

Healing Communities Task Force  
Sept 19, 2017 10 a.m.  
Minutes

Present: Alaina Engles, Lynn Fry, Don Waters, Jeff Diller

Since Alaina and Lynn were here for the first time, we reviewed the history of what we've done thus far.

Jeff reviewed the progress of the Training group. Trainings are scheduled for Nov 18, 9-4 at Zion Reformed, and Feb 24, 9-4 at Rouzerville U.M. Jeff along with Barbara Williams and Sue McMorris met twice during the summer to revise the training materials. The team wants to put more focus on churches developing a ministry rather than individuals by themselves getting involved. So we will be encouraging churches to send 3-4 people to a training. A final revision review will be on Tues, Sept 16, 2 p.m. at Zion. Jeff also asked Alaina to find out: 1. What fund balance there is for Healing Communities with SCCAP, 2. What the cost of reproducing the training notebook might be with and without a notebook. Barbara is also checking on a source for notebooks. Flyers promoting the November training should begin going out before the end of the month by email. Barbara and Jeff will also be contacting local churches directly.

Women's mentoring is on hold. We are still looking for a volunteer to organize, train mentors, and support mentors. There are several women interested in being a mentor but we need someone to oversee and sustain it.

Returning citizen/Church connections: Don reported on his very positive meetings at the jail and with probation. Waiting to work out details with jail probation officer and with Dr. Leaman. The idea is that inmates would be able to meet with church representatives at the jail or possibly be able to travel to the church to learn what supports the church is willing to offer. Another possibility is for church representatives to be part of the home plan meeting.

Volunteer "plug-in" guide/Resource guide: Yolanda was not able to be here. For the resource guide she has been gathering info about what supports churches offer. Since we've had a number of people inquire that specifically they can do, we thought this might also be a resource that individuals who want to help can find a place to plug in.

We also discussed the Reentry Simulation event and the Reentry Week in April. It was suggested that community groups (Franklin County Coalition for Continued Progress, Chambersburg United, Concerned Citizens of Franklin county – for example) might be good partners in planning a Simulation event. Also recognize the need to get more pastors involved in the planning. The suggestion is that the Franklin Together Executive committee establish a task force that will plan for Reentry week 2018 that includes a Reentry Simulation.

Don agreed to continue to serve as the Task Force rep to the Executive Committee.

In reviewing the functioning of this committee, our working numbers are low, yet we are making progress. We anticipate that the training revision will pay off in the long run with more churches getting involved rather than just individuals. The challenge is that we are all volunteers and while many people want to get involved hands on, we still need organizers and planners. It was also suggested to survey

people to see if there is anyone who wants to be involved but for whom the Tues, 10 a.m. meeting time is inconvenient.

Next meeting is Tuesday, November 21, 10 a.m. at Zion Reformed Church

Respectfully submitted, Jeff Diller

Note: If you are interested in serving on the Task Force but the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every other month, 10 a.m. time is inconvenient, would you please reply to this email noting:

Would an afternoon or evening time be better?

Would another week day or weekend be better?