

## White River Families First Coalition Meeting Minutes - November 27, 2017



**Present:** Monica Gaub, Mike Jansen, John Itner, Elly Itner, Donn Lewis, Linda McCone, Susan Nocella, Skip Sherwood, Kristi Shafer, Carrie Ching, Gary Burley, Jan Burley, Ann Trullinger, Trip Hart, Rusty Wilder, Kathy Norbeck, Monica Robbins, Mark Thompson, Eddie Habberkorn, Antoinette Graham, Todd Hobart, Sue Z. Hart, Marvin Sundstrom, Jeri Gamblin, Elisha Smith-Marshall, Julie Bevaart, Pat Johnson, Mark Lindquist, Sven Nelson, and James Lynch.

**Let's Make a Deal for Families** – Kid's names are still on the tree in the lobby of the fire station. Need back by Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **Knowing Our Communities** – Pierce County Prosecutor's Office – Prosecuting Attorney Mark Lindquist & Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Sven Nelson, & Communications Manager James Lynch.

Duty of the Office is to keep the residents of the County safe. Sven Nelson heads up the specialized Elder Abuse Unit. James Lynch worked as a journalist for 20 years and has spent the last 10 years at Q13 and does communications with the office.

**High Priority Offender Program** focuses resources on criminals who are causing the highest percentage of crime (serial offenders) by using data and intel to identify and taking them off the streets for long sentences. Crime down 14% and misdemeanors down about 30%, preventing hundreds of future crimes. There are 24 law enforcement agencies involved and supporting the program. Rusty Wilder mentioned that he has seen this program with great success and effective in managing crime. Getting away from subjective policing to objective policing based on data.

**Gang Unit** used conspiracy statutes to go after violent street gangs. First sweep was at Hilltop with 36 individuals with 200 felonies. As a result, gang violence is down by about 60% in Pierce County. Gang members have been moving into human trafficking. Washington State has some of the most severe penalties in the country, especially when it involves a minor. Average age of girls is 12 to 13 who are lured into human trafficking. The office is also helping these victims get into another lifestyle by working with churches and organizations.

**Elder Abuse Unit** – As our population ages, there are more vulnerable victims and more technology that can exploit victims. Team is involved in community awareness of elder abuse prevention as well as prosecution. Sven Nelson shared that the highest growing segment is 85 and older due to prolonged life. In 2011, there were about 20 cases, doubled in next year and now closer to 70 each year. Elder abuse is vastly unreported, with an estimated one in 23 crimes being reported. A U.S. Dept. of Justice grant provides about \$400,000 for this County (only one of 9 organizations receiving this grant in the country) for training of patrol officers, victim service providers, and training judges to learn about elder abuse. Comprehensive team approach to elder abuse. Vulnerable adult protective orders prohibit contact with the person exploiting them. Established a multi-disciplinary team, which includes many sectors of the community that meets monthly to discuss gaps in systems and the agencies that need to be fixed. Trying to change the system so things will be different in a couple of years, even after funding has expired. A victim advocate is part of a grant working out of the Judson Center. Office has a unit of victim advocates who work with victims of crime and potential victims, including domestic violence. The long-term care ombudsman is also there for people who live in adult family homes or facilities. Isolation problems is one of the key factors in elder abuse. What you can do as members of your organizations or churches is to check up on folks you know who look like they might be isolated. Call law enforcement if you think there is a problem. Many times, the cases are unreported or underreported because they don't want their relationship to end with their exploiter/abuser. Community members are a big part of the solution. Majority of cases are people who are close to the victim. Minority is the scam. Often a caregiver or a relative. Often the scam is via phone. Many are not reported because of embarrassment on the part of the victim. Caretakers of individuals with dementia – need to pay special attention to neglect, emotional abuse, financial abuse and physical abuse. Mandated reporters law enforcement, hospital, long term care facility, senior center staff. Contact Sven Nelson at 253-798-6613.

Call Adult Protective Services if you suspect elder abuse: 1-866-END-HARM.

**The Pierce County Prosecuting Attorney's Office is available to speak to your organization. For a presentation, contact Communications Manager James Lynch at 253-798-6265 or e-mail [jlynch@co.pierce.wa.u](mailto:jlynch@co.pierce.wa.u).**

**Coalition Business:** Sign-ups for Youth Forums at Glacier Middle School on Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> and White River High School on Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>. We will be hosting forums with three classrooms at each school. Need 10 volunteers each date. Sign-up to be on the Community Summit Committee. The Coalition's Facebook page does not have any ratings. Those who do a rating by our January meeting will receive an incentive reward!

### **Announcements / Networking:**

**Pat Johnson, Mayor** – City budget hopes to pass tomorrow night.

**Mike Jansen, WRSD board member** – Busy building schools, Elkrige and Wilkeson and working on Glacier.

**John & Ellie Ittner** – New to the Buckley community and excited to get more involved.

**Kathy Norbeck, Buckley Library** - Saturday Christmas event included a story time at the library. Best turnout of any program at the library. Rainier School did a great job and was very involved in planning and execution. Friends of the Library has a giving tree with student names who get two new books wrapped and delivered to the school. Taking donations of new books or money until Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>. Gingerbread House making on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Julie Bevaart, Senior & Youth Centers** – Newsletter on the table. Have many exercise programs and activities at the Senior Center. Youth Center provides lunches weekdays during holiday break. Looking for community groups to provide lunch (\$50 a day approximately) during that time. [jbevaart@cityofbuckley.com](mailto:jbevaart@cityofbuckley.com)

**Ann Trullinger** – Saturday 9 to 3 is the Fire Dept. Stocking Stuffer bazaar with about 45 vendors. Renovated church next door is now an event center which will be open for tours. Supports the Fire Fighters Association. Wrapping gifts for families on Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup> beginning at 8 am and families arrive around 11. Volunteers needed. 360-829-1441.

**Jan & Gary Burley, Comm. Presbyterian** – 90 kids served in the weekend food backpack program. Girl Scout troop has helped out and looking for other ways for kids to help. Community Presbyterian celebrated 125 years. Community has helped with the budget for the food program, with about 75% funding now coming from the community.

**Trip Hart, LYNCCK** – Flyers for SoHapp in back. Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> workshop on positivity at Enumclaw Library. Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> book for happiness book read. Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> is meditation topic with Enumclaw school teachers sharing about working with kids, “Where Ever You Go There You Are” Book topic on January 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Rusty Wilder, Pierce County Sheriff’s Office** – Foothills detachment will get two staff members back. Met with Prairie Ridge residents and staff and will be meeting monthly to discuss safety and crime issues. Be aware about porch pirates who steal packages off porches after a delivery. Please report all concerns.

**Elisha Smith-Marshall, Plateau Outreach Ministries** – Winter night shelter starts Friday, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>. People can go to POM to get pre-approved. Pick up will be at Calvary Presbyterian in Enumclaw. Give Big is on December 13<sup>th</sup> at the food bank where there is a holiday distribution. Need feminine hygiene products, cleaning products, and unwrapped, new gifts.

**Jeri Gamblin, JustServe.org** – Can post needs on the website [www.justserve.org](http://www.justserve.org). [Amyfowers@hotmail.com](mailto:Amyfowers@hotmail.com) is coordinator. People want to help in the community can be directed to the website. Can search by zip code.

**Carrie Ching, Molina Health Care** – One of the Apple Health Plans for low-income family and kids. Care Coordinators help Molina members. Assist community organizations and schools to do family health and fitness nights, resource fairs and free flu shots. Molina has a smoothie bike that visits the youth center to make smoothies.

**Donn Lewis, BL Councilmember** – Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> holiday event and gingerbread house contest. Donn is retiring and this is his last meeting. We thank him for his service to the community and attending our Coalition meetings.

**Monica Robbins, Rainier Foothills Wellness Foundation** – Holiday Gala fundraiser is this Friday at 5:30 at Emerald Downs. Tickets still available \$65 includes dinner. Buy tickets on website [www.rfwellnessfoundation.org](http://www.rfwellnessfoundation.org).

**Kristi Shafer, Relay for Life** – Still waiting to hear what American Cancer Society is going to do as far as the local relay. Saturday at 6:30, country recording artist Blaine Larson is performing at The Chalet. A 2004 WRHS grad, he lives in TN.

**Eddie Habberkorn, Prairie Ridge** – Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> noon to 3 is Prairie Ridge’s Community Holiday Party. Includes gifts and crafts. Mom & Me Mobile Medical Clinic is available for people with or without insurance.

**Sue Z. Hart, Building Beyond the Walls** – Program featured in Master Builder’s Fall magazine. New newsletter distributed. Formed a new partnership with Rebuilding Together South Sound. Next class begins 1/20 at Enumclaw Expo. Need seven lunches if an organization is interested. Open to all skill levels and abilities. Tomorrow is Giving Tuesday if you’d like to donate to the organization. 425-346-2064 [sue@buildingbeyondthewalls.com](mailto:sue@buildingbeyondthewalls.com).

**Todd Hobart, Safe Families for Children** – 425-598-2562 doing holiday gift drive for kids of all ages in Foster Care.

**Antoinette Graham, Rainier School** – Dec, 7<sup>th</sup> is 6:30 is tree lighting event, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> Winter Wonderland Musical, and Sun. Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> is the Annual Friends of Rainier Christmas Party. Flyers distributed.

**Skip Sherwood, Tehaleh Trilogy** – Share the Cheer event on December 7<sup>th</sup> which is for residents only but will benefit community organizations with toys, socks and hygiene items. [Sshrwd44@gmail.com](mailto:Sshrwd44@gmail.com)

**Linda McCone, Lutheran Community Services NW** - Caregiving Support program includes Memory Cafes for people with dementia and their caregivers and meets at Mrs. Turner’s in Puyallup on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 2:30. Senior Friends Program matches isolated elders with volunteers who wish to visit – need both volunteers and elders who need visitors to be better connected, make friends and do more activities. 253-722-5691. Brochures distributed. [www.lcsnw.org](http://www.lcsnw.org)

**Susan Nocella, Lutheran Community Services NW** - Expanding program to outer areas of Pierce County. Working on Santa for Seniors project, putting together 800 gift bags for seniors in Pierce County. Volunteers needed to put together those gift bags. [snocella@lcsnw.org](mailto:snocella@lcsnw.org) or 253-722-5684. Reminded by Jeri to post on [www.justgive.org](http://www.justgive.org).

**Monica Gaub, Facilitator** - Mental Health Event at high school tonight starts at 6. Flyers distributed.

**No meeting in December. Next meeting is Mon., Jan. 22, 2018** with guest speaker Kirby Pollard, Community Voice Council, Pierce County Accountable Community of Health (PCACH).