

Harvest from

Community Café—Investing in Your Community's Youth: An Introduction to Communities That Care (in the World Café format)

January 27, 2011 ☀ Mountain View Commons ☀ Port Townsend, WA

Questions:

1. **What is going on in Jefferson County and how is it affecting our youth and families?**
 - What is working well? What challenges are out there?
 - How does the current economy ("economic crisis") influence what is going on?
 - What strategies and structures do you see in our community serving children and families?
 - Beyond programs, what do you know we have in place (formal/informal)?
2. **What changes can be made?**
 - In a climate of more limited resources, organizations are struggling—what can be done to ensure children and families are still getting the support they need?
 - How do we continue? How do we maintain? How do we build? How do we grow our values of health and safety into actions?
3. **What are your vision and goals for the youth and families of Jefferson County?**
 - What strategies need to be maintained or created for children and families to be safe and healthy?
 - Families
 - Birth-to-3
 - Ages 3-5
 - Ages 5-9
 - Ages 9-12
 - Ages 13-18
 - Ages 18-24

Harvest:

- **Better Communication:**
 - Great things going on—need a centralized place for information, e.g. 211
 - Inform MORE people
 - Not a new issue—how to resolve? How do you receive information? Strategies include:
 - Email, grocery stores/other stores, Leader (print/online), from kids and friends, google/Facebook, key "go to" people, community groups talking to one another
- **Volunteerism-**
 - Retirees
 - Disconnect between volunteer resources and those in need/those who would benefit
- **Map of the Community-how are organizations/people connected to one another?**
- **We are an involved, caring community already**

- Serve one another in various capacities
- There is a LOT of need
- **Coordinate resources for adult-supervised activities across various age groups**
 - Specific activities, themed, wide variety
 - Accessible (e.g. financial, transportation)
- **Structured screening process for youth when issues start:**
 - Formal and/or informal
- **Mentorship/Apprenticeship opportunities**
 - Long-term goal
 - Formed over a common interest
 - Networking
- **Creating multigenerational connections (e.g. “tribe” concept in school)**
 - ALL participate, not optional
 - Same teacher throughout
- **Holistic approaches**
 - Bridge gaps in community and societal groups-universal
 - School/Community garden programs (grow, tend, eat—health emphasis)
 - Martina’s class meals
 - Family meals
 - Coordinated efforts
- **Are basic human needs being met? (food, clothing, shelter)**
 - Healthy foods?
 - Movement?
- **Support/enhance Americorps**
- **Look at proven systems/programs in other communities—WHAT REALLY WORKS? (“best practices”, “evidence-based”)**
- **Create a Community Read around children and families**
- **Gather more community input—WHAT DO PEOPLE REALLY WANT?**
 - Other parts of the county (geographic)
 - Age groups (youth/retirees)
 - Families
 - Diversity
 - Possibly survey via email/utilize survey monkey
 - Social media possibilities

Attendees & Organizations:

- *Nicole Barnard, Dove House*
- *Elizabeth Becker, various!*
- *Melanie Bozak, PT Kiwanis Club, CARA*
- *Holley Carlson, Port Townsend School Board*
- *Angel Duerst, Jefferson County Community Network, Safe Harbor*
- *Carrie Ehrhardt, Port Townsend High School*
- *Dunia Faulx, Jefferson County Public Health*
- *Barbara Hansen, ESD 114*
- *Jennifer James-Wilson, Port Townsend School Board*
- *Cynthia Koan, Jefferson County Community Network*
- *Bruce Marston, Jefferson County Community Network, Boiler Room*
- *Kelly Matlock, Jefferson County Public Health*
- *Rena Murman, Make Waves*
- *Karen Nelson, Make Waves*
- *Karen Obermeyer, Jefferson County Public Health*
- *Marla Overman, Boiler Room*
- *Marcus Sather, Port Townsend High School*
- *Anji Scalf, Jefferson County Community Network, City of PT, Pool*
- *Debbi Steele, Jefferson County Community Foundation*
- *Sonia Story, Move Play Thrive.com*
- *Marquita Thompson, Dove House*
- *Judy Tough, NAMI*

Facilitated by: Anne Dean, Jefferson County Community Network