

**Greater Spokane Substance Abuse Council's (GSSAC'S)
Community Coalition Meeting Minutes**

*A Gathering of Those Working to Reduce Substance Abuse and Violence
Through Community Mobilization and Drug Free Communities*

Tuesday, December 8, 2009

Location: Meeting held at the Spokane Regional Health District, 1101 W. College, Spokane, WA 99201 from 12:00pm-1:30 pm.

Attendees: Matt Shea, WA State Rep. Matt Shea; Erin Vincent, Office of U.S. Senator Patty Murray; Barb Bumann, Office of WA State Senator Chris Marr; Ben Oakley, Office of WA State Rep. Kevin Parker; Marcus Riccelli, Office of U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell; Meghan Quinn, Office of WA State Rep. John Driscoll; Shannon Waechter, Office of WA State Rep. Timm Ormsby; Kimm Hill, Office of WA State Senator Lisa Brown; Linda Thompson, Greater Spokane Substance Abuse Council (GSSAC) Executive Director; Ed Neunherz, President of GSSAC's Policy Board; Rosemarie Hull, Sacred Heart Medical Center/Medical Community; Zachary Pullin, NATIVE Project; Lauren Benson, NATIVE Project; Jennifer Hansen, Spokane Regional Health District/Tobacco Free Spokane; Annette Ingham, Spokane County Prosecuting Attorney's Office Victim/Witness Unit; Mary Ann Murphy, Partners With Families and Children; Brent Hill, Teen Challenge; Christy Hamilton, Spokane COPS; Diana Somerville, Spokane County Sheriff's Office Neighborhood Watch; Rick Scott, SCOPE; Detective Gerry Fojtik, Spokane County Sheriff Department; Astri Zidack, Northeast Washington ESD101; Catherine Lyle, Spokane Public Schools/GRAA Grant; Bonnie Ducharme, Spokane Public Schools; Dr. Mike Mainer, Spokane County Substance Abuse Advisory Board; Craig Howard, Spokane Valley Herald/ GSSAC Policy Board Member; Alan Zeuge, Spokane County Community Services; Laurie Dretke, Spokane County Community Services; Ashley Schutt, Spokane County Community Services Intern; Gunthild Sondhi, GSSAC Evaluator; Julie Greeson, Dept. of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR); Rachael Griffey, Spokane County Sheriff's Office/Medical Lake PTO; Jim Kaufman, Spokane County Prosecutor's Office; Diane Jackson, Director of East Central Community Center; Ray Sacchi, GSSAC DUI Prevention Coordinator; Dr. Sandra Altshuler, Drug Court; Paul Sulley, Independent Trainer; Tracey Osso, GSSAC Drug Free Communities Coordinator; Kendra Juarez, Educational/Justice Programs Coordinator; Bailey Roberts, GSSAC Gang Prevention Community Organizer; Terrie Austin, GSSAC Washington Drug Free Youth (WDFY) Coordinator.

Welcome: Coalition Chair: **Ed Neunherz, GSSAC Policy Board President** with **Linda Thompson, GSSAC Executive Director**

Pledge of Allegiance: Lead by **Ed Neunherz**

Moment of Silence: In support of the Fallen Lakewood Police Officers, we had a moment of silence to begin the meeting.

Introductions: All of those in attendance introduced themselves

Ray Sacchi, GSSAC DUI Prevention Coordinator – Ray has just completed the year end reports on GSSAC's DUI Victims Panel and the 24 Hour Jail Alternative Programs. He

explained that the 24 Hour Jail Alternative Program saved the citizens of Spokane County \$45,000 this year in costs and cleared jail space. The program participants pay the program fees which over the lifetime of the program has saved the taxpayers over \$350,000.

Diane Jackson, East Central Community Center—She mentioned the 28th Annual Christmas Event to be held on Saturday, December 12, at 1pm. They are anticipating serving over 500 or more at the event.

Detective Gerry Fojtik, Spokane County Sheriff Department—He expressed serious concern on behalf of law enforcement on the Medical Marijuana Law. He is concerned that 59% voter pass was for good intent because of debilitating illness, but unfortunately drug dealers are hiding behind the law. There are 13 states with similar laws and most limit citizens to a few ounces. Two states limit to 24 ounces. Some states allow 15 plants. This is a problem because each of these plants can produce up to 16.5 lbs of marijuana. Producers make money by selling marijuana. The law states that there can be one provider per patron. However, there are now dispensaries. When law enforcement makes checks on these “dispensaries” they will be told that they have one patient per grower, then after the sale, producers change to a new patient. Law enforcement needs help to deal with the issue of medical marijuana through the tightening of our state’s marijuana laws.

[Invitations for Those Representing Legislators to Speak –](#)

Washington State Representative Matt Shea, 4th District—Rep. Shea mentioned the \$2.7 billion budget shortfall is going to affect their work in Olympia and it may be up to \$3 billion by the time session begins. He was supportive of the community needs and will be working hard to help meet the needs.

Erin Vincent, U.S. Senator Patty Murray—Mentioned that she is there as a resource and can answer questions if need help or assistance. *Note: Senators Murray and Cantwell staff facilitated a grant/funding workshop that was very helpful to local organization here in our area. Our thanks were given to the Senators’ offices for this resource.*

Barb Bumann, WA State Senator Chris Marr—Mentioned she is taking input back to Senator Marr. She also seconded Senator Marr’s remarks that this has been a very challenging session. She also said thank you for serving Papa John’s pizza for lunch as a percentage of the cost is being donated to helping the families of the Fallen Lakewood Police Officers.

Ben Oakley, WA State Rep. Kevin Parker—Mentioned that he is there to gather info, talk about concerns and then relay the information with Rep. Parker.

Marcus Riccelli, U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell—Mentioned that he is there to listen and report to Senator Cantwell. He also mentioned that he is on Daybreak’s Board. He expressed interest in learning more about the agenda item to including substance abuse in the Health Care Reform Bill.

Kimm Hill, WA State Senator Lisa Brown—Mentioned that they are working to preserve and create a safety net for those in need in our state. She applauded the Coalition for their

work and everything they do to reduce the impact of violence and substance abuse in our community (ies).

Shannon Waechter, WA State Rep. Timm Ormsby—Mentioned that she is available to hear what Coalition members have to say and she is here to listen and report back to Rep. Timm Ormsby.

Meghan Quinn, WA State Rep. John Driscoll—Mentioned that Rep. Driscoll is keeping an eye on the healthcare bill. She was glad to be here to learn more and answer questions.

“Call To Action” – Led by **Linda Thompson, Executive Director of GSSAC**

Legislative Updates/Discussion for 2010 Sessions

State:

- **Beer and wine sampling in grocery stores—currently a pilot.** The Liquor Control Board is working on a state law that allows beer and wine sampling in grocery stores. This is not a good community norm for children. It also causes difficulties for people in recovery. There are other places that provide beer and wine sampling.

We are advocating to not allow wine and beer sampling in grocery stores.

- **Move of Community Mobilization to DSHS.** The Governor’s budget and proposals move Community Mobilization to the Department of Social and Health Services with no specific department listed. There is discussion to move Community Mobilization to the Dept. of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR) formerly the Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse (DASA) if it moves from the Dept. of Commerce.

Mary Ann Murphy, Partners With Families and Children—Asked to clarify where we want Community Mobilization to be in state government.

Linda Thompson, Executive Director of GSSAC—Stated the Dept. of Commerce is where Community Mobilization currently resides and it is an excellent fit because reducing substance abuse and violence is about supporting viable communities. Businesses grow in safe communities. We work with community capacity and like the Community block grants program, should stay in the Dept. of Commerce. Linda did state that this is only the beginning of the work of the legislature and governor so more information to follow.

- **Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities funding at risk**

Alan Zeuge, Spokane County Community Services—Mentioned prevention is both **funded** with Federal Safe and Drug Free Communities dollars and is a combination of State and Federal dollars.

Linda Thompson, Executive Director of GSSAC—Yes, both Senate and House have zeroed out Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities dollars at the federal level. Community Mobilization money comes through the Communities part of this funding and is funneled through the Governor’s Office in Washington state. 80% of the rest of the federal **SAPT Block Grant** money goes through DBHR and then to OSPI to school districts to educate and provide prevention training to school districts in the state. Consortium works together under Title IV.

I am unclear where the 80% - comes from???? - GS

Astri Zidack, Northeast Washington ESD101—Through Title IV all schools received some money with requirements for program. Because of the cuts to the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities dollars, they are now zeroed out and schools aren't mandated to teach prevention. These programs are likely to disappear. Evidenced based activities and student assistant specialists funding is also trickling away. All of these prevention activities had received some funds and we are all working together to keep services available to our youth and children.

Linda Thompson, Executive Director of GSSAC—The zeroed out budget will definitely affect prevention in schools and communities. Of the 39 counties in Washington, there are 37 coalitions (Benton/Franklin and Chelan/Douglas combine—thus the 37 versus 39) with Community Mobilization programs and it looks like Community Mobilization will partner with DBHR starting in July. Of the ten eastern counties, their prevention money is also at risk with the DBHR prevention dollars due to a proposed reorganization of prevention by DBHR in our state. 20% used to come from Safe and Drug Free Schools and will likely be zeroed out. This will cause a 50% cut on coalition working with Community Mobilization budget cuts. We need to work together and blend services to make services strong. We need to work together and network, such as share trainings. We are asking our legislators and coalition members to advocate for prevention and use your resources to help.

- **Revision to Alcohol policies and marketing around schools.** Policies involving marketing around school continue to change. We are trying to promote a positive community norm for children and avoid the presence of alcohol sales in areas where children are present such as schools/parks/community centers. Last session, prevention advocates fought against alcohol being sold in the gift shop in the state capital building. We were unable to stop that bill from passing. This sends a message that alcohol is available anywhere. This is not a healthy message for children.

Regarding advertising alcohol around schools, the situation at Grant Elementary and the nearby tavern was discussed. The tavern is 622 feet from the front door of the school but only 20 feet from the school. Proposed changes to the RCW, would restrict sales/signs to be more than 1,000 feet from school property. We hope to also address signage at public events, i.e. Neighborhood Festival and Riverfront Park events, where often a banner from an alcohol company is near the main stage and/or by the jumping castle where the children are. Signs should not promote alcohol at our community events with children nearby. As a coalition we must educate our community concerning our perspective. We will stay vigilant with the process of the changes to the Liquor Control Board's RCWs.

- **Secure Medicine Return Bill (2SHB 1165) (state and federal).** GSSAC's Community Coalition is working with law enforcement, businesses and environment groups. Group Health has a successful medicine return program in Spokane County. Congressman Jay Inslee is working on this law at a federal level (HR 1191). Our Coalition has asked that pharmaceutical companies be included in the funding this initiative. When the Medicine Take Back bill was being worked on last session in the Washington State Legislature, there are 24 lobbyists from the pharmaceutical companies at work on the hill against the Take Back" bill and responsibilities of who will pay. The Washington Association for Substance

Abuse and Violence Prevention (WASAVP) with support from community coalitions across the state will again support the Take Bill this upcoming session.

Marcus Riccelli, U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell—Mentioned that U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell is paying close attention to and supporting this bill.

Linda Thompson, Executive Director of GSSAC—Recommended that our legislators call GSSAC or a Coalition member if they have questions.

Dr. Sandra Altshuler, Drug Court—Asked, “Why is someone lobbying against this bill?”

Linda Thompson, Executive Director of GSSAC—The answer is pharmaceutical companies don’t want to be responsible for take back programs. Some cities have law enforcement take back programs. There are additional resources needed. She spoke with Jim Goodwin, Spokane County Sheriff’s office, and the Sheriff’s office only takes medicine back in case of a death, when it is considered evidence. Several coalition members reminded folks that Group Health has a take back medicine program that is available to the community. Our waste to energy plan also will take back medicines to be destroyed there.

Also, Representative Roger Goodman is one of the key sponsors on a bill to legalize marijuana not just decriminalize it. This is both a state and federal issue. Our coalition will stay steadfast in our opposition to this bill.

Ray Sacchi, GSSAC DUI Prevention Coordinator— Regarding the medicine return bill, had hundreds of dollars in meds after mother passed away and they had no idea of what to do with them. They asked the doctor and the doctor stated Group Health would take back the meds. Mr. Sacchi was concerned about being robbed for the meds. Not only did they want to dispose of the meds in a responsible manner, they also wanted to get the meds out of their house.

Linda Thompson, Executive Director of GSSAC—GSSAC’s Rx Watch program works with law enforcement and community groups educating the community about the impact of prescription drug abuse. There has been an alarming increase in overdoses and abuse concerns. Washington state leads the nation in pharmacy robberies. The coalition membership will continue to work together on this critical issue.

○ **Coalition input—what other issues?**

Gerry Fojtik, Spokane Sheriff’s office—Mentioned the Medical Marijuana Law in Washington. Washington allows 24oz and 15 plants which is more than a 60 day supply. They confiscated 16.5lbs and its \$2,000 per pound. See notes in introduction section.

Rachael Griffey, Spokane County Sheriff’s Office Grants/ Medical Lake PTO—Mentioned she would also like to see needle take back (disposing of sharps) included in medicine return bill. Some meds are only in needle form, such as those for multiple sclerosis. Pharmacy has said to just throw away needles. She contacted waste management in Spokane and they told her to take them to hazardous waste section at disposal site. This only works if citizens are willing to take them there.

Ed Neunherz, President of GSSAC's Policy Board—Concerned that Linda had previously mentioned three violations statewide with the beer and wine sampling. He is concerned about additional violations. More information to follow after checking into this.

Alan Zeuge, Spokane County Community Services—Mentioned that he went to observe a wine tasting in the grocery store and, of course since it had just started, they followed protocol. However, wine and beer tasting in grocery stores just increases the number of distributors.

Gunthild Sondhi, GSSAC Evaluator—Stated this is also an issue for those in recovery and simply going to the store can be difficult when they see service of wine/beer. The recovering community has been great supporters of our prevention efforts in this area.

Shannon Waechter, WA State Rep. Timm Ormsby—Mentioned that this is a good example of how advocacy groups changes bills and how it changed. She urged Coalition members to give themselves a round of applause.

Linda Thompson, Executive Director of GSSAC—Clarified that these tastings indirectly market to youth and people will be driving home afterward. 60% of our area's state representatives and senators in our area voted "No." Thank you. This shows that our leaders are open to our views and listen to our voices.

Dr. Sandra Altshuler, Drug Court—Mentioned she is concerned about harmful prescriptions and that at the DEC Conference Rob McKenna had mentioned Prescription Monitoring Systems. He spoke about pharmacies using a data base so people/addicts can't "doctor shop." There is a growing problem with prescription drug addictions. The Statewide Prescription Monitoring Program should be proposed again for funding.

Mary Ann Murphy, Partners With Families and Children—Stated that just hearing Sandy speak reminded her of her work and research with Drug Endangered Children. When the Sheriff's office 1st received the DEC grant, they took kids out of Meth homes where it was manufactured. Children suffered inhalation of harmful chemicals and signs of neglect for lack of parents. Research was done by Dr. Altshuler regarding how children are affected and left behind from drugs.

Linda Thompson, Executive Director of GSSAC—Mentioned that Sheriff Stark's office advocated for the Drug Endangered Children grant and worked with Congressman Nethercutt and Esther Larsen. Programs to address the needs of Drug Endangered Children continue through congressional support. Thank you to Senators Cantwell and Murray and Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers.

Rosemarie Hull, Sacred Heart Medical Center/Medical Community—Hospitals are concerned about monitoring harmful prescriptions. In Spokane, the hospitals track narcotics for those attempting to sell or abuse prescription drugs. There is a joint commission that says pain needs to be controlled and Emergency Room physicians must meet needs and requirements. We are appreciative of our hospitals working together to reduce the availability of narcotics on the streets.

Linda Thompson, Executive Director of GSSAC—A Random Act of Prevention award needs to go to Sacred Heart and our area hospitals for monitoring prescriptions, such as narcotics, and placing patterns under prescriptions so the papers can't be copied. There is a growing problem. CHAS clinic has requested that we educate their medical providers regarding Rx drug abuse.

Alan Zeuge, Spokane County Community Services—Mentioned that he is also concerned about Medical Marijuana – 60% of youth entering treatment stated Marijuana is their preferred drug of choice. Decriminalizing and legalizing Marijuana is an issue that keeps resurfacing. Moving toward relaxing laws is not good. Marijuana is not a benign drug and it's usually added to alcohol.

“As I said, 60% of youth entering treatment (not youth in general) stated Marijuana is their preferred drug of choice. I think this is an important difference because it ties marijuana use to the need for treatment, meaning it is not a harmless substance as many folks advocate.

This is a crucial time to make this case because a west side legislator (State Rep. Mary Lou Dickerson) is once again introducing legislation to legalize marijuana in this state. (see article: http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2010610884_marijuana28m.html)

In addition, the statement "60% of youth stated Marijuana is their preferred drug of choice" is not accurate. Per the Healthy Youth Survey alcohol is still the preferred drug of choice at about 41% for 12 graders. Then marijuana at about 23% and tobacco (cigarettes) at about 20% follow.

Also, I don't think I said that marijuana is usually added to alcohol, but that alcohol comes after marijuana as drug of choice for youth entering treatment. Marijuana is at about 60% and Alcohol is next at about 20% (<http://www.dshs.wa.gov/pdf/hrsa/dasa/Trends07Admissions.pdf>)

Ray Sacchi, GSSAC DUI Prevention Coordinator—As an adjunct professor at WSU, I have noticed a common misperception about alcohol and marijuana both being safe drugs.

Federal:

- **Including substance abuse in health care reform bill.** **Linda Thompson, Executive Director of GSSAC**—She encouraged Coalition members to jump in if they have info to share. Adding substance abuse prevention to Healthcare Reform Bill would support reducing the impact of substance abuse. It is a health issue and wellness issue. See info sheet. Prevention saves \$7 tax dollars for every \$1 spent on treatment. We encourage you to send letters of support.
- **Budget cut-backs involving prevention.** **Jennifer Hansen, Spokane Regional Health District/Tobacco Free Spokane**—By June 2010, should have same laws for liquor as with tobacco around schools. We can see flavored tobacco being cut. Funding for tobacco prevention is likely to get cut in the near future. Unfortunately, 20% of pregnant moms in Spokane are smoking. We are working with the hospitals to help identify and reduce problems and affects through our Birth Outcomes Task Force. In the past, the tobacco industry set their regulations. Now there are new FDA laws regarding tobacco and the members were referred to their handout. Hopefully they won't reduce prevention efforts

just because of FDA laws. The county commissioners and city are supportive but we are restricted for taxes on a state level for both alcohol and tobacco taxes. These taxes have proven to reduce youth smoking.

Linda Thompson, Executive Director of GSSAC—As an active coalition, we continually watch for changes in tobacco and alcohol social norms and accessibility. Spokane has supportive leadership at County, City, and Health District levels/Boards.

○ **Coalition Input—what other issues?**

Dr. Sandra Altshuler, Drug Court—Budget cuts aren't just affecting the prosecutor's office. It is also affecting law offices and the justice system. The ripple affects will be huge.

Dr. Mike Mainer, Spokane County Substance Abuse Advisory Board—In the past, community could combat meth problems and law enforcement could get people off the streets. Another drug crisis will be coming. It cycles every 15 years.

Jim Kaufman, Spokane County Prosecutor's Office—Law Enforcement reduction affects justice system and causes a shrinking Drug Unit. Budget cuts are also affecting the courts as the need for budget increases with the criminal justice system. They are represented, but there have been many years the Legislators' control not applying to budget needs as necessities. Spokane Sheriff Ozzie Knezovich stated that costs were the same amount for other counties in the state. More than 70% will impact crime and our justice system. About 2pm today the County Commissioners will be voting on the County budget.

Marcus Riccelli, U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell—He took this opportunity to address recent questions and phone calls regarding a second stimulus money package. There is not a 2nd stimulus package coming.

Linda Thompson, Executive Director of GSSAC—Our community made good use of the last stimulus money affecting our law enforcement and schools.

Group Discussion: Community Needs and Resources

Linda Thompson, Executive Director of GSSAC—Mentioned that we want to end our meeting on a positive note and asked the Coalition members for positive feedback. For example, Rick Scott from SCOPE and their coat drive. We need to hear and see friends' faces. We will be **launching a "Year of Giving"**. Each month we will give back to the community at our meetings. Examples: January- Sock drive August- School Supplies. She encouraged members to begin thinking ahead with options of giving.

Good things happening in the community.

▪ **Good work going in Drop-out prevention. Two new folks at West Valley**

Astri Zidack, Northeast Washington ESD101—Spokane is working to address the high dropout rate in our community and addressing the rate in rural areas. We are trying to reach those in jail or who disappear. This is having a positive impact with intensive case managers. There are two new prevention specialists in the West Valley District to help high-risk kids. There is a focus on recovery, outcomes and impact.

- **WDFY adding Contract Based Education chapter in West Valley School District**
Terrie Austin, GSSAC Washington Drug Free Youth (WDFY) Coordinator—Contract Based started their WDFY group in West Valley yesterday. Many of the students were in recovery and wanted WDFY to feel the positive pressure now that they are clean. Linda added the great effort of WDFY is helping to grow a drug free work force in our community.

- **Resource and grant support locally Earmark Congressional Senator Murray and Senator Cantwell**

Erin Vincent, U.S. Senator Patty Murray—As **Marcus Riccelli**, from **U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell**, said, there won't be any new stimulus money. U.S. Senator Murray is the Chair on the Transportation Committee and is representing Washington with grants to Washington and the earmark process. She is working to bring resources to communities in our state.

- **SCOPE is expanding and now has 18 stations throughout the county, including Elk**

Rick Scott, SCOPE—Good things are happening at SCOPE. There is more interaction with our communities. They are set up by community and there are currently 18 stations. They have had 32 new volunteers and have meetings 4-6 times a year. They have seen the volunteers more enthusiastic. Each station has established goals and they will release summaries after the 1st of the year.

- **COPS—11 stations citywide**

Christy Hamilton, Spokane COPS—There are 16 prevention projects and they are volunteer oriented. They encourage people to volunteer in their community, and/or be a McGruff House. They are also working to include crime prevention in education. Unlike CSI and Law & Order, it takes 6-18 months to close a drug house. Community members are being diverted to COPS to volunteer. You're only as safe as the community allows you to be. With budget cuts in law enforcement, there will be at least 20 bodies not available for police patrols. Volunteer applications are online.

- **Neighborhood Watch is active**

Diana Somerville, Spokane County Sheriff's Office Neighborhood Watch—With the shrinking budget, community members need to take interest in their own communities. Take ownership. Also, the State Crime Prevention Conference will be in April.

Linda Thompson, Executive Director of GSSAC—**Coalition set a goal to recruit 5 new volunteers for SCOPE or Neighborhood Watch by Coalition meeting in January.** She then asked Annette Ingham about how things are where she is at.

Annette Ingham, Spokane County Prosecuting Attorney's Office Victim/Witness Unit—They lost two employees in her unit alone, otherwise, they are busy with prosecutors and homicide trials coming in January.

- **National Drug Endangered Children Conference in Spokane last September.**

- **Drug Court had a record 12 graduates in Washington. Resources and referrals are needed to keep the program**

Dr. Sandra Altshuler, Drug Court—Drug Court had 12 graduates in October – a record number. This is good news for graduates but referrals are down. Drug crimes are often victimless crimes. They are geared up with SAMSHA grants and lots of webinars that can be time consuming.

- **Spokane Public Schools received a GRA grant for funding parenting classes. They will also be having resource changes.**

Catherine Lyle, Spokane Public Schools/GRAA Grant—Parenting classes are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-8pm. Classes are open to parents with concerns about alcohol and drug use. Classes are also open to parents of students with violations and that reside in the County.

Linda Thompson, Executive Director of GSSAC—Fabulous things are being done by Catherine and the GRAA grant (Grant to Reduce Alcohol Abuse.) Their funding ends after a year. Thank you Catherine for being such a great asset to our community.

Astri Zidack, Northeast Washington ESD101—Safe and Drug Free Schools funding ends and program will end. There are many County representatives but programs will be scarce. Paid out of Title IV funds and will change.

- **Coalition heard a positive story about a Chase Middle School youth.**

Catherine Lyle, Spokane Public Schools/GRAA Grant—A student moved to Spokane to get clean. He helped out at a WDFY booth and since he has moved to Spokane he is passing his classes, had clean UAs and is working. He is an example of a student moving from gangs and drugs to clean.

- **Exemplary Prevention Awards—Lincoln County Winner**

Julie Greeson, Dept. of Behavioral Health and Recovery—Five Prevention Awards. were given at the State wide Prevention Summit with one of them being a wonderful volunteer from Lincoln County Community Mobilization.

- **List to West CAPT—Technical Assistance**

Julie Greeson, Dept. of Behavioral Health and Recovery—CAPT (Center for Applied Prevention Technical Assistance) is available to advance field with good resources. For more info look at GSSAC's website.

- **NATIVE Project—Biggest number of participants ever in Community Wellness Program.**

Lauren Benson, NATIVE Project—This has been the largest/greatest year with Community Wellness Program. This is a free, family-oriented program at Havermale. The program occurs on the 3rd Wednesday and addresses health education. They received a support increase with service learning students from local colleges.

- **Service learning students from local colleges are eager to volunteer**

- **Teen Challenge has 20 upcoming graduates.**

Brent Hill, Teen Challenge—They have 20 graduates, and usually have 40 total participants in the program. Brent Hill also stated he has given substance abuse prevention talks to 2,000 different individuals/students in our community. Kids are eager to come and listen.

Community Circle—Appreciation was expressed to Representative Shea and the staff of the Legislators for taking their time to attend the meeting. We always feel so honored to have our leadership involved in our prevention work.

Mary Ann Murphy, Partners With Families and Children—Recommended that when the Legislators are up against budget difficulties, they need to remember that prevention saves money and the cuts will be reflected in other areas such as increased crime/treatment needs and the school drop out rate.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 1:28 pm.

The Next Meeting will be held on January 26, 2010 12:00pm–1:30pm at the Spokane Regional Health District Auditorium.

Submitted by: Tracey E. Osso

Please Note: For the purpose of clarifying the budget issues, staff has added clarifying language to the section of budget cuts on page 4. In addition, Al Zeuge modified how his comments concerning marijuana appeared in the minutes.