



**Family & Education Working Group Agenda**

Tuesday February 9, 1:30-3:30 pm

**Host/Location:**

Family Education Centre 102-4 Sir Lou Drive, Brampton ON L6Y 4J7

Tel: 905-452-0332 Ext 224

**Chair:** Diane Myers/Anne Burke-Gauthier

**Minutes:** Sophia Graham

**Present:**

**Chair:** Diane Myers; **Co-Chair:** Beverly Davis

Sophia Graham, Pamela James, Shalah Mark, Beverly Davis, Meta Giff and Rosanna Armata

**Regrets:**

Peg Folsom, Anne Burke-Gauthier, Sofia Albanez, Laura Buchal, Nicole Therrien, Sharon Doherty, Brenda Stephen, Tammy Reynolds, Anita Stellinga, Michael Skynner, Naunidhi Kaur, Sandra Payne, Valerie Arnold-Judge, Sheila Wilson, Michael Skynner, Lina Iacobucci, Lorry Seabourn

Agenda Item	Discussion Points	Action
1. <b>Introductions</b>	Everyone introduced themselves; Sophia invited Rosanna Armata from Communications to the meeting.	
2. <b>Approval of Agenda</b>	Approved	
3. <b>Review and Approval of Minutes (updates on action items)</b>	Approved	
4. <b>Parenting Program Updates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Funding Sources Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Region of Peel – One Year Funding</li> <li>▪ Region of Peel – ADA Team</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Diane announced that we received the funding to run from the Region of Peel to run 3 sessions. Sophia reported that we're still waiting to hear from ADAT whether they'll be able to fund future sessions.</p> <p>The Reunion Dates for the participants have been set for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 31<sup>st</sup> – Clark Blvd.</li> <li>• June 1<sup>st</sup> – Shelter Bay</li> <li>• June 2<sup>nd</sup> – Allan Drive</li> </ul> <p>There are opportunities to promote the program on the following dates:</p>	

- March 4<sup>th</sup> – 7-9 p.m. – Catholic District School Board
- Saturday April 10<sup>th</sup> – St. Joseph S.S. We can set-up a display.
- April – Parent Literacy Conference

Sophia reviewed the key evaluation findings provided by Peg:

The Alcohol, Drugs and Addictions Team is finalizing the evaluation findings and the report should be available at the March meeting.

Following are some initial findings from the pre and post evaluations and one-month follow up phone calls.

- Much enthusiasm was received from Shelter Bay and Allan Drive with participants recommending that the program be repeated in those locations.
- Both Shelter Bay and Clark thought the program should be longer (ten to twelve weeks).
- Both Allan Drive and Clark Blvd. were vocal about concerns with lack of promotion of the program.
- Most participants found out about the program through schools.
- At the one month follow up, with about 65% of participants contacted, the majority of participants were still seeing behaviour changes (more communication, more patience, less yelling) due to the program.
- The weekly follow up questionnaires aided in the evaluation process. Shelter Bay completed the majority of these with Allan Drive completing a couple of weeks and none being done at the Clark Blvd site.

Following are some comments on the individual sites.

- Shelter Bay in particular demonstrated keen interest in the program as a whole. This group had the highest attendance rate with enthusiastic learners who were eager to participate in the various topic areas. Parents in this group formed a genuine connection with each other, sharing stories and parenting challenges, and exchanging phone numbers to keep in touch. The children also became quite close and expressed interest in staying in touch with each other as well. This group felt the program should run longer (ten to twelve weeks) and are eager to get together for the six month follow up session.
- The group at Allan Drive also showed great interest in the program. Attendance at this location was low, not because

**\* The group discussed the possibility of extending the program to include sessions that provide Parents with the resources and tools to develop their own 'Parenting Network' where they could have an ongoing dialogue about the issues they're facing, etc..**

**\* These sessions could include additional workshops, support on how to start and maintain a group, etc...**

**\* Diane mentioned that they're expanding a Parenting Program that they deliver to the Afghan Women's group. She'll update us as to how that goes.**

**\* Diane will speak to the Region about using some of the funding to extend the program.**

	<p>the group was disinterested, but because the program wasn't promoted enough in the community. Thus, many families started mid-way through. The interest here was high with parents wanting to know when the next sessions will be held. This group thought the eight weeks was a good length for the program to be run.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Even though Clark Blvd. experienced low attendance rates, they indicated that they thought the program should run longer (ten to twelve weeks) and they were vocal about the lack of promotion for the program.</li> <li>• Sophia proposed adapting the curriculum to add a cultural perspective to the program. The group approved this idea as it's something they've discussed in the past and have wanted to do.</li> </ul>	<p><b>* The group has agreed to offer Shelter Bay 4 additional workshops as a pilot.</b></p> <p><b>* Sophia to follow-up on the process of adding the cultural component. Suggestion: Contact India Rainbow. Also, Peg may also have some suggestions (ADAT's Newcomer Assessment)</b></p>
<p><b>5. Marketing of Parenting Program</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Flyer Revisions</b></li> </ul>	<p>The group looked at 2 versions and provided feedback to Rosanna on the wording and colors.</p> <p>Diane suggested using an on-line registration process (similar to Children Services). We can incorporate a 'waiting list' system and Lorry can manually register individuals who don't have access to a computer.</p> <p>We can advertise in libraries, in the 'Community News/Calendar' of the Paper and on Rogers.</p>	<p><b>Rosanna will incorporate the suggestions to another draft for the group to review.</b></p>
<p><b>6. Review of Vision</b></p>	<p>Sophia and Bev met to review the vision and found it very challenging. They had more questions than answers. The group discussed the goals/vision of our group and arrived at the following:</p> <p><u>Vision:</u> To build the capacity for parents and youth to create and support a self sustaining, safe community.</p> <p><u>Objectives:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To provide tools and training to parents and youth:       <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Middle Years Parent &amp; Youth Program</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p><b>Diane added in youth – need to confirm with group that this is okay</b></p>

	<p>b) Toolkit c) Resources for families (referrals)</p> <p>2. To provide on going support through: a) Funding opportunities b) Maintenance of skills learned c) Accessible database</p> <p>3. Build awareness of parenting issue and recognize diverse cultural parenting practices</p> <p><b>* We'd like parents to take more ownership of their neighbourhood and become self-sustaining.</b></p> <p>Pam suggested when you do the 6-month follow-up we should ask how they're doing without the program and see if there's interest for them to continue meeting. We could also engage to become mentors to current participants in future sessions.</p> <p>Bev mentioned that there are cases where they've identified children with 'behavioural issues' where the parents could use additional support. <b>Pam suggested that they refer the Parents to centralized intake.</b></p>	
<p>7. <b>Review and Complete Draft Workplan</b></p>	<p>Diane prepared a 'Draft Workplan' for the group to review. Please see attached.</p>	
<p>8. <b>Membership</b></p>	<p>Deferred</p>	
<p>9. <b>211 Presentation</b></p>	<p>The presenter had to cancel - Deferred to March Meeting</p>	
<p>10. <b>Update on Network - Sophia</b></p>	<p>At the last Steering Committee Meeting, it was suggested that the Working Groups decide which priority issues they want to focus on that align with their activities.</p> <p>All the Working Groups have been reviewing their goals and brainstorming what activities and initiatives they're going to work on. Attendance has been inconsistent, so each group has been looking at ways to engage new members and refresh the membership.</p> <p>Youth involvement is not limited to the Services &amp; Supports for Youth Working Group. We could look at ways to involve them more in the</p>	

	Families & Education Group.	
<b>11. Other Business, including updates from members</b>	N/A	
<b>12. Next Meetings</b>	2010 Meeting Dates: Jan 12, Feb 9, Mar 9, April 13, May 11, June 8, July 13, Aug 10, Sept 14, Oct 12, Nov 9, Dec 14 (need to confirm these are correct) RSVP Requested.	
<b>13. Agenda Items for Next Meeting</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Neighbourhood Review- set priorities</li> <li>2. Powerpoint presentation- Sofia and Peg</li> <li>3. School Presentations</li> </ol>	