. Cody will also have a booth at Pride to meet with those interested and to promote the project. It was suggested he contact N.W Youth Panels. For more information contact www.codyblomberg.com SSC is lucky to be teaming with Cody on this project.

4. BEYOND THE BRIDGE –Stacy

Beyond the Bridge is a community of people committed to supporting LGBTQ youth in Puget Sound. They do this through fundraising, connecting youth to resources and working to create more affirming spaces in their families, schools and places of worship. To learn more go to www.beyondthebridge.com. They made five community grants last year and SSC was one of the recipients. Thank you so much. They held their second annual House party last Sat. We invite you to visit their great website and check out the monthly newsletter. Thanks again for supporting the Safe Schools Coalition.

5. WA STATE ANTI-BULLYING WORKGROUP NEWS – Gabi, Jill, Linda, Heather, Lonnie, Suzanne, Tracy, Talcott

a) The June meeting was to share the work of the sub groups and the results of surveys some of them did. We will be looking for the work dealing with homophobia, racism etc. that can lead to bullying. Sept. 12 is the next full work group meeting.

b) For anyone interested in the details of the Bullying Workgroup, the information is provided on OSPI website: www.k12.wa.us/safetycenter/BullyingHarassment/WorkGroup.aspx

c) Agenda, minutes, timeline and group activity are all available here:
www.k12.wa.us/safetycenter/BullyingHarassment/PastMeetings.aspx

6. INTERVENTION TEAM REPORT – Penny
 Intervention Report June 19, 2012

- a) 9 calls through our dispatchers at King County Sexual Assault Resource Center
- b) A 12 yr old was pinched, pushed, and received a death threat. The parent talked to principal but did not feel like much support was given. The principal talked to bullies but the behavior has not stopped. Parent was going to police.
- c) Colorado kindergartner is being harassed and intimidated. The principal has also made inappropriate remarks and threatened to hold bullied the bullied child back if complaints do not stop.
- d) 2 boys have threatened a 15yr. old girl. This has been reported to police.
- e) Chicago 13-year old boy bullied by 2 former friends. Parent believes it is racial.
- f) An elem. child being bullied and punished at private school. The child is new to school and mother is employee of the district so she feels she is not being listened to.

In each of these cases the Coalition’s Intervention specialist listened (sometimes at length), coached the family and/or the student about navigating the school system, discussed the pros and cons of contacting law enforcement, suggested resources, and/or strategized next steps.

7. SPEAKERS BUREAU REPORT – Briana, Heather, Katrina
Speakers Bureau Manager Report
 May-June 2012

Speakers Bureau & Training Team

Date:	Location:	Trainers:	Audience Total:
5/21	Chief Sealth High School	Grace Kong	79
6/8	Orion Youth Council	Fievel Jack Finley	6
6/15	Orca Race and Identity Mini Conference	Katrina	30

Pending: Hip-hop and Gender
 Bayan LGBTQ Training
 Filipino Community of Seattle Youth Program Pride Discussion
 Summer Staff Development Training Series

Outreach

Date:	Location:	Tablers:
4 th Thursday/mo. 2012	WFHB Radio Segments Seattle Channel	Beth, Gabi, Rosalinda, Tracy Beth, Heather Murphy

Upcoming: Beyond the Bridge Reception
 Pride Parade

8. WEB SITE(S) REPORT – Gabi
 May 2012 Website Statistics: total page views 69,916
 Total visitors 32,466, Total unique IPs 14,983.

And FreeFind (which is the free service we use so folks can search on our website) read 910 pages on our site (includes pdf pages) and they reported on top keywords which included: Families, Children, Healthy, Supportive, Gay, Anti and Church. Some of the recent phrase queries were: "Glossary" and "Gender book" and "Peer mediation", "Age appropriate and "Gender equity."

9. LISTSERV REPORT – Beth

Subscribers include teachers and other K-12 and university employees, staff of community-based organizations, activists (youth and adult), parents and other family members, government employees and school board members. We have 869 subscribers, which includes 11 countries, 5 Canadian provinces, and 47 states. The numbers do not reflect how many on our list forward the information to other groups and/or people they work with. Thanks to our list serve volunteers who research the information and pass it on.

10. ELECTEDFACE.COM – Kathy (or Mo for Kathy)

Kathy Sakahara passed along this new website that offers organizations a way to engage their members in civic activism. We discussed whether it might be useful. More research was needed. Gabi will look into the website.

11. WHITE PRIVILEGE CONFERENCE – Mo

WPC (www.whiteprivilegeconference.com/wpc.html) will hold their annual conference in Seattle the spring of 2013. WPC is a conference that examines challenging concepts of privilege and oppression and offers solutions and team building strategies to work toward a more equitable world. It is not a conference designed to attack, degrade or beat up on white folks. It is not a conference designed to rally white supremacist groups. WPC is a conference designed to examine issues of privilege beyond skin color. WPC is open to everyone and invites diverse perspectives to provide a comprehensive look at issues of privilege including: race, gender, sexuality, class, disability, etc. — the ways we all experience some form of privilege, and how we're all affected by that privilege.

WPC is looking for commitments from Seattle-based organizations willing to serve on the planning committee. We think LGBTQ voices at the table are important. Airen Lydick agreed in April to represent us on the WPC planning committee. Are you interested in representing SSC too? If so, please contact Airen: info@camptentrees.org

12. MEMBERSHIP REPORT – Gabi

Nothing new to report.

13. FISCAL REPORT – Michelle

For the month, our ending bank balance is \$32,548.22. We are facing the larger than usual monthly expenses in June with the Pride parade expenditures, but nothing that is of concern.

14. PRIDE ISSUE OF SGN – Mo

We agreed to put an advertisement in the remaining 2 Pride issues of the Seattle Gay News. Thanks Beth for taking care of this. And thank you, SGN, for the great discount in pricing.

15. NEW RESOURCE FROM NATIONAL CENTER FOR TRANSGENDER EQUALITY -- Mo

We were given a copy of their new TRANSGENDER AND GENDER NON-CONFORMING STUDENT: YOUR RIGHTS AT SCHOOL. It has some good information and a list of resources on the back. We will check to see if SSC can be added to this list.

We are also interested in how people hear about the Safe Schools Coalition. It was suggested that the Intervention Specialists ask the callers how they found our name and number.

16. BROWN COUNTY GATHERING - Beth

There is a group in Florida who is interested in bringing together people from all over the country who are in Lisa Love's position with the Seattle School District to network, share ideas, materials, resources etc. Beth is in contact with the group. More info to follow.

17. OASIS YOUTH CENTER JULY 21ST FUNDRAISER - Matthew

This is the last day of Tacoma's Pride Fest and features gourmet dinners at private homes. A group dessert function will also be available. For more information please contact Matthew or Oasis at www.oasisyouthcenter.org

Oasis strives to:

Support and empower youth

Create healthy community

Provide essential resources

Promote cultural diversity

Advocate for civil rights

Oasis is committed to providing a safe, affirming space for LGBTQ youth to be proud of who they are and the encouragement they need to become healthy, productive and fully participating citizens.

Supported by a team of dozens of staff and volunteers, Oasis offers an amazing array of activities to more than 400 youth annually.

18. THANK YOU GLSEN (Gay Lesbian and Straight Education Network) for providing Katrina office space to do her very important work for the Coalition.