

ARCH Minutes

September 17, 2008

8:45 - 10:00 a.m.

T/E Administrative Offices, Wayne, PA 19087

Attendees at Meeting:

P. Littlewood* (TESD)	M. Tannenbaum* (parent)
J. Videlock* (TESD)	A. Phillips (VFMS)
J. Braun (co-chair, parent)	J. Hickey* (TEMS)
G. Mascioli* (co-chair, HES, parent)	S. Arnold* (parent)
S. Jean* (co-chair, VFES parent)	G. Campbell (parent)
M. Murphy* (secretary, parent)	R. Brown* (VFMS, parent)
B. Lyon* (parent)	J. Lemco* (parent)
E. Moeller* (parent)	L. Rush* (NEES, parent)
P. Clark* (parent)	

* Denotes active ARCH member

Welcome & Introductions

G. Mascioli welcomed everyone to the first ARCH meeting of the 2008-2009 School Year and began introductions.

Secretary's Report

M. Murphy briefly reviewed the minutes from the May, 2008 meeting and noted that all previous minutes are posted on the ARCH website. (www.ARCHcares.org). ARCH Memorandum of Understanding Forms were distributed and everyone was encouraged to sign and submit. This form designates one as an "Active" member of ARCH and allows that member voting privileges.

G. Mascioli also handed out Volunteer Interest Inventory forms and encouraged members to list their area of interest in volunteering for ARCH.

Treasurer's Report

P. Clark reviewed the major account activity as B. Fadem, Treasurer, was unable to attend the meeting.

In our accounts:

Checking	\$2,064.16
Savings	\$4,454.48
Total	\$6,518.64

ARCH had a donation from United Way of Lancaster County of \$114.67.

The 2007-2008 activity was also reviewed. ARCH had donations of \$4,177.61 and expenses of \$3,594.67 in speakers/program fees and the group ended up with a small overage of \$419.81. (Only major items were reviewed.)

ARCH Leadership Structure

J. Braun discussed that four ARCH members would be taking on the leadership of ARCH. Those individuals are J. Braun, S. Jean, G. Mascioli, and L. Boyle. J. Braun and G. Mascioli would lead a meeting one month, while L. Boyle and S. Jean would lead the next month, and so on.

An Advisory Committee has been formed consisting of the following individuals: P. Littlewood, J. Videlock, E. Moeller, B. Lyon, P. Clark, and J. Lemco. This group is informal and will help provide guidance to ARCH as well as maintain history of the group.

2007-2008 Overview

J. Braun reviewed the ARCH Accomplishments from the 2007-2008 year. In general, it was a good year for ARCH and while the number of members is small, ARCH was able to hold a number of successful events to act as an informational source on issues of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs.

These events included:

- Town Hall Meeting at the Easttown Library, featuring Tredyffrin Police Office (and local DARE officer) Jim Mutter.
- Two presentations for parents featuring Student Assistance professional, Thom Stecher. ("Communication with Teens" and a follow-up interactive discussion with break-out sessions on stress and mental health issues; alcohol and other drug use; and at-risk sexual behavior and sexual harassment.
- Four community organizations presented "15 Minute Meeting Highlights" at monthly ARCH meetings to provide members with additional information on prevention and treatment.

ARCH continued to promote the organization and our message to the community; provide access to alcohol and illicit drug use prevention information, education, and support for parents and families; strengthen and expand prevention activities for children and youth in the T/E Community; and continue to build and lead a coalition of community support to attain the ARCH goals.

Updates

- ARCH ads in School Directories/Packets
Ads were submitted to all T/E schools for inclusion in their Student Directories. The ARCH Brochure and ARCH Party Guideline Checklist were reprinted during the summer and delivered to each T/E school for inclusion in their Back-to-School Packet.
- Items on T/E Bulletin Board
G. Mascioli will be placing any necessary ARCH items on the T/E Bulletin Board.
- Social Norms Campaign

Projected Timeline:

- Administer survey in October
- Sept./Oct. '08 -- Actuality Marketing team to develop strategic concepts
- November 11 – site visit with Street Team; Street Team training will be all grades
- Early Feb/mid-Feb. '09 – Roll out campaign

The Majority of funding will be through a Safety grant, but this grant does not permit funding of promotional items such as buttons, pens, etc. Items that are educational (such as posters for placement in schools) may be allowed. Would there be any business/service in the community that might be willing to donate such materials/services?

J. Vidlock requested that ARCH contribute about \$3,000 to \$3,300 to help with the remainder of funding and promotional items.

Actuality will present the Social Norms concept at the Education Committee meeting on November 11, 2:00 p.m.

S. Jean will discuss with A. Meisinger the need for a message to those inquiring about the social norms concept.

The group was excited about A. Meisinger's new role in February, 2009 as Principal of CHS. With her moving on, discussion began as to who will be the CHS representative for ARCH. P. Littlewood will verify for us.

- Youth Survey Results/Public Presentation

E. Moeller reviewed the status of this presentation. They are looking to reduce time and make it more of a summary of results combined with a presentation that parents will appreciate.

Topic may be resiliency as family conflict was a risk factor. The idea is to give information to families in a positive climate, so they feel empowered as well as informed with regards to the Youth Survey information. The group felt it was important to give families the tools to help them handle stress as this has been identified as affecting risky behavior.

The group was looking at dates in November and even discussed possibly holding the presentation in January. Venues other than the Upper Main Line YMCA, such as Valley Forge Middle School Auditorium or Paoli Hospital were reviewed.

Invitations would be given to all pertinent T/E School personnel.

J. Vidlock briefly mentioned a positive outcome of the results – there was a decrease in 30-day-alcohol use among 6th, 8th, and 10th graders.

- ARCH/CAPCO

CAPCO is in the process of forming itself for this year, so no progress on an affiliation has been made. With members changing every year, it is difficult to get a consistent decision.

Discussion began around the ARCH table about such an affiliation and the following resulted:

- ARCH does not want to be responsible for the CAPCO party solely.
- ARCH needs a member to attend their meetings.

Parent Webinars

L. Boyle, the key ARCH member looking into this program, was unable to attend the meeting. It was decided to wait until she can fully review these for the group before we move forward. However, the group was generally positive on the concept.

ARCH Mission Statement

J. Braun briefly reviewed progress on updating the ARCH Mission Statement and stated that the group would like to keep the focus of the current Mission Statement of drugs and alcohol, yet take steps to broaden it to include other topics of interest to families. In general, we need to strengthen our protective factors, while reducing risk factors and do this through prevention.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- Next ARCH Meeting – Wednesday, October 15, 8:45 AM – 10:00 AM, TEAO

The meeting concluded at 10:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Michele Murphy