

Child Safety & Crisis Response Committee

Minutes – September 20, 2007

Brainard Field, 269 Maxim Road, Hartford

Attendees: Julie Bisi, DSS; Ellen Blaschinski, DPH; Valerie Boyat, DCF; Michael Buckley, CASP; Patricia Estill, COC; Peggy Freidenfelt, DPH; Thomas Gavaghan, DEMHS; Bob Kenny, DPH; Dave Larson, CAPSS; Bruce Lockwood; Scott Newgass, DOE; Wayne Sandford, DEMHS; Scott Szalkiewicz, DPH; Lee Toffey, DEMHS; and Barbara Wolf.

1. Welcome: The meeting was called to order by Deputy Commissioner Wayne Sandford at 1309 hours.
2. Report from DEMHS: reported by Tom Gavaghan.
 - A. Emergency Planning for Schools Workshop - Education Connection, Litchfield, Wednesday, September 26 and Mohegan Sun Safety Complex, Thursday, September 27. Capacity is 80 persons per workshop, and both are almost full.
3. Sub-Committee for Day Care Centers: reported on Pat Estill and Scott Szalkiewicz in Elaine Zimmerman's absence.
 - A. Sub-Committee has not met since the last meeting. A handout was distributed for *Connecticut Responds and Reflects*, an exhibit that will travel every fall through 2010.
 - B. Scott Szalkiewicz handed out the draft of the Emergency Care Guidelines and a discussion ensued.
 - C. Scott also discussed training outline and the possibility of a 1 ½ hour training session to be given in conjunction with already required training. The hope is to give care givers real world situations that will hopefully give them tools to help prepare an emergency plan. Scott asked for recommendations on the training outline. Julie Bisi suggested contacting Deb Flisk who runs the accreditation project for Day Care centers to help get training done through community colleges. The question was raised if it could become part of the required licensing training, as Day Care providers frequently have little time for training. Dave Larson felt that a Train the Trainer course would be beneficial as people change positions from year to year and the training could become ongoing. Peggy Friedenfelt felt that there are probably groups already in existence that could help get the word out about training. Wayne Sandford suggested that this be brought up at the local EMD meetings that will be upcoming in each region. Scott advised that the EMD to Day Care link is critical as this is what links the first responders to the facilities. Bruce Lockwood suggested that to get the program delivered in an area the request must go through the EMD and it will help establish that face to face relationship before an emergency arises.
4. School Safety Seminar:
 - A. Bruce Lockwood reported that this is temporarily on hold. He will work on the questionnaire so the document can be reviewed and a timeline established.

5. School Security Grant Program:

A. A packet was distributed with the School Security Grant requirements. Discussed were:

- 1) Application
- 2) Scoring system of assessment
- 3) Team to read all the applications and grade them.

Discussion included the priority school list including extra points and how the total score will determine who is eligible. Dave Larson suggested keeping a list of those requests that could not be funded so that possibly the Legislature can see where the needs are for further funding. Bruce Lockwood commented that it would be good to make more security initiatives available as an allowable bonding expense, thus allowing security improvements to be done during build outs. Also discussed were the Regional School District formula and ERCM (Emergency Preparedness Crisis Management) Grants received by Danbury, New Haven, Stamford, and Waterbury; and Safe Schools and Healthy Communities Grant received by Bridgeport. Julie Bisi asked if the towns with overall crime rates by individuals under 18 (Plainville, West Haven, Windsor, and Windsor Locks) could be given any extra consideration. Discussion.

6. Items from Members:

- A. Scott Newgass asked if the upcoming training for Day Care Centers be structured along the 4 stages (Prevent, Mitigate, Respond, and Recover) that towns already use in emergency planning.
- B. Bob Kenny distributed a cyber-security for children disc from the FBI and InfraGard that can be copied as needed and distributed to schools.
- C. Wayne Sandford advised that the DEMHS Education Campaign for this year has been completed and discussed some of the ideas for next year's campaign. Scott Newgass discussed the advantage of having a CT portal that worked off the READY.gov premise to foster ownership with residents.
- D. Wayne Sandford advised that he and the Commissioner would be answering questions for the legislative Review of Homeland Security on Tuesday. Wayne asked if it would be helpful to the group to have an overview of DEMHS at the next meeting. A presentation is planned.

7. Next Meeting: November 19, 2007 at 1pm, Brainard Field

The meeting was adjourned at 1430 hours.