

Building Healthy Communities Meeting Notes - School Attendance MT

August 20th @ Price Charities Rm 640

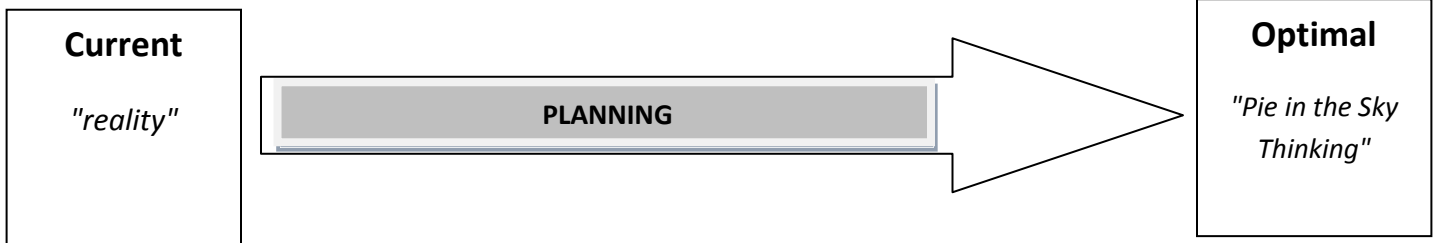
- Reviewed Momentum Team Guidelines and Introductions
- Discussed any necessary modifications to the Resident Engagement Plan - None
- September 26th Preliminary Planning

Event Overview: booth style fair to summarize our group and its purpose with facts, information and meeting residents face to face to answer questions.

Ideas Posed: a maze with facts about our topic, game, quiz, musical chairs "drop out", skits, team challenge, language friendly, a passport with prize, the "4 or 40" video, survey, posters w/stats,

To Do: We need a sub-committee group including the following signees to help plan the event and based upon the approved Resident Engagement Master Plan guidelines (approved by Mid-City Coordinating Council 8/25)

- Chair outlined the purpose of the meeting using NOW vs. Future



- Youth Voice put together a list of their ideal programs that would help to engage students and increase school attendance. **Youth Latino Council, TKF and Additional input from other leadership groups. (See PDF titled "Homework")
 - ✓ The list was discussed, but many agencies agreed that these programs are already in existence with little participation, but maybe not publicized as much.

SAFE and Central Environment

- ✓ Community Center Program facility should be centrally located for youth can access
- ✓ Parents feel safe for their children to attend programs
- ✓ Use current schools or community buildings for small community centers after school hours
- ✓ "It takes the village to raise children"

Inclusive Family Involvement

- ✓ Wrap-around services with holistic approach to addressing often root causes of youth behavior and choices
- ✓ Parental involvement in mentoring to create balanced social/academics

Empowerment

- ✓ Peer to peer mentoring on all levels would be helpful because knowledge cannot be taken away.
- ✓ Teach civic engagement for strengthen strategies toward change
- ✓ Coaching to those undergoing change of status process
- ✓ Help overcome hopelessness and fear
- ✓ Create the mindset that it is necessary to "give back"

Reframe Academic Policies

- ✓ School start time should be pushed back to keep youth off the streets during critical hours
- ✓ Studies show conflicting views with school start times due to school athletics and other reasons
- ✓ Class sizes are often too big and turns into "babysitting" large groups of teens and therefore teachers have difficult time reaching students and ensuring homework gets completed.

Create Model School Programs

- ✓ Curriculums should encompass hands on and applied learning to provide skills for the real world application.
- ✓ Reframe academics culturally (IEP's)

Embrace Culture

- ✓ Some schools do host community events, but the diversity of City Heights should be celebrated and embraced so students/youth/residents feel ownership.
- ✓ Use evidence based research to celebrate holidays, religion, or festivals

Chair Summary and Requests- We continue to have sensitive conversations around immigration and subjects that requires both courage and trust. It was recommended that a confidentiality form be created and disseminated at the next meeting to ensure the safety of youth and participants of the Momentum Team. We were advised by Mid-City CAN **NOT** to proceed with this plan and to use the Team Guidelines at the beginning of each meeting for review of our agreed rules for engagement.

On another note, to further enhance the connection with residents, and a current vacancy as Co-Chair, we received a nomination/volunteer for Genoveva Aguilar to fulfill this role, but will need consensus among the group to proceed.

A recommendation for future meetings to arrange the room in a circular manner to avoid speaking to the backs of the heads of others. (M. Stephens)

Launch Pad

Why do some kids engage in everything and some don't at all?