

TEEN PREGNANCY TASK FORCE

Meeting Minutes

March 1, 2010

I. Call to order

Marcia Spector called to order the third meeting of the Teen Pregnancy Task Force at 2:05 PM on March 2, 2010 in the Suffolk County Legislative Building, North County Complex, Hauppauge, NY 11788.

II. Roll call

The following Task Force Members were present:

Janet P. Cassidy, SC One-Stop Employment Center, Jennifer Freeman, Suffolk County Executive Office, Lorraine Gariboldi, Life Center of LI, Inc., Penny Ilberg, Department of Social Services, Molly Licalzi, Eastern Suffolk BOCES, Judith Specht, RN., Stony Brook Hospital, Marcia K. Spector, SNAP, Lorraine Squires, Mastics Moriches Shirley Community Library

The following visitors were present:

Virginia Corbett, RN., L.I. Teen Freedom, Sandra Gil, Suffolk County Department of Health Services, Nancy Hemendinger, Suffolk County Department of Health Services, Kim Mansueto, SNAP, Ann Maurren, Suffolk County Department of Health Services, Christina Noonan, Planned Parenthood, Seth Squicciarino, Legislative Aide for Legislator Vivian Vilorio-Fisher, Suzanne Witzenburg, Planned Parenthood

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Minutes were reviewed with six changes. Marcia Spector requested her name be spelled correctly; under Roll Call, not all members attending have been appointed as Teen Pregnancy Task Force members; change to "The following persons were present", submitted by Lorraine Gariboldi: IV(g) replace the word "popularity" with "widespread use", IV(h) replace "\$3 million" with "approximately \$2.5 million", IV(h) insert a comma after "successful" and replace "reporting" with "with a goal to achieve"; IV(l) please change the word "children" to "students" and "picked up" with "funded". Nancy Hemendinger made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Judith Specht, minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. Chairperson's Report:

- a) Handout was distributed by Jennifer Freeman entitled "State Wide Teen Pregnancy Prevention Organizations: Recommendations and Lessons Learned."

- Marcia Spector reported that she and Judy Specht established guidelines for future meetings. Meetings will be limited to Task Force member participation. If time permits, visitors will be given 5 minutes to share during the New Business portion of the meeting. Marcia hopes to have name plates by the next meeting.
- b) Marcia Spector distributed paperwork including: Meeting Agenda, Schedule of Meetings and Public Hearings, Summary of Recent Statistics Related to Adolescent Pregnancy and Sexuality and Comparison of 1999 and 2007 SNAP Summit Meetings.
 - c) Marcia Spector reported a change to the location for the next meeting. Suggestions considered were the County Executive's Office, Health Department - Building C928 classroom and the Labor Department. Future meetings will be held at 2:00 PM on Wednesday, 3/24, 4/7, 4/21, 5/5, 5/19, 6/2 and 6/16. The schedule of public hearings is as follows: Thursday, 3/25, 7-9 PM, Riverhead County Center, Tuesday, 4/20, 3-5 PM, Brentwood Public Library, Tuesday, 5/4, 7-9 PM, Mastic-Moriches-Shirley Community Library, Tuesday, 6/1, 7-9 PM, Babylon Town Hall Annex.
 - d) Marcia Spector would like the Task Force to proceed by looking at the following issues: understanding why teens are getting pregnant, comparing state and county statistics (handout), resources, and identifying disparities. Marcia would like state and county departments and voluntary agencies to present a brief overview of preventive and treatment services available to teens. Marcia contacted the Health Services Commissioner for information about the Department's services. Penny Ilberg will present an overview of services provided by the Department of Social Services at the April 7th meeting.

V. Election of Task Force Secretary

- a) Marcia Spector suggested that we have a secretary for the Task Force who can oversee the processing of the minutes. Minutes will be sent to the chairperson for final approval. Judy Specht made a motion to appoint Nancy Hemendinger as secretary, seconded by Penny Ilberg. All were in favor, none opposed.

VI. March 25th Public Hearing in Riverhead

- a) Seth Squicciarino said the public hearing schedule will be posted on the Legislative website and press releases will be sent announcing the hearings. Seth will secure a clerical person to take minutes at the hearings. Jennifer Freeman will inquire about the logistics of the public hearings. Nancy Hemendinger suggested that each task force member send the public hearing information to their contacts. She also suggested that males be included in this process. Marcia Spector raised the question about who will be contacted about the hearings. Responses included: schools, colleges, youth, contracted agencies, One Stop Employment, Minority Health, courts, County Executive Office listing, libraries,

hospitals, churches, advisory boards, doctors, nurses and the Department of Labor. Marcia's staff will create a two sided flyer. Sandra Gil offered to translate the flyer into Spanish.

VII. Review of Findings of 1999 and 2007 Focus Groups on Adolescent Pregnancy

- a) Marcia Spector asked the group what they would like to know about teen pregnancy. Discussion regarding the "Comparison of 1999 and 2007 SNAP Summit Meetings" handout and how we must turn obstacles into opportunities. The handout was divided into categories of Community, Gender, Media, Culture, Parent, School and Politics. Marcia asked if there were any specific questions Task Force members would like answered. Jennifer Freeman would like to know how county teen pregnancies compare to the state numbers. Nancy Hemendinger would like to understand how we can address the effects of social networking and the media on teen's high risk behaviors. Judy Specht commented that she has observed Spanish TV and it appears to resemble a "soap opera type show". Lorraine Squires responded that we need to find ways to provide teens with resources before they are in crisis.

VIII. County Funded Services

- a) Marcia Spector asked everyone on the Task Force to re-introduce themselves and give a short summary of the professional work they do. She commented that BOCES once had a wonderful program that trained and supported young teen mothers. Molly Licalzi said she would research that program. Other suggested topics that Task Force members may be able to share information about are statutory rape and teenagers and the law. Sandra Gill commented on a successful new program at Mastic Library for immigrants who are new mothers, or are pregnant.
- b) Kim Mansueto from SNAP presented information regarding teen pregnancy prevention resources. SNAP has provided services to over 15,000 Suffolk County 11-19 year olds. Youth development topics include healthy choices, relationship education, conflict resolution and negotiation skills. Services are provided through weekly groups, Parent Café, doula services, teen parent conferences and annual family retreats. They provide professional training on HIV/AIDS, youth development, mentoring and a peer education theater model. SNAP's expanded social network (Twitter, Facebook, Myspace) allows for continued communication and education of youth. SNAP will be hosting a Youth Summit on June 28th.

IX. New Business

- a) Suzanne Witzenburg reported on Planned Parenthood's services available for teens. Lorraine Squires responded that libraries have easily accessible information for teens.
- b) Next meeting will Wednesday, March 24th at 2:00 PM.
- c) First public hearing will be Thursday, March 25th from 7:00-9:00 PM at the Maxine Postal Legislative Auditorium in the Riverhead County Center.

X. Adjournment

Marcia Spector made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:40 PM, seconded by Jennifer Freeman. Meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Ann Maurren