

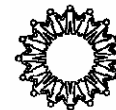
Inside This Issue:

- Articles, p.1, 2
- *Did You Know That...*, p. 3,4

- Meeting Minutes, p. 4-10
- Calendar of Events, p. 10



THE ADVOCATE



The Newsletter of the Greater Taunton Health & Human Service Coalition (GTHHC) and Community Health Network Area 24 –
www.geocities.com/gathercoalition

Volume XVI, No.7, 8

July/August 2006



SUMMER SAFETY AND ENJOYMENT

(From the GTHHC Child and Family Focus Committee)

The Greater Taunton Health & Human Services Coalition (GTHHC) continues to work on child safety issues, and developed the “Top 10 Ways to Save your Child’s Life”.

Watch Your Child

- Children under age 5 should have your undivided attention at all times.
- Stay close to your young children to get to them quickly in an emergency.

Car Seat / Seat Belt Safety

- Be sure your child’s correctly installed car seat meets the correct weight and height requirements.
- Wear your belt to prevent crushing your buckled child in the event of a rollover.

Back, and Tummy Time, Too!

- Infants sleep on their backs to help reduce risk of SIDS
- Tummy time while awake and supervised helps babies develop important muscles and prevent misshapen head

Helmets and Protective Gear

- For you and your child
- For bicycles, skateboarding, scooters, roller blades, skiing, and other sports

Prevent Falls at Home

- Properly install stair gates

- Open windows from the top or install with a 4” opening
- Install latch-type window guards that allow removal by firemen. Screens keep bugs out, not children in!
- Keep furniture away from windows so children cannot climb up to windows

Water Safety

- It takes 1” of water for a child to drown. Watch them near tubs, toilets and coolers.
- Do not rely on floaties and water wings for protection
- Fence pools in completely
- Assign a designated “water watcher” at a pool party – Don’t assume that with lots of adults, someone will notice your child
- Children can get sucked down on drains. Be sure there is an anti-entrapment drain cover and automatic suction shut-off device that senses blockage.

Keep Poisons and Medication Out of a Child’s Reach

- Never call medicine “candy”
- Keep **800-682-9211** handy

Natural Hazards

- Use sunscreen properly
- Use insect repellent with DEET, no more than 10-

15%, apply to clothes and wash the child’s hands.

- Know Lyme disease symptoms. **(800-698-6877)**
- Do not allow children to taste plants

Strangers and Animals

- Supervise your child in public places
- Teach a child to always ask if it is OK to talk to someone he/she does not know, and never go with someone they don’t know well
- Practice “what if scenarios” with children over 5
- Teach them they should tell you if someone makes them feel uncomfortable
- Teach them animal safety

Fire, Heat and Carbon Monoxide

- Water under 120°
- Turn pot handles in and remove knobs
- Test fire alarm batteries monthly, change 2x yearly
- Install a CO detector

The GTHHC hopes to secure funding to print and distribute bookmarks with life saving information on safety issues. Please distribute this article widely. You could save a life! ♥



No July or August GTHHC Networking Meetings

See You **9/19/06**, 9:00, Associates for Human Services, 68 Allison Rd.

FDA Licenses New Vaccine for Prevention of Cervical Cancer and Other Diseases in Females Caused by Human Papilloma Virus ***Rapid Approval Marks Major Advancement in Public Health***

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has announced the approval of Gardasil, the first vaccine developed to prevent cervical cancer, precancerous genital lesions and genital warts due to human papillomavirus (HPV) types 6, 11, 16 and 18. The vaccine is approved for use in females 9-26 years of age.

HPV is the most common sexually-transmitted infection in the United States. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that about 6.2 million Americans become infected with genital HPV each year and that over half of all sexually active men and women

become infected at some time in their lives. For most women, the body's own defense system will clear the virus and infected women do not develop related health problems. However, some HPV types can cause abnormal cells on the lining of the cervix that years later can turn into cancer. Other HPV types can cause genital warts. The vaccine is effective against HPV types 16 and 18, which cause approximately 70 percent of cervical cancers and against HPV types 6 and 11, which cause approximately 90 percent of genital warts.

Immunization with Gardasil is expected to prevent most cases

of cervical cancer due to HPV types included in the vaccine. However, females are not protected if they have been infected with that HPV type(s) prior to vaccination. Gardasil does not protect against less common HPV types not included in the vaccine, thus routine and regular pap screening remain critically important to detect precancerous changes in the cervix to allow treatment before cervical cancer develops.

For more information, see <http://www.fda.gov/womens/getthefacts/hpv.html> ♠

SAMHSA ALERT TO DANGEROUS DRUG COMBO

Substance abuse treatment and prevention professionals are alerted to the potentially lethal effect of a new combination of street drugs. The addition of fentanyl, a powerful narcotic analgesic, to heroin or cocaine being sold on the streets is believed to be the cause of clusters of drug-related deaths and even greater numbers of overdoses in east coast and midwest cities in the past few months. The alert was issued by SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Treatment Director H. Westley Clark, M.D., J.D., M.P.H., to substance abuse professional organizations, treatment providers, state

substance abuse authorities, and recovery community-related organizations and individuals. The alert includes a brief fact sheet about preventing as well as detecting and treating overdoses.

"Individuals involved in the public health need to be aware of this new dangerous drug combination," Dr. Clark said. "They need to be prepared to alert patients, clients and others to help save lives. After all, fentanyl is 50-100 times more powerful than morphine. When mixed with cocaine or heroin, the results can be lethal."

When used illegally, particularly in combination with a drug such as heroin or cocaine,

or when used in excessive amounts, fentanyl can result in irregular heartbeat, the inability to breathe, and death. In some cases, heroin or cocaine users are aware they are purchasing this dangerous combination of drugs; in other cases, the buyer is not aware that he or she is purchasing this potentially lethal drug combination. The alert advises local vigilance for the possible introduction of this potent drug mixture into circulation on the street and emphasizes the importance of education, particularly on the street. See www.samhsa.org. ♣

? Did You Know That...?



Underage Drinking Laws Enforcement Training Center 7th Annual National

Leadership Conference is being held in Baltimore on August 24-26. For information and agenda, see www.udetc.org.

Web Site Resources



BMI Calculator for Children and Teens

is currently highlighted on the CDC home page <http://www.cdc.gov/> and a flyer to promote this new calculator is attached. You may go directly to the BMI calculators page at www.cdc.gov/bmi.

The calculator presents numeric results, displays a graphic that shows the weight category for the corresponding BMI, provides a simple explanation of the results, and plots the BMI on a printable CDC growth chart. The site provides relevant links, answers to common questions, and general tips on achieving a health weight through good nutrition and physical activity.

New Social Justice Website is an online directory of social change and environmental organizations in S.E. MA and the Cape. The tool fosters networking and helps build community in the region. You can publicize your events on the online calendar, announce action alerts on the listserv, and locate other organizations to collaborate on campaigns. For information about how to add your organization or activities to the website, go to

www.semassactivist.org or email info@semassactivist.org.

Grant Opportunities

Nutrition/Physical Activity - "Targeting Obesity in Young Women to Prevent the Development of Type II Diabetes" is open to profit and not for profit community based organizations. Closing date for the \$98,000 grant is **7/20/06**. See <http://egrants.osophs.dhhs.gov/>.

For assistance in electronic access, contact the help desk at **800-518-4726**. Visit www.grants.gov to learn more about an obesity grant geared toward young women. See Funding Opportunity Number: OWH-OYW-06-001.

HIV/AIDS - Community-based AIDS organizations and cable outlets partner in joint community outreach efforts, or produce and distribute new, locally focused HIV/AIDS-related programs and public service announcements. Awards up to \$5,000. Eligible local community outreach projects include, but are not limited to World AIDS Day (December 1) and National HIV Testing Day (June 27) events, AIDS Rides/Walks, other joint efforts between AIDS organizations, and local cable operators, etc. Funding is also available for production costs of HIV/AIDS-related programs and PSAs. Due date **9/15/06**. See www.cablepositive.org/programs-tonycox.html Contact person is Thomas Henning, **212-459-1606** or thenning@cablepositive.org,

Obesity

Food Marketing and Childhood Obesity - A Matter of Policy "Food marketing, the IOM says, intentionally targets children who are too young to distinguish advertising from truth and induces them to eat high-calorie, low-nutrient (but highly profitable) "junk" foods; companies succeed so well in this effort that business-as-usual cannot be allowed to continue." [NEJM June 15, 2006] *New England Journal of Medicine* by Marion Nestle, PhD, MPH. Vol. 354(24) pp.2537-2529. June 15, 2006. <http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/354/24/2527?query=TOC>

Obesity - The New Frontier of Public Health Law - Anti-obesity initiatives are found to be more likely to be accepted if focused on children, adolescents. Additional research on food marketing could also lead to regulation by the federal government or self-regulation within the industry. Initial efforts should focus on improving public awareness of the food environment as a precursor to regulation. [NEJM, Vol. 354(24) pp.2601-2610 June 15, 2006].



<http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/354/24/2601?query=TOC>

MassHealth Participating

Dentists are now listed at provider bulletin has been distributed and can be viewed at



<http://www.mass.gov/masshealth/dentists>.

One Fourth of Global Disease Preventable Using Current Techniques - The World Health Organization reports that 1/4 of global disease is based on environmental factors which existing interventions could modify. [truthout.org 6/16/06] http://www.truthout.org/issues_06/061606HA.shtml

Medicare Part D - Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has instructed newly eligible “duals” to enroll in Part D through WellPoint only, and this enrollment occurs only at the pharmacy counter. Once a person is enrolled, coverage will be effective immediately. This WellPoint enrollment will prompt CMS to contact the individual for enrollment in a permanent plan. Anyone encountering a pharmacy that is not aware of this process or is having difficulty can contact the

CMS Boston Regional Office at **617-565-1232** or by e-mail at BostonPartDinquiries@cms.hhs.gov

Employment and Job Trainings

Skill Start program is being reactivated. Persons (no age barrier) food stamp-eligible, but not receiving cash benefits qualify for 80 hours of free computer training. There are 2 options: Word Basic & Intermediate or Excel Basic & Intermediate. The person must be agency-referred to the Taunton Career Center at **(508-997-1423)** who will then set them up with Mass Info Tech. Free to qualified individuals.

Win with Credentials! Is a GED-Personal Computer Literacy program for at-risk

youth under the age of 22 - out of school, out of work. This includes an internship at the Registry of Deeds for DYS clients Anyone applying should call Darleen at the Taunton Career Center, **508-977-1423** or Mass Info Tech, **508-977-9909**. Free to qualified youth.

HIV Case Manager, Part-time, 20 hours / week, day shift for the Quincy South Shore AIDS Cares. Entry-level candidates are welcome, MSW or BSW, HIV and/or substance abuse counseling experience *preferred*. Bilingual candidates are encouraged to apply. Qualified applicants, please send a resume and cover letter to Kim Kroeger Quincy Medical Center 114 Whitwell Street Quincy, MA 02169 FAX: 617-376-2041 kkroeger@quincymc.org

COALITION/COMMITTEE MINUTES & REPORTS



CHNA Planning Meeting. 6/7/06, 3:30, Norton Public Library



Discussion Highlights:

Outreach:

- Arlene contacted and invited Attleboro District Court. Other suggestions are schools and the United Way. Data sharing would be an incentive to increase membership.
- Existing area committees need to be sent a letter of invitation about becoming a “spoke” by attending CHNA meetings to fulfill DPH requirements. Letter should include “What’s in it for me?” (In addition to

fulfilling DPH requirements), gaining without losing anything, criteria for connection (Keep doing what you’re doing, and connect/contribute to an established coalition or committee).

- Outreach to all CHNA #24 communities’ schools, police, DPH funded agencies and town administrators to identify committees and coalitions

The Following Decisions Were Adopted Unanimously:

- Frequency - CHNA meetings will be held quarterly.
- Structure – The hub (Temporarily called the “CHNA”) and spokes (represented committees and coalitions) structure was selected because it avoids hierarchy. The quarterly meetings provide an opportunity for networking or an event. DPH CHNA attendance requirements are filled by agency representation of any of the represented



committees or coalitions. Current members include those “spokes” that wish to attend, and may include Attleboro Community Council, Greater Taunton Health & Human Services Coalition, Substance Abuse Committee, Southeastern MA Voices Against Violence (Domestic Violence/Violence Prevention Committee), Taunton Emergency Task Force, Safe Neighborhood Initiative, Greater Attleboro Taunton Coalition on Homelessness, Child and Family Focus Committee, Community Health and Wellness, and Activate Attleboro. The CHNA should be open to new groups as well. Free standing agencies, including hospitals, may become part of CHNA by joining an established committee or coalition.

- Definition of “Spoke” – A grouping of individuals, agencies and organizations for a purpose. They may also be called representatives,

entities, members or CHNA affiliates. Membership is not open to an individual or agency. Participation is through a coalition or committee (A group of organizations, agencies or other groupings that share a common purpose.

Kick-Off Meeting (Late September or October):

- Audience is existing and new groups who come to see if they fit the criteria to be a “spoke”
- Opportunity to meet, greet and explain new CHNA entity and structure
- Set the quarterly meeting schedule.
- DPH behavioral risk data and current issues of current affiliates can be part of the shared information.
- Who benefits and “What’s in it for me?”

Needs Assessment – The Safe Neighborhood Initiative (SNI) is writing a Title 5 grant, which includes data collection and needs assessment.

Next Steps:

- July agenda: Draft of letters, press release, kick-off meeting planning
- Notify agencies of a kick-off meeting in September.
- Send an invitation to existing area committees about keeping their identities and attending CHNA meetings to fulfill DPH requirements. Include what they are committing to, what they are asked to do, what’s in it for them, gaining something without losing anything, and what are the changes.
- Outreach to all CHNA #24 communities’ schools, police, agencies and town administrators to identify committees and coalitions, and DPH agencies.
- Make a press release and list of media.
- September or October Advocate article on “What happened to GATHER?”

Next Meeting: 8/2/06, 2:30, CCBC

Contact Person: Richard McMahan, 508-979-7160, 3010.

GATHER Domestic Violence, Violence Prevention (DV/VP) 6/15/06, 3:30, New Hope

Discussion Highlights:

Current October Make a Difference Day Projects:

➤ **Dress to Impress Project** held a press conference. Volunteers are working on a room in the basement of the First Parish Church, Taunton, where the project will be hosted for at least a year. The project is already open for business, with the goal of offering each agency-referred participant one interview-ready outfit at no cost. Calls have come

from local residents, women's clubs, government employees, retired professionals, widows, a terminal cancer patient, DV survivors, with about 30% of the callers having also asked about how they can help with or participate in the other domestic violence activities noted at the press conference. The next drop off date is July 22, 9:30 - 11:00 AM, at the First Parish Church (use the entrance

across from the Historical Society). Donations continue coming in, and may be dropped off or picked up, by calling 508-824-3227. Clothing in all sizes, hangers for pants, slacks and skirts are needed, as well volunteers to staff the project for 2-3 hours per month. It is hoped that by Make a Difference Day in October, there will be over 200 pieces of men’s and women’s clothing available. Information will soon be



available at <http://www.semavav.org>. The process is labor friendly, by appointment, and represents an ongoing issue. Spread the word for donations, as well as the services provided!

➤ **Verizon Wireless Hopeline Cell Phones**

Project donations may be made by calling Annemarie, **508-824-3227**. At a future date, donations will be accepted at Dress to Impress.



➤ **2006 Through My Eyes: Voices Against Violence, Voices of Hope** is accepting poems, essays, art work and posters from anyone in SE MA who has been the victim of crime, has witnessed a crime or wishes to speak out in support of victims' rights. Deadline for submissions is **10/28/06**. Guidelines are posted at www.semavav.org. Every entry will receive a certificate of appreciation, and prizes available for each category. For information call **508-824-3227** or email matulisannie@msn.com.

Bristol County Domestic Violence Round Table has instituted quarterly meetings. The first will be held **9/12/06**,

2:30, at Attleboro DSS. Other meetings are as follows: **12/5/06** (Fall River), **3/6/07** (Taunton), **6/12/07** (New Bedford). Meetings will include CHNA best practices, hot topics and legal cases.

Garden of Hope – G. Lopes Construction has donated 5 yards of mulch to the beautification project at Triumph HeadStart. The project is ready for the landscape architecture portion. Suggestions are as follows: Bristol-Plymouth High School Green House program, T.H.S. and Parker School Summer programs, MA Federation of Garden Clubs, and Eagle or Girl Scouts. The project can be tied in to youth at risk and family violence background. Several other areas of the city in need of beautification were suggested.

The Quiet Passing of GATHER – The GATHER name is headed for retirement. Both the Domestic Violence/Violence Prevention Committee and the Substance Abuse Committee has experienced greater Attleboro commitment. CHNA 24 is the only Community Health Network Area with two hubs: Attleboro and Taunton, with 10 surrounding communities. The

DV/VP committee cannot be the entity for all 12 communities, but the new CHNA structure allows for a central group to serve as the place for networking, needs assessment, channeling information and looking at needs and gaps. The group will meet quarterly. Each committee and/or coalition will have the opportunity to be an affiliate of the CHNA. The CHNA chairpersonship will be rotated by representatives. (See CHNA Planning Committee minutes, pages 4,5).

A New Name – Given the retirement of the GATHER name, the GATHER DV/VP Committee unanimously voted to adopt the new name South Eastern Massachusetts Voices Against Violence.

Next Steps:
Create a “Dress to Impress” brochure

Next Meeting:
GATHER DV/VP: **9/21/06**, 3:30, (3rd Thursday of the Month), Location TBA

No Summer Meetings

Contact Person: Annemarie Matulis, **508-922-7278** cell, or matulisannie@msn.com

 **GTHHSC Substance Abuse Committee (SAC).** 6/21/06, 3:30, CCBC

Discussion Highlights:
GTHHSC/GATHER Planning Committee Update – Several decisions were made at the most recent meeting, to include the



wheel and spoke structure, eligibility of affiliates or spokes, quarterly meeting structure, autumn kick-off event,

networking, data sharing and funding. DPH is supportive of the group as a grassroots up organization.

Substance Abuse Round Table XII – Social norms / environmental strategies was suggested as a topic, perhaps as “Scare Tactics to What Most of

Us are Doing”, using school ADAS (American Drug and Alcohol Survey) results to celebrate local students’ healthy decision making. The test has validity and reliability built in, and is science based. An example of a tee-shirt slogan, “92.5% of T.H.S. students don’t smoke daily” was shared, based

on a tobacco social norms pilot project. Social norms messages help protect youth by creating a positive, realistic view of peer behavior and risk reduction. Information such as the test, school, date and grade are included on posters and other products. Social norms campaigns were shown effective in reducing risk behaviors on college campuses, and have been extended into the high schools. The social norms theme could be highlighted at the next SART by use of a speaker break out groups and posters, with active youth involvement through suggestion and selection of messages. The committee unanimously voted to use MRI funding in the SAC line to support the next SART. Other grants may also be sought.

Curriculum on Adolescent Brain Development has 16 prevention programs with the goal of delaying alcohol use for proper brain development. The new tools help adults break the

“kids will be kids” attitude as respects underage drinking.

Project YELL (Youth Endorsing Legal Lifestyles):

- **Budgets** for the current fiscal year (10/05-9/06) and next (10/6-9/07) were shared with the committee. The following year (10/07-9/08) grants become competitive once more. The current year narrative and time line show that despite funding loss, we kept the ball rolling with the Safe Prom project and the \$1400 Get the Word Out tobacco grant. The grant will be sent to the committee for feedback by noon Monday. Grant deadline for 06-07 is June 30.
- **Program Director** – Carol Annarino was hired as a full-time program director for 30 hours per week. Among her strengths are networking. April Cabrera, former CCBC peer leader was hired as a part time Youth Coordinator, per diem for 18-20 hours

weekly. She is a University of New Orleans graduate in Criminal Justice.

- **Safe Proms** – The THS senior and junior proms utilized breathalyzers for the first time this year. Everyone passed, contributing to events where students had fun and a sense of safety that comes from a substance free environment.

Next Steps:

- Contact the Attleboro Mayor for information on the Mayor’s Council on Substance Abuse Prevention
- Complete the Project YELL grant, get committee input, and finalize the application process

Next Meeting: 8/16/06, 3:30, CCBC Family Conference Room, Mill River Professional Center, 1 Washington St.

Contact Persons: Arlene Dickinson, **508-223-4691**, Lorraine Rosa, **508-823-4822**.



GTHHSC Child & Family Focus Meeting. 6/20/06, 10:15, Associates for Human Services

Discussion Highlights:

Pathways to Hope Radio Show – Ronna and Becky will appear on the radio show to talk about the 10 points of child safety, and the committee.

10 Ways to Keep a Child Safe - Suggestions for greater distribution include libraries through the Kidding Around newspaper, the Parents and Kids section of South of Boston, and 550AM Radio Disney. This

could help the committee to secure funding to create bookmarks.

Child Safety Websites:

- www.safekids.org (child safety)
- www.onetoughjob.org (parenting)
- www.cpsc.org (consumer product safety commission)

Next Steps:

- Contact Kidding Around, South of Boston and AM550 for distribution of the child safety posters. (Becky)

Next Meeting: 9/19/06, 10:15, A.H.S.

No Summer Meetings

Contact Person: Lorraine Rosa, **508-823-4822**

This month's Advocate was published by Lorraine Rosa, Coordinator, with funds from GATHER MRI and GTHHSC dues. To submit an article, announcement or other information, email mcaprosa@hotmail.com, or call **508-823-4822** by **8/15/06**. You may also access copies of The Advocate at www.geocities.com/gathercoalition.



Discussion Highlights:

Membership Dues notices have been mailed for FY07, and include what money received helps support:

- GTHHSC Membership
- *The Advocate* Newsletter
- Monthly GTHHSC Meetings
- Special Guest Speakers
- Annual Breakfast Meeting

Safe Prom Project Video of the April Fox 25 news was shared. The coverage of the project increases protective factors by showing community support of healthy choices for youth as regards alcohol. Informational letters were also sent to inform parents of T.H.S. students and prom goers about the breathalyzers use at proms, providing another teachable moment to open conversation between parents and students.

Taunton Emergency Task Force – See minutes, page 9, 10.

- Received a \$25,000 United Way grant for non heat related emergencies
- Members will sell raffle tickets this summer for a fundraiser
- Was featured in an article in the Silver City Bulletin

- Announced a new city police officer at Fairfax Gardens

Domestic Violence / Violence Prevention Committee –

Southeastern MA Voices Against Violence joined GATHER several years ago. Relationships developed, and the DV committee adopted SEMA-VAV goals. In light of the retirement of the GATHER name, the DV/VP Committee unanimously adopted SEMA-VAV as it's new name. The group's 501C3 is pending. See minutes, pages 5,6.

CHNA Planning Meeting – See minutes, pages 4,5.

Project YELL – The continuation grant and hiring process are in process. Due date is 6/30/06.

Announcements:

- **Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Health Education Curriculum** kit is a comprehensive “How to” manual for community health educators to address the need for accurate, appropriate and current cancer screening information in diverse communities. The

project provides staff presentation on the initiative. The complete course last ½ day to 6 hours. Training for consumers goes from ½ - 1½ hours. Free.

- **Pathways to Hope Radio Show** will feature the Child and Family Focus Committee's safety project today. The show will break until August 15. To book a show after that time, call Dan at **508-837-9482**.
- **Save the Date for AHS Fundraiser** on **8/18/06** at the PACC.
- **DSS Children's Board Fundraiser** will be held in September. More information will follow.

Next Steps:

- Plan a September Annual Meeting

Next Meetings:

Structure Committee, 8/2/06, 2:30, CCBC, 1 Washington St., Taunton, MA
September Networking Meeting, 9/19/06, 9:00, A.H.S.

No Summer Meetings

Contact Person: Richard McMahon, **508-979-7160, 3010.**

Safe Neighborhood Initiative. 6/21/06, 8:00, Fairfax Gardens Community Room

Criminal Justice Committee:

Good attendance at the meeting; New Bedford PD was present; 15 adults on high offender list. Col. Gavigan of Sheriff's Office updated members on area gang activity. Committee will continue to meet during the summer.

Community Crisis

Intervention Team: May training was very successful. DSS would like a one-day staff training. Team may be presenting at a conference in Orlando. 16 have already signed up for the November 13, 14 and 15, 2006 training.

Treatment and Prevention Committee:

- The Substance Abuse Committee is working on Project Yell grant. Project Director and Youth Coordinator for federal grant is in hiring process.
- Safe and Drug Free Schools grant to be submitted.

Community Crisis Spiritual Response Team was on-site at Fairfax Gardens to assist residents, many of them young, who were dealing with recent death of 14 year old resident. Team is available to community.

Education Committee

- **T.H.S.** - Breathalyzer was used at THS Junior and Senior Proms. All tested negative, and the proms were enjoyed by all. For next school year, THS will be addressing tardiness.
- **Bristol Plymouth's** proms were also problem free. Has a good lockdown plan.
- **THS, BP and Coyle Cassidy** are all having summer academic assistance programs.
- **Boys & Girls Club** of Taunton will be moving to their new location on Thursday.
- **YMCA** will be putting in a new aquatic center.

Neighborhoods - The Office of Economic and Community Development is working with Department of Human Services on educating Community Police Officers of programs they offer, i.e., Housing Rehab Program. Working with Taunton School to Career Program to reinstate the Youth Council.

Program Update

- DHS is working with Taunton Police Department (TPD) on Downtown issues.
- ISAFE (Internet safety) training is being held at District Court on 6/22/06.
- A Title V Grant is being pursued to institute a Youth Court at Taunton High School.
- TPD is working with the Taunton Housing Authority to address issues during the summer months at target site. TPD received funding to do so. TPD received a Shannon Grant. Funds will

be used to provide gang education to school personnel. A drug and alcohol survey will be conducted at the schools.

- Community Care is trying to reinstitute a Tobacco Coalition. DSS has awarded Community Care a grant for a residential program.
- District Attorney offered assistance in ISAFE parent training, having Brian Rose, former Red Sox player, work with the Taunton Boys & Girls Club and the development and funding of an SNI website.

Next Meeting: **9/20/06**, 8:00, Fairfax Gardens Community Center.

No Summer Meetings

Contact Person: Robert Cammarata, **508-821-1420**

Taunton Emergency Task Force. 6/6/06, 9:30, GATRA Conference Room, Oak St.

Discussion Highlights:

Grant Award Updates:

- TETF was awarded \$25,000 for the United Way Community Impact grant. The program, which funds non-heat related utilities, childcare arrearages, rental assistance and long distance transportation, will begin July 17.
- TETF was not awarded funding from the Hannaford grant. The committee discusses applying for transportation funding through the Bay State Gas grant and emergency repair (furnace and vehicle) through BCSB.

Fuel Fund/Emergency Services

- Agencies have been very busy with shut-off notices.

The Family Self-Sufficiency Program reported its forth-successful Section 8 to Homeowner.

Donation letters have been sent to area businesses. TETF will be holding its own raffle within a few weeks and all members will receive further information and tickets to sell.

New Business - There will be a meeting on Thursday, June 22 at Associates for Human services to discuss changing the by-laws

to extend the time of service for each officer. Anyone interested is invited to attend.

Next Steps:

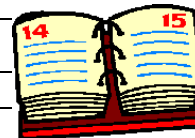
- Fundraising/grant applications
- Nominating Committee

Next Meeting: **9/12/06**, 9:30, GATRA Conference Room, Bloom Bus Terminal, Oak St.

No Summer Meetings

Contact Person: Milly Burrows, **508-880-0202**

UPCOMING AREA MEETINGS



Aug. 2, 2:30	CHNA #24 Structure Planning Meeting. CCBC.
Aug. 16, 3:30	GATHER/GTHHSC Substance Abuse Committee. CCBC, Mill River Place
Sept. 12, 9:30	Taunton Emergency Task Force. GATRA Administrative Bldg, Conference Room, 10 Oak St.
Sept 12, 2:30	Domestic Violence Round Table. Attleboro DSS, 67 Mechanic St., Attleboro
Sept. 16, Noon-3	Morton Hospital and Medical Center Partners in Health (Health Fair). Silver City Galleria. To exhibit, contact Lisa at 508-588-7700.
Sept. 19 9:00	GTHHSC Networking Meeting. Associates for Human Services, 68 Allison Rd.
Sept. 19 10:15	GTHHSC Child & Family Focus Committee. A.H.S., 68 Allison Rd.
Sept. 20, 8:00	Safe Neighborhood Initiative. Fairfax Gardens Community Room.
Sept. 21 3:30	GATHER Domestic Violence Committee. Location TBA.



GTHHSC
P.O. Box 2894
Taunton, MA 02780