



**Countywide Partnership
For Youth
Steering Committee**

- David Fulton-(Chair)
- Scot Quintel-United Way
- Mark Harris-UW Board Representative
- Eric Marsh-Indiana University
- Vivian Ashmawi-Communities In Schools
- Misty Hollis-SSHS Project Director
- Bruce Daggy-Boys and Girls Clubs
- Pat Heiny-RCS Board of Education
- Josie Seybold-Community Corrections
- Tom Pennington-(Convener).
- Tammy Pressnall-JACY House

**S/HS Supervisory
Committee**

- Vivian Ashmawi-Communities In Schools
- Dr. Allen Bourff-RCS Superintendent
- Rob Backmeyer-Centerstone
- Bruce Daggy-Boys and Girls Clubs
- Kory George-Wayne County Probation
- Portia Villafuerte-Birth To Five
- Jeff Cappa-Wayne County Sheriff Dept.
- Stacey VanPelt-Centerstone
- Curt Leverton-City of Richmond Police Department

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Youth As Resource Expansion



As Resources (YAR), brings energy and new ideas to the program.

YAR is a philosophy and a program that recognizes youth as valuable community resources and engages them as partners with adults in bringing about positive community change. Students identify social issues that concern them and design projects to address them. Youth are the key leaders and decision makers in implementing their ideas.

YAR continues to have a program at Richmond High School with expansion this year to Dennis and Test Middle Schools. During their first session at Dennis Middle School, Erin explained that they face issues such as bullying, hunger, depression, drugs, etc. During these sessions, they will discuss what it takes to become a leader to make changes.

The first two pictures highlight the first session launched at

Erin Ferguson, new Executive Director of Youth

Dennis Middle School.

During an activity, each group raised and lowered a hula-hoop in unison to learn



how to work together as a group to accomplish the task. After the exercise, they discussed what methods worked and what caused difficulties. She stressed communication is what makes the group successful. Erin also discussed how body language can be hurtful to other people.

Students then divided into groups. Each group brainstormed what they wanted to do for their community project. The students excitedly cooperated with the activities and seemed eager to participate.



Safe Schools/Healthy Students Grant provides funding for Youth As Resources.



Sustainability Beginning with Girls, Inc. Preventing Adolescence Program!



Preventing Adolescent Pregnancy (PAP) is one of many programs offered through Girls Inc. Beth Harrick, Co-Executive Director, states “I am excited to see evidence that the girls are learning to identify the need to prevent pregnancy. Data shows the level of knowledge is changing in the girls so they understand that abstinence is the only sure way of preventing pregnancy. They are also gaining necessary information about sexually transmitted diseases, contraception and risk reduction. It’s really making a difference!”

SS/HS has provided vision for expanding PAP across our community in order to make a greater impact. Girls Inc. staff and board are excited to share they have hired Amy Keene to be the PAP Outreach Coordinator. Her focus is solely with the PAP program. Therefore, she devotes time to expand and enhance this program. Teachers and students compliment Amy’s progress in getting depth and trust from the girls, therefore, they are experiencing more success than expected.

In 2010-2011, they served 382 students in Dennis Middle School, Test Middle School and Richmond High School DIPLOMAS. With the expansion of Amy’s position, PAP is expected to reach more than 450 girls in 2011-2012. The expansion involves more sessions in each school therefore there will be more consistency as well as expansion into RHS beyond the DIPLOMAS program.

The goal of the SS/HS Grant project was to fund programs in order for them to expand and help the students of Richmond Community Schools. As the grant ends, the goal is for each program to find other funding sources to sustain their programs. During the course of the SS/HS project, United Way has also identified PAP as a focal area. As a result, PAP Outreach Coordinator position incorporates crossover funding from SS/HS and United Way. They are hopeful that United Way can help Girls Inc. sustain their growth beyond the end of the SS/HS grant.

Centerstone Staff Change

Centerstone provides counselors in each of Richmond Community Schools. The most recent addition to the staff is Ashley Jewett who counsels at Elizabeth Starr Academy.

Ashley shared, “I really enjoy working in just one school all day. That way I am able to enjoy and get to know the staff and students better. I keep very busy, which I like. “

Safe Schools/Healthy Students provides funding for eight of the twelve Centerstone counselors.





Kierstan Barbre (Charles)

Communities In Schools New Staff Changes

Communities In Schools (CIS) just celebrated ten years of service to Wayne County. The mission of Communities In Schools is to champion the connection of needed community resources with schools to help young people successfully learn, stay in school and prepare for life.



Aaron Nell (RHS)



Melody Weikart (Garrison)

CIS is very active in Richmond Community Schools. Within the last six months, they brought four new coordinators to their team: Kierstan Barbre serves at Charles, Melody Weikart at Garrison, Meghan Alexander at Crestdale and Aaron Nell at Richmond High School. Each of these coordinators have been a great addition in their service to students at Richmond Community Schools.

Safe Schools/Healthy Students Grant provides funding for all of the RCS CIS Coordinators.



Meghan Alexander



SS/HS Grant Director, Misty Hollis shares... Next Steps for Safe Schools/Healthy Students

In the Spring 2011, a team of Richmond leaders attended a Safe Schools/Healthy Students Sustainability Conference. The intent of the conference was to guide conversation and decision making on which services to sustain beyond the SS/HS grant.

By August 2011, the Countywide Partnership for Youth Steering Committee and Richmond Community Schools received the second year SS/HS Evaluation Report from Indiana University Center for Evaluation and Education Policy (CEEP). The data from the report supported the work of our SS/HS partners and their programs. CEEP made recommendations on specific services to grow and services to improve. The recommendations are being reviewed and discussed by SS/HS staff and RCS administration.

The current phase aligns with Richmond Community School's Master Plan process. As RCS has held conversations and meetings on its Master Plan, SSHS Project Director, Misty Hollis, and Finance Director, Bob Coddington, began meeting with RCS building principals to discuss SS/HS services and what was most impactful on learning, attendance and behavior support.

Our hope is to meet with our SS/HS partners in January to share the Sustainability recommendations. I will keep you informed throughout this process. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (765) 973-4930 or mistydh@rcs.k12.in.us.

We're On The Web!
www.cpywayne.org



COUNTYWIDE
PARTNERSHIP
FOR YOUTH

cpywayne.org

Formed in 2004, the Partnership's Youth Development Plan provides a vision for enhancing positive factors in a child's life. CPY consists of volunteers from all areas of the county. Business, Non-Profits and Individuals alike are stepping up to make a stand for the youth of Wayne County.

CPY supports the work of Wayne County partners who bolster positive youth development. By working

collectively we will have better outcomes for our youth and more effective use of our resources. Come, connect, share and empower – for the sole purpose of giving the youth in our community the opportunity to excel.

You are welcome to view our web site at www.cpywayne.org for past meeting notes or materials related to Positive Youth Development.

Safe Schools Healthy Students is a Federally funded initiative under the umbrella of the Countywide Partnership for Youth. For more information on the Safe Schools/Healthy Students Grant, please call Misty Hollis at 973-4930 or email: mistydh@rcs.k12in.us.

It is the policy of Richmond Community Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age or disability in its educational programs or employment policies.



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