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We would like to thank CHI Health Good Samaritan for providing mailing services for our newsletter.



Newsletter February 2016

The Foundings of Positive Pressure

Positive Pressure formed in June 1996, as a grassroots community coalition to address alcohol, tobacco and other drug use. Positive Pressure developed in response to the needs of the community to become more informed about, and to address the problems created by methamphetamine use during the mid 1990's.

During the early years, the coalition specifically worked with community members and policy makers to prevent a head shop from selling drug paraphernalia in 1999. Under collaborative efforts primarily between the former Family Resource Council, Buffalo County Community Partners and Region 3 Prevention staff, the coalition formed as a Partners goal work group.

This goal work group had begun gathering input on priority health needs from key leadership in the community where alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use was quickly recognized as a concern among youth. In 1996, Positive Pressure became a goal work group of Partners. The coalition also created and adopted Community Standards with regards to youth use of alcohol and tobacco in the Kearney Community in 2000. In March 2008, FRC transferred the Positive Pressure Coalition Coordinator to Buffalo County Community Partners as a member of its staff.

The vision of Positive Pressure Coalition is to: "Improve the health and quality of life in Buffalo County by reducing substance abuse through collaboration, planning, and programming". The mission of Positive Pressure Coalition is "To aid communities in the coordination, and integration of resources, and use of evidence-based practices to reduce youth substance abuse".

Right: Dr. Clint Jones and Rick Kozin speak at the first Positive Pressure meeting held in 1997.

- 1997 *June:* First meeting of the coalition
September: Held series of town halls to inform and mobilize community on the impact of meth.
- 1999 Prevented a Head Shop from selling drug paraphernalia in the City of Kearney.
- 2000 City of Kearney City Council adopted an ordinance regarding the possession of tobacco a violation for youth under the age of 18 after conversations from coalition.
- 2005 Awarded the Federal Drug Free Communities Grant to build capacity to address: youth alcohol and tobacco use.
- 2007 Established Responsible Beverage Server Coalition. Held 1st Responsible Beverage Server Training.
- 2011 Coalition participated in the first Prescription Drug Take Back in collaboration Two Rivers Public Health Department, Buffalo County Sheriff's Office, Good Samaritan Hospital, and Elks.
- 2014 Be Safe, Be Smart Task force created to help reduce damages of after Cruise Nite partying



TIPS History



The Responsible Beverage Server Coalition was established in 2007, by retailers Linda Neemyer and Virginia Sims. The coalition adopted the Training For Intervention Procedures curriculum. Since its creation in 2007 it has shifted to a task force underneath the Positive Pressure Coalition.

Doug Kramer has trained 671 to date; he started in 2008 and is a 9-year TIPS trainer. Ryan Ohri has trained 306 people. Ryan started in 2009 and is a 7-year TIPS trainer. Ryan also received a letter from Governor Ricketts, showing his appreciation for good citizenship and hard work in helping to prevent alcohol-related incidents in Nebraska.

Ryan Ohri is retiring this year from TIPS training. We would like to extend a special thank you to him for all the effort and time he has put into his work. We appreciate everything he has done for the program!

Upcoming Classes:

- 2/22, 6-10p.m. - On-Premise Sales
- 3/11, 6-10p.m. - Off-Premise Sales
- 3/24, 6-10p.m. - On-Premise Sales

Check out bcchp.org/tips for all the information

Thank You to Our January Donors:

- Dora Day
- Richard Hranac
- Randy and Krista Fritson
- Garrett Vetter
- Kearney Women's Club
- Schrock Chiropractic
- CHI Health Good Samaritan
- The Tye Law Firm
- Ron & Carol Cope Foundation

If you would like to partner with us through a financial donation, you may:

Contact Denise Zwiener at 308-865-2280 or dzwiener@bcchp.org

Donate on our website, bcchp.org, by clicking the blue "Donate" button.

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Visit bcchp.org/board for complete board member listing or bcchp.org/contact for complete staff listing and contact form.

2015 Campaign Success

Just last week our donations surpassed the 2015 Annual Fund Campaign Goal of \$155,000. Recent donations from local grant making foundations and businesses complete Community Partners final campaign push raising

\$160,601.53.

“We are positioned to launch two major initiatives in Buffalo County in 2016, these funds will set the stage for effective implementation,” said executive director Denise Zwiener.



Buffalo County Community Partners Staff and 2015 Campaign Family, come together to celebrate the reaching of the Annual Campaign Goal. Left to right, front: Ariane Arensdorf, Denise Zwiener, Skylar Kuntz, Brady Kuntz, Michelle Toukan; Back: Sarah McCaslin, Ann Huffman, Tana Miller, Candy Kuntz, Bryan Kuntz, Kate Hannon.

“It doesn’t seem possible that the 2015 campaign year with Buffalo County Community Health Partners is wrapping up! We had a great time being the campaign family and have gained many new friendships and learned about new programs along the way.

When we were approached about becoming the campaign family we were excited for the opportunity to work with such a great organization and help raise funds for so many great programs. As a family, we also thought it was a great way to introduce our children to the principles of giving back and helping others in need. It is never too early for children to start learning how to help other people and how to give time and financial assistance to the programs you are passionate about in your community.

A couple of the kids’ favorite activities were the Healthy Kids Weekend, including the Storybook Walk and also the Block Party at Harmon Park after the Community Olympics. They had a blast at each one and also loved all the activities to promote a healthy lifestyle. Community Partners does such great things for Buffalo County and it was important to us as a family with young children to support a great non-profit agency and to also become a vessel for raising money for the organization.

We close the year hitting fundraising goal, thanks to the strong support of generous donors in the community! We would like to thank the Board for giving us this opportunity to serve and would also like to thank Denise and her staff for all the incredible work they perform daily to make Buffalo County a better, healthier, safer place to raise our families. We look forward to seeing what 2016 will bring!”

-Bryan, Candy, Brady, and Skylar Kuntz



The Beginnings of Tobacco Free Nebraska

Community Partners has been working on reducing tobacco use since 1997. The Buffalo County Tobacco Free Coalition received grant funds (\$6,500) to reduce teen and



Former Senator Joel Johnson educates Kearney students of his priority bill, the Clean Indoor Air Act.

pre-teen tobacco use.

Reducing smoking was one of the major focus areas in Community Partners report to the community in 2000. Community Partners had collected data of smoking in the Buffalo County Area. As a result of the data collected, the Youth Advisory Board students wanted to increase the percent of smoke free restaurants in Buffalo County. In 2001 the data showed that 45 percent of restaurants in Buffalo County were smoke free. In 2009 it became 100

percent smoke free.

In 2000 the Youth Advisory and the Buffalo County Tobacco Free Coalition teamed up with the Tri City Storm to promote “yes” to hockey an “no” to tobacco. After this campaign they focused on the businesses and restaurants in town going smoke free. Lists were made and posted online and in the paper about the places that were smoke free. The most notable outcome was reducing youth tobacco use by 45%.

The Youth Advisory Board students scheduled a meeting on March 12, 2003 at the State Capitol. The youth advocated for a smoke-free Nebraska and for stronger alcohol use penalties. The youth presented a press conference in the Rotunda. The goal of the meeting was to provide an atmosphere where Buffalo County youth could advocate for issues that were important to them.

In June 2009, a huge



Buffalo County YAB on steps of Capitol.

victory for Nebraska, the Legislature passed a state wide Clean Indoor Air Act.

Steve Bennett

Community Partners’s Past Chair

“My term as Chairman of Buffalo County Community Health Partners followed the inspiring leadership of our Founding Chairman of the Board, Joan Lindenstein. She was able to take a Board of 25 individuals of diverse backgrounds, agendas and passions and develop a consensus on a reasoned approach to a Healthier Community. With a product of measurable outcomes and a very strict criteria for assessments and strategic goals, Buffalo County Community Health Partners has weathered the test of time. So many successes for this Community due to so many wonderful people.

A few that come to the top of the list during my tenure as Chair, include the accomplishment of development of 50 Alzheimer dedicated units in Nursing Homes at a time when this was a trend setter. Smoking cessation and enlightened local public policies on curtailing smoking in public areas became the model for this State. And a truly “Community One of a Kind. A Brokered Public Transportation System,” R.Y.D.E.

But the joy of my time with Buffalo County Community Health Partners was the long lasting friendships I made with the most wonderful, dedicated and hard working public servants in our Community.”

Dr. Steve Bennett
Chairman of the Board
2000-2002

