

Nashville Community Coalition for Youth Safety (NCCYS)
Mentoring Work Group Meeting
Friday, January 25, 2008; 1-2 pm
IMF Peniel Initiative Office
1219 9th Ave. North, Nashville, TN
MINUTES

Present: Paul Juarez, Sandy Moore, Rachel Copeland, Mashon Gray, Brandon Hill, Todd Lake, Rev. Neely Williams, Vicente Samaniego, and Cesar Muedas.

Meeting Opened: 1:00 pm

Meeting Adjourned: 2:30 pm

Chairing: Brandon Hill

Agenda Items	Discussion	Outcome
Welcome	Members briefly introduced themselves	
Overview, updates and discussion for moving forward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ We briefly went over previous discussion of our short term wins and focused on identify successful mentoring programs (formal or informal) in Nashville and finding ways to make them more visible and readily accessible to the youth that need those services. ➤ There was some discussion about a pilot project that would involve assessing agencies with current mentoring programs and look at: type of services they provide, eligibility criteria, org. capacity, etc. in order to create a matrix identifying these agencies' mentoring programs; this will allow others to query them based on specific needs. ➤ Dr. Juarez spoke about the development of the <i>web-based interface</i> that would include everything from mentoring programs to safe places and job opportunities as a way to get the word out about these programs to service providers and youth. ➤ We need to bring the services to the youth and encourage youth to do something positive. We need a guided approach to get resources (e.g., BBBS) to where it's needed. We can't do it all but if we focus on a targeted approach that is <i>consistent</i>, we might be able to create a dent. What makes drug dealers so appealing is that they are consistent and give youth options that may be hard to turn down...they just need a caring adult. ➤ Start thinking about meeting hope with opportunities (e.g., Belmont's Entrepreneurship program, TSU' service learning) and linking services to the youth and community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to start looking at ways to respond to community questions about mentoring opportunities. • Will continue to update list of current formal and informal mentoring programs in Nashville, TN. • Our Youth need consistency.

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Discussion on new initiative- moving to action.	<p>➤ We briefly discussed ideas that came out of the coalition meeting and looked at ways to create matches between mentors and mentees by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Linking contacts at Juvenile Detention Centers (Chaplin Lemon) and resources/ Partners in the community. 2. Creating awareness about current available resources and dispelling misconceptions about mentoring programs (BBBS). 3. Organizing an event (e.g, basketball tournament) that creates an atmosphere/opportunity to connect youth with caring adults. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group identified 3 things we can do with a focus on connecting youth to services.
Next Steps	<p>➤ Our focus will be to meet with Chaplin Lemon to connect/link youth at the Juvenile Detention Centers to community resources/partners to help connect them with a caring adult.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rev. Williams will contact Chaplin Lemon to discuss ways to coordinate this effort.
Adjourn & next meeting	<p>Next meeting was <i>scheduled</i> for Friday, February 29, 2007, 1-2 pm at IMF Peniel Initiative Office, 1219 9th Ave. North., Nashville, TN</p>	<p>Further details to be send via email</p>