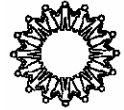


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THE ADVOCATE



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

Volume XVI, No.9

September 2006



“Dress to Impress” For Job Interviews

(From SEMA-VAV)

First impressions can make or break a job interview. ***Dress to Impress*** will provide off-the-rack quality business attire to qualified residents within the Greater Taunton and Attleboro communities who are entering or re-entering the workforce. This public service will be at no cost to the referred client, coordinated by volunteers and will fill a much-needed gap in resources. It is located at the First Parish Church of Taunton at Church Green.

Background:

While this attire for hire project has been discussed for several years within both the GATHER Domestic Violence/Violence Prevention Committee and South Eastern Massachusetts – Voices Against Violence (now consolidated into one coalition, SEMA-VAV), the need for this service is ***not*** restricted to domestic violence or crime victims, but includes low to moderate-income residents who are entering or returning to the workforce. These women and men will be referred by

agencies and organizations, such as the Taunton and Attleboro Career Centers, Taunton School to Careers, MA School of Information Technology, unemployment, Department of Transitional Assistance, MA Rehab Commission, Associates for Human Services, veterans agents, shelters, and GED programs, to name a few.

The goal is to offer each person at least one interview-ready outfit at no cost. SEMA-VAV will continue to seek grants & community donations to offset operating expenses.

Dress to Impress was launched on 6/14/06, during a press conference at the First Parish Church of Taunton. After press coverage, 65 calls and emails were received from the Greater Taunton and Attleboro areas, including Mansfield and the Bridgewater, and 8 new volunteers came forward, as well as one Girl Scout Troop. Business attire will be collected year-round and will be available as much as possible during this time frame.

How Can I Help?

Donate Clothing - Off-the-rack quality business attire in all sizes for women and men, including accessories such as shoes, ties, briefcases, raincoats, scarves, pocket books, umbrellas, etc.

Volunteer to assist those referred to ***Dress to Impress*** select interview clothes. Access is by appointment only. Coordinator Tracey Medeiros will schedule volunteers for only 2-3 hours a month.

A volunteer calendar will be set up at www.semavav.org. The official launch will be **10/28/06**, as one of two National Make a Difference Day projects, along with Head Start's "Garden of Hope."

To arrange for attire pick up and drop off, please email Tracey at tmedeiros@tmlp.com (Please put “Dress to Impress” in the subject line), or call Annemarie Matulis, CEO & President of SEMA-VAV, at **508-824-3227** (voice mail), or email matulisannie@msn.com. ♥

September GTHHSC Networking Meeting

Meet the New Project YELL Coordinator

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

You Are Invited to the National Day of Unity* Vigil of Hope Monday, October 2, 2006

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. In 2003, four people stood vigil and took a visible stand against violence. In 2004, ten times that number participated. In 2005, even more. We hope to fill the entire Taunton Green this year. Please, take a stand – join us.

Old cell phones will be collected at the vigil & throughout October in support of the Verizon Wireless HopeLine Fund that assists domestic violence victims by donating refurbished phones for emergency use. Please bring any you may have to the vigil.

Southeastern Massachusetts Voices Against Violence (SEMA-VAV) is hosting this event. The Clothesline Project Display is presented by New Hope, Inc. For information call **508-824-3227**, option 1 or 2 or **508- 922-7278**.

Please Join Us For a Candle Light Vigil of Hope on the Taunton Green

October 2, 2006, 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM, on the Taunton Green

Break the Silence! Take a Visible Stand Against Violence

3:00 – 6:00 PM: The *Clothesline Project* display will be available for viewing at the First Parish Church, Church Green, across from Taunton City Hall. These tee shirts present a powerful and compelling testament to those who suffered abuse and violence (New Hope staff will be on site).

6:00 – 7:15 PM: The candle light *Vigil of Hope* on the Taunton Green.

7:15 – 7:30 PM: All churches and congregations are asked to ring their bells for these 15 minutes to honor all who have died in violence as well as to celebrate those who have survived.

*The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV.org) established the National Day of Unity in 1981 in support of domestic violence victims, survivors and care-givers.



? Did You Know That...?



Nonprofits Warned Against Political Campaigning

Churches and nonprofit groups risk losing their tax-exempt status if they engage in political campaigning, the IRS warns. The Foundation Center reported July 19 that the IRS recently sent notices to 15,000 nonprofits, churches, and tax preparers outlining its Political Activity Compliance Initiative.

The agency warns that it will immediately investigate claims of improper campaigning rather than waiting for a tax return to be filed or a fiscal year to end; a three-person panel will review complaints to determine if further action is needed. Since 2004, more than 200 groups have been investigated by the IRS for political activity; 62 were found in violation of tax laws, 59 got warning letters, and

three lost their tax-exempt status. (JoinTogether)

FAST Stroke Education Awareness Kit - If you have used the FAST Stroke education awareness kit, your input and feedback are greatly appreciated through filling out and submitting their survey form. Please contact Maria Evora-Rosa, **781-774-6601** or maria.evora-rosa@state.ma.us

Job Opportunity - Project Assistant, Training and capacity building, Youth Action Initiative. Temporary full-time or part time (September 2006-June 2007). Resumes and letters of interest are due Monday, September 11, 2006. Direct questions, resumes, and cover letters may be sent to Joanna Matwiejczuk, Administrative Assistant—The Medical Foundation, 95 Berkeley Street, Boston, MA 02116, or email to: jmatwiejczuk@tmfnet.org with "YAI Project Assistant" in the subject line.

Non-Profit Marketing

Taunton Federal Credit Union Child Safety Day will be held Saturday September 30th from 11 A.M. – 2 P.M. with a rain date of October 21st. For information about setting up a display, contact Holly Sharples at **508-802-6464**.

Pathways To Hope is a one-hour, call-in talk show that airs live on Tuesdays from 1-2 PM. Host Dan LeBrun chats with 1-2 guests from a human / social services / community building agency about helpful services available to Greater Taunton area residents. The show is typically taped & rebroadcast over the weekend, currently at 8 AM on Sundays. If you are interested in some free publicity/visibility for one or more of your service programs - whether or not you have been on the show previously – please contact Dan at **800-333-8000**, **508-997-9353**, or d.lebrun@easternbk.com.

Developing an 'Elevator Message' for Your Group - Every group should have an 'elevator message' -- a brief

description of the organization's work that can be delivered to a stranger in the time it takes to complete an elevator ride, Guidestar reported in its June 2006 issue. The elevator message should answer three basic questions in about 90 seconds: what the organization does, where it is heading, and why the listener should care. After the message is delivered, you can then get into storytelling that shows why your group is great. (JoinTogether)

Google Offers Web Ads to Nonprofits - AdWords awards are arranged through the Google Grants program and support nonprofit community-based groups involved in science and technology, education, global public health, the environment, youth advocacy, and the arts. In-kind ads are intended to help groups inform and engage their constituents, raise awareness and drive traffic to their websites. Application deadline is open. AdWords grants are good for at least three months of advertising. Only 501(c)3 nonprofits may apply. For more information, see www.google.com/grants/information.html

Substance Abuse

Innovative 'Social Norms' Campaign - The Broward County Commission on Substance Abuse has partnered with Broward County Schools to target students with a "social norms" campaign, the Sun-Sentinel reported on August 7. The campaign collected data on the drinking habits of teens and discovered that four out of five kids claim that they do not usually drink when hanging out with friends, but that they see their friends drinking. Based on

this information, Ambit Marketing, the company that ran the campaign, titled it "Four out of Five." In its first phase, Ambit created t-shirts, posters, bracelets, pencils, Post-Its, mugs, and automated calls to students in multiple languages. Now in its second year, the campaign hopes to gain strength with billboards, signs, and newspaper ads and the participation of local businesses. The approach of this campaign is an innovative one. "Traditional campaigns were created to scare them," said Kathy Koch, president of Ambit Marketing. "Social norms campaigns are designed to tell them the reality of what with their friends are doing, and work with the kids to believe and adopt this healthy behavior through the years." (JoinTogether)



Parents Dramatically Underestimate Alcohol and Illicit Drug Use by Youth, according to data from the most recent national Pride surveys of parents and students. One-fifth (21%) of students in 6th grade reported that they had drunk alcohol at least once in the past year. Yet only 5% of parents said that their 6th grade child has tried or is using alcohol. While the gap between students' self-reported use and parents' perceptions of their own children's use narrows with age, parents continue to significantly underestimate alcohol use by youth. More than two-thirds of 12th graders reported past year alcohol use, while only 41% of parents thought that their 12th grade child had used alcohol. Similar results were found for illicit drug use. For example, 36% of 12th graders reported using illicit drugs at

least once in the past year, while 15% of parents reported that their 12th grade child used drugs. For details see www.cesar.umd.edu/cesar/cesarfax/vol15/1531.pdf. (JoinTogether)

Societal Cost of Underage Drinking - Despite minimum-purchase-age laws, young people regularly drink alcohol. This study estimated the magnitude and costs of problems resulting from underage drinking by category: traffic crashes, violence, property crime, suicide, burns, drownings, fetal alcohol syndrome, high-risk sex, poisonings, psychoses, and dependency treatment. It compared costs with associated alcohol sales. Previous studies did not break out costs of alcohol problems by age. See <http://vps.policyimpact.com/dailydigestpdfs/IIAA/MillerStudy.pdf>

Federal Drug Administration Launches Consumer Educational Program On The Safe Use Of Over the Counter Drugs - "Medicines in My Home," an interactive educational program about the safe and effective use of over-the-counter medicines, located at www.fda.gov/medsinmyhome. The website includes a "Teachers Room," featuring a PowerPoint presentation, classroom lesson materials, and other resources. For more information about the Medicines in My Home program, contact Cindi Fitzpatrick: cynthia.fitzpatrick@fda.hhs.gov.

Bartering for Drugs - Two-thirds of the estimated 650,000 American teens who have exchanged sex for drugs or money are boys, according to research from the Pacific Institute for Research and

Education. See www.pire.org/detail2.asp?core=38228&cms=114

With Courts' Blessing and Federal Funds, School Drug Testing Grows - The Bush administration last year gave 373 public secondary schools funding for random student drug testing, up from 79 two years ago, USA Today reported July 12. An estimated 225 other schools are conducting testing using private funding, the White House estimates. In fiscal year 2007, President Bush is asking Congress for \$15 million for grants supporting student drug testing, a proposed 45% increase. Some schools have expanded testing to include random testing of students who drive to school and those attending dances, proms, or class parties. (JoinTogether)

Mass. Launches New Northshore Recovery High School for students who have had problems with drugs and alcohol, the Boston Globe reported on August 13. In order to be admitted to the school, students must be sober, agree to random drug testing, pledge to stay sober, and attend two 12-step meetings a week. The program has 10 enrollees and intends on having 40 by the end of the school year. In addition to math, English, history, and science classes, students will have one hour of group therapy a day, as well as electives in art, drama, music, and video. After a 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. day, students with no after-school job or 12-step meeting to attend will remain at school to do homework or take extra classes. The school's director Michelle Lipinski states "I want these

students to stay safe, and I want them to get high-quality academics, and I want them to go to college." (JoinTogether)

On-Line Screening Test - AlcoholScreening.org is easy-to-use and scientifically validated. Users answer a few quick questions, instantly finding out if their drinking patterns are likely to be risky or harmful. Why don't you give it a try? Join Together developed and supports this free tool for addiction and health professionals, those curious about their own drinking, clients, patients, colleagues, peers, friends and others. More than 400,000 people have already completed the screening. (JoinTogether)



Early Alcohol Users are 5X More Likely to Be Alcohol Dependent in their Lifetimes according to an analysis of data from the National Epidemiologic Survey on Alcohol and Related Conditions (NESARC). Nearly one-half (47%) of persons who began drinking before age 14 were alcohol dependent at some point in their lifetime, and 13% were dependent in the past year, compared to 9% and 2%, respectively, of those who began drinking after age 20. Early drinking was also related to higher rates of dependence within 10 years of onset of drinking and dependence before age 25. For details, including data charts, source information and caveats, download www.cesar.umd.edu/cesar/cesarfax/vol15/15-30.pdf. (JoinTogether)

The Health Consequences of Involuntary Exposure to Tobacco Smoke: A Report of the Surgeon General concludes that there is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke.

Nonsmokers exposed to secondhand smoke at home or work increase their risk of developing heart disease by 25 to 30% and lung cancer by 20 to 30%. Nearly half of all nonsmoking Americans are still regularly exposed to secondhand smoke in homes, worksites, schools, and public places. The report finds that even brief secondhand smoke exposure can cause immediate harm. The report says the only way to protect nonsmokers from the dangerous chemicals in secondhand smoke is to eliminate smoking indoors. The full report, the executive summary, a report to the public entitled "What It Means to You," highlight sheets, and other related information on the report will be available at www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/secondhandsmoke/.

Making Schools Tobacco-Free – The Division of Adolescent and School Health website provides information on recommendations for making schools tobacco-free. See www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth.

Violence Prevention

The Use of Technology in Intimate Partner Stalking – Safety Net will hold a conference on September 18-20, 2006, in Minneapolis. Free. To register, visit www.ncvc.org/src/main.aspx?dbID=DB_TechnologyConferenceInfoPage140

Children and Families

America's Children in Brief: Key National Indicators of Well-being, 2006 contains statistics from 21 federal agencies with the latest available data on 26 key indicators. Parental Reports of Emotional

and Behavioral Difficulties has become an annual indicator. The 2006 Brief highlights selected information displayed in previous reports, reflects improvements to the summary list, and fills an important data gap in children's mental health. View, download, and order a copy of the report from <http://childstats.gov/>.

Strengthening Families Facilitator Training – In this scientifically proven, SAMHSA approved program, facilitators are trained to offer the program to families of children ages 6-17. Topics covered include substance abuse, depression, violence and aggression, and school failure, and will be held September 7 & 8, 9:00-5:00, at the First Congregational Church, 76 Pierce St., Stoughton. For more information or register, call Caitlin at **781-341-2252, x482**.

COALITION/COMMITTEE MINUTES & REPORTS



CHNA Planning Meeting. 8/2/06, 2:30, CCBC

Discussion Highlights:

Outreach Letters were updated, and will be forwarded to Ron for mailing. Tracey will provide mailing addresses. Contact person is Carol Annarino.

October Kick-Off/Annual Meeting Agenda: Open membership.

I. Welcome, Introductions (Rich) – The new wheel structure will be shared with the group. They may use this CHNA symbol along with their own committee/coalition logo. A recent CHNA history



will be given by Rich, with a detailed written one available. DPH criteria requirements will also be explained.

II. Name and Identity (Ron or Kathy O'Connor) – The new graphic with the current spokes, and its shared use will be explained. Save the Date notices will be sent in early September and include the opportunity to enter or vote for a name of the new group. A vote will be taken at the annual meeting. Some names include the following: *Area CHNA, Community CHNA, The*

Network, Connected Coalitions, Human Services Connection, The Clearinghouse, The H.U.B. (Helping Unite Bristol County), HUB for Human Services Coalition, Coalition Connections, Coalitions HUB Networking Area (CHNA), The Community Health Network Area (CHNA), CHNA #24 with a 24 hour clock.

III. Growing the Group (Deb and Arlene) – This portion includes how to become a “spoke”, identifying the spokes. Coalition/Committee posters will be placed around

the room, and a spokesperson for each will talk about their participation and what they get from their group. Also to be addressed are What spokes are missing? What is out there? How do we get them to participate? What's needed (based on the 10 leading indicators of 2010)? What groups are addressing each indicator? Who of the attendees is addressing any of these? Who are the 2 representatives from each spoke to become part of the steering committee, and attend quarterly meetings?

IV. Conclusion – General membership is invited back next year, and participation in the CHNA is filled by their attendance at their own committee/coalition meeting, as represented by spokes.

Quarterly (Steering Committee) Meetings: 2 representatives from each coalition/committee of the 12 towns come together to access

needs, health indicator data, trends, networking, best practices (successes and challenges), the CHNA (Advocate) newsletter, money disbursement.

1. **December** – To be held on a Wednesday or Thursday, a Lunch meeting from 12:30-2:00. Meeting focus is on the 2010 indicators.
2. **March**
3. **June**
4. **September**

Budget – Of the \$9,000 received yearly from MRI funding, \$900 is used for fiscal management, \$500 for SYNERGY, \$1,000 for SAC, \$1,000 for Domestic Violence, and \$5,600 for staffing, supplies, and other CHNA expenses. In addition to this basic budget, the two committees secured significant funding outside the MRI monies. The CHNA Steering Committee or individual spokes can also apply for grants.

Next Steps:

- Work on logo and written history for annual meeting.
- Prepare oral, recent CHNA history.
- Update draft letters to identify and invite all area coalitions and committees and forward for DPH mailing.
- Send a "Save the Date" to Advocate list, and forward to Ron to send to coalitions and other key community people by early September. AHS is contact for questions/RSVP.
- Make sign-up sheets, sign-in sheet, and frequently asked questions sheet for October meeting.
- Make a press release and list of media.
- September or October Advocate article on "What happened to GATHER?"

Next Meeting: 9/26/06, 2:30, CCBC

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



GTHHSC Substance Abuse Committee (SAC). 8/16/06, 3:30, CCBC

Discussion Highlights:

Telephone Conferencing – Lorraine will be available to attend meetings or other contact through email at mcaprosa@hotmail.com, or Skype mrosanet. A backup minutes taker will be assigned at the beginning of each meeting.

Outpatient Addiction Program – Community Care Services and Attleboro Public Schools are continuing an after school team program 5 days per week, for boys and girls. It includes psycho education counseling and group, life skills for people with addictions, and is open to teens

13-17. Enrollment in Attleboro schools is not a requirement. Transportation can be available by community caravans for low income Attleboro residents, or through a PT1 (non-emergency medical or counseling, paid through Medicaid through GATRA with a physician's signature. The after school day treatment begins in mid September.

Community Smoking Intervention Planning Project – Community Care Services is submitting a \$15,000 grant proposal to the DPH for a Community Smoking

Intervention Planning Project for Taunton. It will fund an 18 month community planning process. At the end of the process, a written plan will be ready for implementation of an evidence-based intervention to reduce smoking prevalence in the community by changing community norms in order to influence behaviors, and, ultimately, reduce tobacco use prevalence in the state. Their plan includes strong integration with the SAC. This grant will provide an exciting opportunity to begin the process of reinstating preventative services to reduce the incidence of

smoking in the City of Taunton, which as MassChip statistics show, is greatly needed.

Unanimous Approval – The SAC voted unanimously to make the tobacco control grant a part of the monthly agenda. Under the new CHNA structure, the SAC is not required to include all 12 CHNA communities in this initiative.

Medicaid and Tobacco – On July 1, 2006, community health centers may bill Medicaid for tobacco services. MassHealth recipients may get nicotine patches if they are prescribed.

CHNA Planning Update – The former GATHER coalition is being reorganized. The new organizational chart resembles a wheel with spokes (individual committees from the 12 communities that make up Greater Attleboro and Taunton) connecting to a hub (the CHNA Steering Committee). New spokes may be added when a new committee meets the criteria. CHNA meetings will be held quarterly and be attended by 2 representatives from each spoke. An annual meeting will be open to the complete membership of all committees or “spokes”, the first of which will be held in October of 2006, at which time a new name will be chosen. The function of the steering committee is to provide feedback, data sharing and needs assessment information. The first meeting will focus on the roles of the steering committee. After quarterly meetings, representatives will take information back to their respective committees. The emphasis on this new structure is to work on what already exists and look at gaps. Local press

will be invited to cover the annual meeting. See minutes, pages 5-6.

Project YELL (Youth Endorsing Legal Lifestyles, a Drug Free Communities Grant)

- **Program Director** - Carol Annarino (508-977-8165) is the new Program Director of this youth alcohol reduction program that uses a social norms approach through surveys, focus groups, promotion and marketing. She will be meeting with MADD, Taunton schools, and other key individuals. She is setting up her office, going through the files, attended a social norms conference, and is getting organized for the project. Her background is in education, and she is on faculty of the Community College of Rhode Island.
- **Peer Leadership** – April Cabrera, former peer leader will be working with peer leadership. She is currently researching keeping youth engaged, working on the role of peer leaders, and revising the job description and job posting. The job description will be shared with the Committee, Taunton schools and Boys and Girls club members.
- **Surveys** to be administered to high school students must include the following four core measures: Past 30-Day use, average age of onset, perception of risk, perception of parental disapproval. Last years, Montana was hired as survey specialists. Their survey remains their property.

- **Letters to Senators** – Thank you letters will be sent to Senators Biden and Grassley for their assistance in spearheading efforts to refund Project YELL. These will be signed by Lorraine, SAC and Carol, Project YELL.
- **Senate Involvement** – Senate appropriators want to keep the Office of National Drug Control Policy out of Drug Free Communities decisions. The Senate committee’s bill includes ONDCP and other White House agencies when it says that no (DFC) grantee shall be suspended or terminated unless they are afforded a fair, timely, independent appeal. This is a result of the 2006 defunding of coalition programs such as Project YELL, 63 of which had funding reinstated.

Substance Abuse Round Table XII – An environmental strategies approach to social norms was suggested as a topic. The environmental portion requires going beyond providers and students, and include parents, media, business and other community segments working together to get the word out about the true social norms, rather than skewed perceptions of teen alcohol use. When surveys reveal that students’ actual use of alcohol is below individual perceptions of alcohol use, peer pressure works as a positive force in encouraging less risky behavior. The SARTXII can get the word out about youth drinking norms, and show how a social norms project is done. This is a new approach to youth alcohol issues. Project YELL has reserved \$2,000

towards the SART, but more grant funding may be available. The first meeting will be held **9/13/06**, 3:00, at Community Partnerships, Inc., 90 New State Highway (Wynn and Wynn). Agenda will include the following:

- Building a subcommittee to take the lead, beginning with Maggie, Doug, Jon, Carol, April, Lorraine, Kathy
- What is the target audience?
- What do we hope to get out

of this roundtable?

- What will it look like?
- Kick off for the T.H.S. social norms project
- Break out groups for possible social norms campaigns at various schools?
- Getting local media on board?
- Select theme/title, such as “Substance Abuse Prevention: Making a Difference”

- Keynote speaker such as Liz Walker

Next Meeting: 9/20/06, 3:00, CCBC Family Conference Room, Mill River Professional Center, 1 Washington St.

Contact Persons: Arlene Dickinson, **508-223-4691**, Lorraine Rosa, mcaprosa@hotmail.com



GTHHSC Substance Abuse Committee (SAC). 7/19/06, 3:30, CCBC

Discussion Highlights:

GTHHSC/GATHER Planning Committee Update – The kick-off meeting and GTHHSC annual meeting will combine for a single event in October. Each area coalition or committee is asked to bring one sheet of information about their committee and membership, as well as a visual, tri-fold poster to display. The new organization chart shows coalitions and committees as spokes of a wheel.

YMCA of North Attleboro is a youth serving organization with teens that may be interested in connecting with Project YELL compliance checks, networking, and sharing data and information. The YMCA allows groups to come and see the programs offered.

Orientation Packet – A Committee informational packet needs to be updated and shared with members to help them become part of the GTHHSC and CHNA#24. Suggested items to include are a membership roster, newsletter and organizational chart.

Project YELL (Youth Endorsing Legal Lifestyles):

- **Budget** has been resubmitted and accepted for 10/06-9/07.
- **Progress Reports** will be submitted twice per year. A Comet (reporting software) training was conducted via internet and phone access. A 135 page instructional booklet provides a logic model (previous questions must be completed before moving to the next) process. Lorraine, Carol, Deb and Jonathan attended. Persons with access also include SAC co-chairs. The system facilitates better communication with the federal project director, so information is forwarded from Project YELL, as well as reports and other information may be received.
- **4 Core Measures** to access effectiveness include past 30 day use, age of onset, perception of risk, perception of parental disapproval. Questions are available on the web for Drug Free Communities grantees.

- **Social Norms Conference** – Carol, April, Deb and Lorraine will attend the Social Norms conference next week. Each will attend a different workshop/break out group.
- **Project YELL Steering Committee** is this Substance Abuse Committee.
- **Peer Leaders** – Last year’s students were laid off when the grant was de-funded. They will be re-interviewed to access interest. Students who are able to go into the community and use public speaking skills are needed.
- **Youth Summit** - At a recent Youth Summit, high school attendees participated in asset mapping, made an action plan, and prioritization of gaps in service. The interactive conference was all about environmental strategies. The yearly event costs \$100 per person. Workshops included compliance checks, Youth In Action roll call briefings, media advocacy and shoulder taps.

Next Steps:

- In preparation for the annual meeting, make an information sheet with SAC information and membership.
- In preparation for the annual meeting, make a trifold poster
- Update the Comet reporting system with reporting information on a regular basis.

- Bring a copy of the Coalitions' orientation packet to the August meeting
- Bring a copy of the Peer Leaders' RFQ.
- Find out if last years questions from Montana were purchased for future use without their consulting services

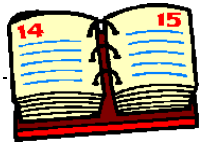
Next Meeting: 8/16/06, 3:30,
 CCBC Family Conference Room, Mill River Professional Center, 1 Washington St.

Contact Persons: Arlene Dickinson, **508-223-4691,**
 Lorraine Rosa,
mcaprosa@hotmail.com

Taunton Emergency Task Force. Summer Report

Raffle Winners Announced - Congratulations to all winners. Thank you to all who bought/sold tickets. A BIG thank you to Jan Bruce (Commonwealth Childcare) for doing a great job selling tickets.

- 1st place \$100 - Barbara Holt
- 2nd place \$50.00 - Ann LaShay
- 3rd place \$25.00 - Donna Rodriques



Meeting Change - The next TETF meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 12 at 9:30 at GATRA Conference room. Please note that this is the second Tuesday of the month due to the Holiday.

Nominations for New officers to the Task Force are being taken now for the September meeting and will be voted on in October. If anyone is interested in holding a position for the next one-year term and would like to be

nominated, contact Donna at **508-822-0051.** The following offices are open for nomination:

- Chair person
- Co-Chair person
- Secretary
- Treasurer

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

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

UPCOMING AREA MEETINGS

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. 13, 3:00	SART XII Planning Meeting. Community Partnerships, Inc., 90 New State Highway. (Rt. 44)
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. 20, 3:00	GTHHSC Substance Abuse Committee. CCBC, Mill River Place
Sept. 21 3:30	SEMA-VAV (Domestic Violence Committee). Mass InfoTech, 9 (rear) Taunton Green
Sept. 26, 2:30	CHNA #24 Planning Meeting. CCBC, 1 Washington St.
Sept 30, 11:00-2:00	Taunton Federal Credit Union Child Safety Day. Rain date is October 21 st . For information about setting up a display, contact Holly Sharples, 508-802-6464.

This month's Advocate was published by Lorraine Rosa, Coordinator, with funds from Drug Free Communities Grant Funding, GATHER MRI and GTHHSC dues. To submit an article, announcement or other information, email mcaprosa@hotmail.com, or call **508-823-4822** by **9/30/06**. You may also access copies of The Advocate at www.geocities.com/gathercoalition.



GTHHSC
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