

Marion County Children's Alliance Monthly Meeting Wednesday, March 3, 2010

Video shown - Youth & Family Alternatives, Inc. (YFA) has the contract from Kids Central for oversight of adoption services in Circuit 5. If interested call 547-3750 or KCI 873-6332.

Invocation:

Given by Rev. Victor Valentine, Mt. Moriah Baptist Church.

Minutes:

The February minutes were approved as written.

Introductions:

Mr. Scott Hackmyer introduced the two speakers from Marion County Public Schools who discussed the "Recent Changes in the Zero Tolerance Policy."

Speakers:

Kathy Richardson, Executive Director of Student Services and Dr. Lou Archibald, Supervisor Alternative Programs showed a PowerPoint presentation on Alternative Programs that encompass Dropout Prevention Services. Dropout Prevention Services provide personal and educational support for students at-risk of not making continuous progress in school by creating and implementing alternatives for achieving success. These intervention programs provide a focus on academics with behavior management systems including work ethics, self-discipline and respect. The primary objective of the Marion County Public School District is to develop each student's potential for learning and foster positive relationships by providing educational services that empower reassigned, expelled or referred students.

The Code of Student Conduct can be found at:

<http://www.marion.k12.fl.us/students/docs/CodeOfConduct.pdf>

Alternative Programs can be found at: <http://www.marion.k12.fl.us/dept/asi/alp/>

Roundtable:

- * Howard Moon (427-5935) stated the next Autism and Other Disabilities meeting would be held Tuesday, March 9 and the correct time is noon at ARC.
- * Kristin Foltz, Youth Family Alternatives - Open House is held on the 3rd Monday of each month for people interested in adopting. Call 352-547-3750 for more information.
- * Rose Derkay, Family Times Magazine – 10th year of Summer Activity Guide (SAG) which lists all activities available during the summer months. The deadline is April 20th if you would like to place an ad. Call 368-4044 for advertising information.
- * Mike Jordan said April is Child Abuse Prevention month and at next month's meeting Kids Central will be doing a presentation on this subject, and anyone interested in staying after the meeting can attend an in depth second session beginning at 1 p.m.
- * Julie Linhart, Girl Scouts of West Central Florida – Everyone is invited to the Green Carpet Affair on Friday, March 12, 5:30-8:00 p.m., United Way Building, Bonnie Heath Room, 1401 NE 2nd St., Ocala, FL Please RSVP: 694-4425 ext. 1821.

* Monica Bryant, Marion County Children's Alliance (Family Violence Prevention Workgroup) – 5th Annual Hands Are Not For Hurting will be held on Saturday, March 27 from 10-2 p.m. at the Paddock Mall.

Future Meetings:

Family Violence Prevention	Monday, March 8 – 11:00 a.m., Sheriff's Office
Autism & Other Disabilities	Tuesday, March 9 – 12:00 p.m., ARC Marion
Faith Community Network	Wednesday, March 10 – noon, OPD
Safe Kids Coalition	Friday, March 12 – 9:00 a.m., Health Dept. Coleman Ctr.
Childhood Nutrition	Thursday, March 18 – 9:00 a.m., Health Dept. Coleman Ctr.
Tobacco Coalition	Wednesday, March 18 – 4:00 p.m., Health Dept. Coleman Ctr.
Grant Advisory Workgroup	Thursday, March 25 – 11:00 a.m., OPD
Alliance Monthly Meeting	Wednesday, April 7 – 11:30 a.m., Jail Adm. Bldg.
Mentoring Workgroup	Wednesday, April 21 – 11:30, Jail Admin. Conf. Room
Alliance Board Meeting	Wednesday, May 5 – 11:30 a.m., Jail Adm. Bldg.

The meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.