



Teen Advocacy Coalition  
General Meeting Minutes  
April 10, 2017, 3:15-4:30pm  
Raymond High School Library

In Attendance: Ryan Miskell (RPD), Paul Turner (Ministerial Assoc/GHC), Gracie Manlow (PCHD), Kelsey Hopstad (AmeriCorps GHC), Becca Manlow (AmeriCorps GHC), Michele Buzzelli (TAC), Zoe Sowa (SBPD), Becky Fischer (PCYA), Bree Shinkle (PCYA), Jon Ashley (PCSO), Emily Popovich (TRL), Donna Hallock (DRC), Nancy Morris (WVHS), Steve Holland (RHS), Lyndsey Owen (RHS)

1. **Mental Set: Introduce yourselves and state why you're here and what drew you to TAC.**
  - a. Becca Manlow – GHC AmeriCorps - Team AmeriCorps brought her in as well as sister Gracie being involved in the org.
  - b. Gracie Manlow – Pacific County Health & Human Services – Program Specialist – Former TAC coordinator. Believes strongly in direct services, substance abuse prevention and community participation.
  - c. Kelsey Hopstad – GHC AmeriCorps – Enjoys working with the TAC Youth Arm and youth programming.
  - d. Lyndsey Owen – RHS School Counselor/TAC Chair – Wants to help improve youth and reduce substance use. Favorite thing to do with TAC is programming.
  - e. Jon Ashley – Pacific County Sheriff's Office – Parent that has kids that are in Willapa Valley and South Bend. He values being involved in school districts to assist and build relationships with youth. He likes that TAC is a widespread group of people.
  - f. Paul Turner – Willapa Harbor Ministerial Association – He was one of the starting members and has watched TAC evolve and make a difference in youth and community. He really values the officers in the schools and the After Prom Party.
  - g. Donna Hallock – Dispute Resolution Center for Grays Harbor & Pacific Counties – Joined as a networking opportunity for expanding to Pacific County for the DRC. Donna is passionate about TAC's mission for helping youth to succeed. Donna knows how to enhance communication and restorative justice work to make sure that youth feel involved in shaping their futures.
  - h. Becky Fischer – Pacific County Youth Alliance – First heard about TAC due to shared fiscal agent. She enjoys pro-social activities and pro-social work
  - i. Emily Popovich – Raymond Timberland Library – She was one of the original writer's of TAC's DFC grant. She tries to fight the "there's nothing to do" stigma and focus on pro-social activities and peer helpers so that youth don't feel as alone. Numbers have been going down in terms of youth suicide. Something is working!



# TAC

TEEN ADVOCACY COALITION

---

- j. Michele Buzzelli – TAC Coordinator – She was drawn in for the potential community-wide that want to make a big difference. She wants to help be the facilitator for joining the forces together.
- k. Bree Shinkle - Pacific County Youth Alliance- Found out about TAC through north county youth programming. Believes that TAC has a large presence in the community and on social media.
- l. Zoe Sowa – South Bend Police Department – Originally found TAC because of work but has become increasingly interested in programming and has seen positive impacts on the community.
- m. Steve Holland – Superintendent Raymond School District – TAC has good ideas for community program and appreciates peoples’ time and dedication. He cares deeply about supporting youth.

## **2. Guest Presentation: Community Truancy Board - Dr. Holland – Raymond School District**

- a. Becca Bill – Has mandated actions if students don’t go to school
  - i. 2 unexcused absences = letter from school. 5 unexcused absences in a month or 10 in a school year = going to court
  - ii. Schools would rather not have students in the court system. Pacific County does fairly well, but they’re not perfect
  - iii. The court would order tasks/to do
    - 1. If tasks are not completed, contempt can be filed. There can be fines, community service, juvenile detention, etc.
- b. Last year, the legislature passed a bill to have mandatory truancy boards as a step before the court system
  - i. Trying to determine what this would look like
  - ii. TAC may be a great partner
- c. Community Truancy Board
  - i. Aims to improve graduation rates and student attendance
  - ii. Works to prevent truancy by increasing student engagement
  - iii. Serve as an access point/hub for help and resources to students and families
    - 1. Data shows that there is a direct correlation with success later in life vs. graduating high school vs. not
    - 2. As students miss school, their risk for substance use and education struggles increase
  - iv. When the Becca Bill is triggered, instead of pulling into court, a petition would be stayed and community truancy court would be implemented
  - v. School representatives will be present (but not on the board) and will likely be tri-district along with 3-5 additional people on the truancy board
  - vi. Interpreters will be provided
    - 1. There are some barriers with the Hispanic community



# TAC

TEEN ADVOCACY COALITION

---

- vii. This is not a tribunal – this is a problem solving opportunity for brainstorming and support
  - viii. There are templates that can be used for assignments to cater to goals, plans and solutions
  - ix. Typical agenda (1.5-2 hours per session)
    - 1. Introductions, explanation of Becca Bill and court system, explanation of the goals of truancy board
    - 2. Student and family will explain issues
    - 3. Board will try to understand and triage issues
      - a. This is not a time for discipline – it is a time for compassionate help and problem-solving
    - 4. School staff will assist with the documentation
    - 5. Open-ended questions help to stimulate conversations
  - x. Confidential process
  - xi. Board members will be given a packet on the student that they will be reviewing
    - 1. There would be training
      - a. Northwest Justice Project – Sarah Glorian can assist
  - xii. Perhaps the truancy board could take place after the monthly TAC meeting to keep people in the same place to conserve resources
    - 1. Once a month, beginning around 6 or 6:30pm
  - xiii. The school has to constantly try to balance cultural differences along with requirements of the law
  - xiv. At this point the community truancy board applies to Jr/Sr High School. There is a different process for elementary school students
  - xv. The Board needs to be operational by September 1, 2017
- d. TAC would like to participate! A sign-up sheet was distributed for interest for being involved and being on the board. It may be a great way for TAC to build capacity

### 3. Coordinator's Report

- a. Kiwanis Presentation
  - i. Last Tuesday Michele reworked TAC 101 presentation. It went really well and she is hoping to pull volunteers from the Kiwanis club for the upcoming events.
- b. Carry Forward Budget
  - i. TAC has been having some issues with submitting the budget and has gone through a couple of drafts. Carry over funds is money that was not spent that can be applied towards “one-time only” expenses.
  - ii. The budget has been approved with 2 conditions.
    - 1. Not allowed to buy technology because 2 computers were already purchased in 2013
    - 2. DFC grants cannot pay for speaker's fees – Oops! \$3000 will be allocated ASAP to submit the funding to the appropriate line-items

- iii. Michele is happy to answer any questions regarding the budget
  - 1. Gracie suggested contacting Katie Lindstrom (PCHD) regarding budget wording
  - 2. Some coverage funds will be coming from ESD 113 grant
- 4. **Prevention Consultant Program**
  - a. Task force chair
    - i. Formerly Sharon Block – Jessica Verboomen will be filling out
  - b. There will be meeting this month to develop MOUs and a handbook. There is also talk of trainings.
    - i. TAC has until the end of the month to rework the program. A sign up sheet was distributed at the meeting. Michele will be sending out a Doodle poll for scheduling
    - ii. There have been a lot of changes recently; the goal is to make the program more efficient
- 5. **Town Hall – Wednesday, April 26, 2017 @ New Life Fellowship Church – Dinner @ 5:00pm, Speaker @ 6:00pm**
  - a. Shaun Derik will be the presenter. There will be daytime assemblies at the schools and then the Town Hall in the evening.
    - i. The student presentation is called “Dreams and Detours”. The adult presentation is similar but geared a bit differently for the older audience. The theme is building resiliency and growth through school and beyond
  - b. The space is reserved from 3:30pm-9:00pm so there is ample time for set-up and tear down.
  - c. Dinner is still to-be-determined.
  - d. Task force chair – Donna Hallock
    - i. A sign-in sheet was passed around
      - 1. Catering ideas
      - 2. Decorations
      - 3. Volunteers
        - a. Set-up
        - b. Take-down
        - c. Facilitating – poster set-up
        - d. During the event
          - i. Contact schools to see which students need community service hours
      - 4. Advertising/Promoting the event
        - a. Posters are created
        - b. Newspapers
        - c. Radio stations
          - i. 105.7 Jet community calendar



# TAC

TEEN ADVOCACY COALITION

---

5. Technical Support Person
  - a. Becca Manlow volunteered!
6. Daycare providers
7. Interpreter
  - a. Emily is tasked with finding someone
8. Community Booths/Tables – educating the community
  - a. TAC needs a positive action table and E-Vape Prevention – to meet grant requirements
    - i. Booths don't necessarily need to be manned at all times
  - b. TAC can provide some flip charts, materials/supplies
  - c. Help spread the word for other recruits!
6. **National Drug Take-back Day – Saturday, April 29, 2017**
  - a. Pioneer Grocery from 10:00am – 2:00pm
  - b. Need volunteers – a sign up sheet was passed around
    - i. Flyer distribution help
    - ii. Day-of shifts
      1. Engaging with the community
      2. Educating proper disposal
      3. Promoting TAC
    - iii. Need law enforcement scheduled there all day
7. **After-Prom Party – May 13, 2017**
  - a. Task force chair – Lyndsey Owen
  - b. Theme: Black Tie
  - c. Need volunteers (for planning and the event)
    - i. Food – Peer Helpers usually decide
      1. \$3.00/person (increased from \$2.50/person)
    - ii. Prizes – up to \$30 a prize
    - iii. Games
      1. Minute to win it – Cup games
    - iv. Location & Times
    - v. Promotional advertising in schools
      1. Community service recruitment
        - a. Prom attendees vs. non-prom volunteers as participants
8. **Financial Update**
  - a. No major news. Spending needs to be increased to avoid a carry-forward
9. **Miscellaneous – Anything else?**
  - a. Kelsey Hopstad – GHC will be hosting an Open House on May 3, 2017. There will be food. Evergreen State College will be attending. There will be a Facebook event and flyers.



# TAC

TEEN ADVOCACY COALITION

---

- b. Kelsey Hopstad – GHC – May 12, 2017 will be the Health Care Career Fair (Career 911) – will be like a mock-conference with hands-on sessions, free food, and networking. Mental health providers will also be present at the fair.
- c. Donna Hallock – On June 13<sup>th</sup> there will be a 40-hour Basic Mediation Training (BMT) in Aberdeen. The DRC is trying to get a training going in Pacific County. Interested parties should talk to Donna. The BMT aims to improve communication skills. In June, the training will be offered in the evenings and weekends to try to improve participation rather than having training during a typical workday. 360-532-8950
- d. Becky Fischer – WA Non-profits are bringing 3 trainings to Pacific County, which are all low-cost.
- e. Becky Fischer – PCYA has received funding for community driven training. Becky will be sending out a survey to find what people are interested in.
- f. Becky Fischer – AmeriCorps team recruitment for 17 positions will be happening soon. You can find more info on the PCYA website
- g. Bree Shinkle – PCYA will be sending out a bi-weekly newsletter. You can sign up on the PCYA website and on the facebook page. There is a new calendar for all upcoming community events.
- h. Gracie Manlow – Healthy Youth Survey results have been released. HS Seniors in Pacific County have higher than average suicidal thoughts rates @ 22%. Sources of Strength will be offered for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row at the Peer Helper Retreat.
- i. Gracie Manlow – Wellspring is looking for youth 18-21 to do compliance checks