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**Youth Engagement Core Group**

**Minutes,**

**September 18, 2013, 10-12 p.m.**

**The Common Roof (165 Ferris Lane), Barrie, ON**

**Present:**

Tracey Burnet-Greene (SMDHU, Co-Chair), Lia DePauw (CAMH), Nancy Smith (United Way), Jessica Davis (United Way), Deb Woods (Coalition Coordinator), Josee Lefavre (La Clé), Sarah Stea – Co-Chair (YMCA), Kristina Veenstra (Coalition Executive Assistant and recorder), Nancy Snow (Catulpa), Kristi Pitkin (Simcoe Community Services).

**Regrets:**

Aleta Armstrong (CMHA), Noelle Bickle (consultant ), Alicia Henry (E-Fry), Chenoa LeCaille (BANAC), Cathy Dandy (Kinark), Amanda Meawasige (BNFC), Laurie Nicholson (Simcoe County District School Board), Nancy Stratton (City of Barrie), Jennifer Summerfield (SCDSB), Shelley Generoux (BNFC), Lisa Kalfus (New Path).

* **Introductions and welcome**
* **Updates from members:**

**YMCA:** there are a few new opportunities within the Y. They did get funding for program between 15-30 years looking for employment. Three rollouts. They are in current phase 2 and have 10 spaces available per intake. Entrepreneurship funding is also available for youth who have products to sell or have new ideas.

**La Clé:** they have funding as well for youth looking for employment with a 20 week work placement.

**Catulpa:** Inclusive Rec has just received a 2 year grant from Ministry of Sports and Recreation with priorities around active lifelong living for all Simcoe County. This grant is to be able to develop a program training consultation in partnership with the YMCA and municipal parks and recreation departments. This is for youth between the ages of 14-28 years. **ACTION: Nancy to provide members of this group with brochures when available.**

**SMDHU:** Tobacco use and prevention is always looking for opportunities to engage with others in the community to engage youth in this way. There are a lot of opportunities for partnerships with recreation. **ACTION: Tracey and Nancy to discuss ways of collaborating.**

**CAMH:** The Collaborative is moving along and the TAY SOS partnership is moving forward. There is a discussion around how this will be embedded within Simcoe and Muskoka. Structure is being discussed and looking toward Best Start for how to set up the partnership. There may be two separate groups: one in Muskoka and one in Simcoe both feeding into the LHIN. There is another TIP training in October and is focussing on reaching service providers in Muskoka, FNMI and Francophone. They also have a youth engagement community of practise that will span both Simcoe and Muskoka in one group; terms of reference are being developed. Working with Georgian students for a youth engagement strategy to engage youth at a system level. They are developing some webinars so agencies can share what they have learned about youth engagement. Community of Practice leadership is under question and would need to discuss how these two groups will sustain themselves once CAMH moves out. TAY SOS Sustainability Committee have been encouraged to submit for further funding (last proposal was not successful) with a focus on youth engagement via Trillium. The Coalition will be discussing how they can support this group ongoing.

**United Way:** Youth United application will be going out October 1 – November 15 with an RFP. The program is for 14-19 years old and youth have to partner with an organization in Simcoe/Muskoka with a charitable number. It can be one youth and is youth lead (implemented by a youth) so if anyone has an idea they can contact United Way and they would match with a youth. They want youth to think of creative ideas within the community. One just completed with RVH for healthy living and smoking; another Chigamik did a Community Kitchen for healthy living; Simcoe Community Services did a retreat in Geneva Park; and New Path did a bridges for suicidal youth. The funding is up to $1500 each to a total of $15,000. **ACTION: Nancy and Jessica to send us any information for distribution to the Coalition.**

* **Youth Engagement Principles: expecting to discuss at Council September 26 possible next steps:**

Copies of the Youth Engagement Principles were provided to members for information and referral. These principles were presented at the last Coalition Council meeting held in May. Council members were to take the principles back to their organizations over the summer for feedback and how they can use these within their organizations and/or how they may incorporate, what they need in terms of supports etc. Council meets again next week on September 26 when members will be asked for their feedback.

Members discussed distributing a one page set of questions that can be sent to Council members for completion and handing in at Council. **ACTION: Kristina to draft some questions and send to members for approval. Kristina and Deb to investigate if these principles have already been translated in French. Members approved including transportation in one of the principles by adding socio-economic in Inclusiveness but wish to wait and see what Council members feedback is next week.**

* How are you using the principles in your organization currently?
* How can the principles be improved (i.e. wording changes, not inclusive enough for your organization, translation needs)?
* What are the challenges in implementing these principles in your organization (i.e. do you require support?)?
* **Potential re-survey of Coalition members:**

A survey was distributed to Coalition members almost two years ago, called the Readiness Checklist, which was for the Centre of Excellence to assess what stage most of our organizations were at before training took place. Members felt it would be a little premature to re-survey as yet as we have not done enough intervention. We need to assess where members are now, provide assistance where necessary and implement next steps.

* **Develop list of resources:**

Members discussed a resource list for members to use around youth engagement including websites, manuals etc. Tracey did a list for SMDHU and offered to share it at this table for information and a beginning. We can use the Coalition website to house this list and other information including job opportunities for youth. Members discussed this group developing a webinar on what is youth engagement and uploading the CAMH and CHEO webinars. **ACTION: Deb to see if Pam Hillier from 211 would be able to come join this group next month. Nancy to speak to the Boys and Girls Club about participating in this group. All members to bring resource list informationgbnwa.pres@rogers.com for our meeting next month.**

* **Consider a YE summit?**

This was an idea discussed at our July meeting. Members discussed particulars including topic, duration and funding. Members felt this would be something to implement in a year’s time. This can be included in the Trillium CAMH funding proposal for what is happening and what can be learned by youth engagement. There is a seed grant as well that is a small amount of money to help get their youth engagement up and running. The Youth United Fund by the United Way could be an idea as well as long as it is implemented by a youth and the lead is a charitable organization; this is only a small funding amount. Members discussed that this would be a summit for youth by youth with some adult allies. This could also be tagged onto a youth retreat and have one day focussing on youth engagement bringing in other youth just for that day. Costs would be minimal this way as you are part of another event. Simcoe Community Services youth engagement retreat is during March Break at Geneva Park is an idea. **ACTION: Deb to follow up with Kathy Simpson on the seed grant opportunity.**

* **Next Meeting (3rd Wed of the month):**

**ACTION: Deb and Kristina to follow up with those on the distribution list regarding participation. Nancy to speak to Kevin Gangloff at Orillia Youth Centre about rejoining this group. Kristi to speak to Ross McIntyre at Camp Couchiching about participating in this group.**

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

10-12 p.m.

The Common Roof (165 Ferris Lane, Barrie)