

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
OFFICE OF THE YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU



Patricia Michalak, MA
Youth Service Bureau Coordinator

YSB Advisory Minutes
October 13th, 2015
12:00 noon @ Mansfield Town Hall
Conf. Rm. B

Board Members

Present:

Ethel Mantzaris, Chair
Pat Schneider, Director of Human Services
Patricia Michalak, YSB Coordinator
Maggie Ferron, Early Childhood Services Coordinator
Sarah Dufresne, Outreach Social Worker
Chuck Leavens, E.O. Smith Representative

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of minutes

- Not enough people for a quorum; only discussion.

III. Coordinator's Report – Patricia Michalak

Open Houses: Department information and program materials were shared with families at the Open Houses at the three Mansfield elementary schools to raise awareness of programming and projects, and to continue recruitment for the COPE and Big Friends programs.

Multi-Family Group: Dr. Haney has provided individual psychiatric assessments to new students who will be joining the Multi-Family Group and assisting in the transition of 9th graders to the high school. He is also supporting a student who is outplaced in another school. In addition to this, Dr. Haney will be meeting with Southeast's school psychologist to familiarize her with our Multi-Family Group and psychiatric services.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Group: As a result of the information provided at open houses, two new grandparents will be joining the group. Through this group we are identifying families who will require further assistance in coming months such as the holiday programs and special needs programs.

COPE: Before the start of the program student recruitment and orientation took place – the program currently holds 30 UCONN mentors and 60 students are enrolled. This year there was a great collaborative effort by school nurses and psychologists in recruiting students for the program.

Big Friends: Before the start of the program student recruitment and orientation took place – the program currently hold 20 UCONN mentors and 32 students are enrolled; this is our largest year yet!

Parent Group: Happening in conjunction with Big Friends. As children are interacting with their Big Friend, parents can convene for a support group in which social supports are provided for recently located families. Currently there are over 10 parents participating.

School Readiness: Working on drafting the Slot Allotment Policy – thus far we have 18 slots filled with one part time slot we are missing paperwork on. Community outreach was conducted with candidates interested in MAC.

Playground: Worked on coordinating the community build.

IV. Old Business:

- Playground Build

V. New Business:

- Mansfield Middle School – Power School
- Safety/Preparedness Fair
- Recruitment of new Advisory Board members

VI. Other:

- None

VII. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 12:45pm, November 13th, 2015 is the next meeting.