

**Commission on Children and Families  
Regular Commission Meeting**

**March 17, 2009  
5:30 p.m.—Douglas ESD**

**Minutes**

**Present:** Lois Allen, Les Esparza, Dan Forbess, Suzie McAmis, Jeremy Gegenhuber, Bonnie Ford, Steve Schenewerk and Gillian Wesenberg

**Absent:** Dave Lee, Barbara Matthews, Bruce Justis and Shirley Petterson

**Others:** Harry Mullins-DCYHC, Father Juniper-Casa de Belen, Dave Gianotti-Riddle School, Patrick Quinn-Riddle School, Susan Buell-Umpqua Training and Employment and Gaylene Nixon-Umpqua Training and Employment

Lois Allen called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. and introductions were made.

**Minutes:** Steve Schenewerk made a motion to approve the February 17, 2009 minutes. Suzy McAmis seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

**Chair Report:** Lois asked Harry Mullin to give a report on the Drop-In Center.

**Update on Douglas County Homeless Youth Coalition (DCHYC) by Harry Mullins:** As of February 28, 2009, the DCHYC has had 900 visits. They have served 136 youth ages twelve to twenty. In the months of January and February, the Drop-In Center had twenty-two new youth. The Roseburg area has 50-75 homeless teens, but only ten – fifteen percent will go to the Drop-In Center. The Drop-In Center changed its hours of operation to 3 p.m.-9 p.m. Sunday through Friday.

The DCHYC started its mentoring program at the Drop-In Center in March with five youth. The hours of operation are 11 a.m.-2 p.m. each Saturday. The program is designed to help youth enrolled in grades six through twelve or those attending a GED program. As an incentive, youth who use the mentoring program will be entered in a monthly drawing for food or movie certificates.

**Director's Report:** Gillian talked about the new Build Our Kids public service announcements, which will be aired on your local television stations.

**Umpqua Training and Employment, 2009 Summer Youth Employment Program:** Susan Buell and Gaylene Nixon gave a presentation on services offered through Umpqua Training and Employment (UT&E). The 2009 Summer Youth Employment Project is open to youth and young adults who meet the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) eligibility guidelines. An exception to the WIA rule: A youth eighteen or older who works for their room and board at their parents' home will be considered a family

of one and will not have to report their parents' income. This is a very competitive process with a limited number of summer projects available.

- Because of the lack of local employment opportunities, UT&E plans to offer a two-week Career Exploration Program for youth ages fourteen to fifteen at Umpqua Community College (UCC). Approximately 75-150 teens will have the opportunity to explore three different areas of interest. Youth successfully completing the program will be paid a small stipend. This program is open to all Douglas County youth ages fourteen to fifteen and will be effective April 1 through September 1, 2009.
- UT&E plans to offer services to youth ages sixteen to twenty-four. The young adults will have the opportunity to learn good work habits and attitudes while gaining work experience. Job placements will be with public, private and private non-profit organizations. As of March 16, 2009, UT&E has secured 225 positions throughout Douglas County.

UT&E is also working with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to provide lunches and healthy snacks to the Summer Youth Program participants. UT&E's goal is to employ as many youth and young adults as possible this summer.

Other programs offered through UT&E are the Dislocated Workers Program (with no income restriction) and the Apprentice Program (for eighteen and older with a High School Diploma or General Equivalency Diploma, GED).

***Riddle School Update:*** Dave Gianotti gave an update on the Riddle Community School Program. The Riddle School held a social event for the community to view its after school program. The following community partners attended the event:

- UCAN
- Healthy Start
- South County Resource Center
- Healthy Kids
- Local Community Partners
- Community Members

Dave Gianotti introduced Patrick Quinn, the new Director of the Riddle Community School Program. Patrick Quinn gave a PowerPoint presentation about the Riddle Community School grant. The program works with the USDA to provide healthy snacks. At this time, the program serves 88% of Riddle's middle school students. Patrick said their goal is to serve as many students as possible with this grant.

***Youth Advisory Board Update-Jeremy Gegenhuber:***

- ***Celebration of Literacy:*** On February 21, 2009, the Keystone Club worked the concession stand at the Celebration of Literacy held at the Boys and Girls Club.
- ***Dance:*** On March 13, 2009, the Keystone Club chaperoned a dance at the Boys and Girls Club.
- ***Pizza Sale:*** On March 14, 2009, the Keystone Club held a pizza sale at the Roseburg High School basketball Jamboree.

- **Keystone/YAB Club News:** At their meeting on March 3, 2009, the Keystone Club discussed changing their meetings from every other Tuesday to once a month. Their next meeting is Tuesday, March 31, 2009.

**Other:** DCHYC is hosting free training entitled “Basic Positive Youth Development” on Thursday April 2, 2009, at the Boys and Girls Club. DCHYC will be providing lunch. To register please call 541-673-4089 or email [dchy.dropin@gmail.com](mailto:dchy.dropin@gmail.com)

Lois thanked everyone for coming.

**Adjournment:** Lois adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Smith