



**Stratford Youth and Family Advisory Board (YAFAB)
Annual Town Hall Meeting
Town Hall Council Chamber
Minutes
Monday, June 15, 2015**

Call to Order & Introductions

Dudley Orr called the 2015 Annual Town Hall Meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers. He announced that the Executive Committee has approved re-naming of the Stratford Youth and Family Advisory Board to Stratford Partnership for Youth and Families. The new name will coincide with the four main functions of the Coalition, as stated in the By-Laws. Also, Dudley Orr gave an overview of the Search Institute's 40 Developmental Assets. Town Councilman Paul Hoydick made the opening remarks. Winnie Etienne provided the 2014-2015 Board Highlights.

M.O.N.E.Y. Grants Presentations

Roula Kouvas and Madelyn Dragone presented the following M.O.N.E.Y. (**Mobilizing Our Neighbors and Engaging Youth**) grants and Local Prevention Council funded projects. The Youth and Family Advisory Board presented the following youth groups with the financial contribution of \$250 in support of their community service projects

- Kick Start Youth Soccer Camp ~ Sterling House Community Center
- Play Matters ~ Sterling House Community Center
- Rising Stars at SLA ~ Stratford Library
- Diversity Dream Team ~ Stratford High School
- Teen Volunteers ~ Stratford Recreation Department
- Unlearn ~ Bunnell High School

Other Funded Projects through the Youth and Family Advisory Board are:

- SHS & BHS Post Prom
- South End Community Expo
- Character and Leadership Development Day ~ Sterling House Community Center
- Healthy Kids Day ~ Stratford YMCA

M.E.D.A.L.S. Awards Presentation

Youth Committee members presented M.E.D.A.L.S. (**Making Extraordinary Differences And Leading Stratford**) to the following individuals, groups and businesses:

Ben's Bells Stratford

Lauren Cavalli

Barbara Colangelo

Tuck Colangelo

Sean Mingoello

Wayne's Walk Foundation

Amy Wiltsie

Jack Yih

RxEffect Presentation

Audrey Law, Shannon Tripodi, Raquel Juarez and Nicholas Satta presented the #RxEffect project, which is a social media campaign raising awareness of the dangers of prescription drug misuse and abuse. The campaign is funded by the *Healthy Living* grant from AMA (American

Medical Association Foundation). In collaboration with Internet Marketing Strategist, Susan Rubinsky, the youth committee has created a website and linked social media accounts, such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, etc. These media outlets will be used to inform both youth and parents of the dangers of prescription drug misuse and abuse. The campaign will launch in mid-August.

2015-2017 Executive Committee

Olivia Mastroluca introduced the following members as the 2015-2017 Executive Committee:

- Winnie Etienne and Sean Kennedy ~ Co-Chairs
- Kristi Peña and Paul DosSantos ~ Co-Vice Chairs
- Darrin Bosco ~ Youth Sector Representative
- Olivia Mastroluca and Patricia Hines ~ At-Large

2015-2017 Sector Representatives

Darrin Bosco – Youth
Denise Keegan – Parent
Captain Paul DosSantos – Stratford Police Dept.
Kathryn Mascia – Stratford Public Schools
Sean Kennedy – CT Dept. of Rehabilitation Services
Darin Bershefsky – Wayne’s Walk Foundation

J. Sibley Law – Media
Bill Hoey – St. Vincent’s Medical Center
Mary Dean – Chamber of Commerce
Rev. Ed Rawls – Clergy Association
Jack Cratty – Stratford Rotary Club
Lucretia Duwel – Stratford Library

Recognition of Retiring Board Member

Youth member, Audrey Law was recognized for her service and leadership.

Announcement of New Youth Members

The following youth have been nominated: Samuel Branyan, Jackson Buchanan, Michelle Harrison, Nathan Larsen, Saraya Lewis, Nick Mascico, Hannah McLaughlin, Amelia Overby, Mason Pugh, Nicolas Satta, Braydon Seaburg, Kayla Simon, Abdel Tcham, Grecia Villavicensio, Cheree Wright, Kacie John, Faye Rooney, Evereet Lowe, Jacqueline Decrescenzo, Yvemalia Germain, Sarah Williams, Aryan DeJesus, William Figueroa, Daelynne Veloz, Jayleen Herrera, Shania Mahabee, Kaylie Broadhurst, Malcolm Brown, Jerry Lopez, Kiyomi Bowen, and Dylan Shackett.

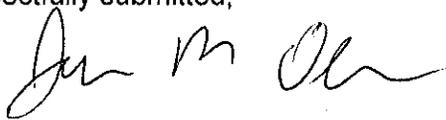
2015 Asset Champion Award

Tammy Trojanowski and Winnie Etienne presented Dudley Orr with the 2015 Asset Champion Award. Being the inaugural year of the award, it was given to Dudley Orr. In coming years, it will be given as the Dr. Dudley W. Orr Asset Champion Award and the award will be given to a student who has demonstrated assets including resiliency and perseverance.

Adjournment

Winnie Etienne thanked the attendees for their participation and invited them for refreshments. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



James Olsen