

The Black Outreach Project Board Meeting September 12, 1994

Present: Deena, Patricia, Lorne, Sherry, Marianne, Kim

Regrets: Wilson, Brian, Craig

Black Outreach update:

Irondale: BOP and Irondale project was very successful over the summer. The project travelled to various rural communities Deena is planning to meet Steve Cross (director of Irondale) to evaluate and wrap up the project. Deena and Steve will discuss getting other participants to continue the work since most of the summer participants are gone away for the school. Sherry suggested that there might be a possibility of doing a pop theatre piece during Black History Month.

CEC Black Workgroup:

CEC and Black Organizations have a workgroup that Deena was invited to be a part of. Deena is sitting on the youth committee and will update the adv. Board on its initiatives.

Outreach:

Deena has been doing general outreach to the African Nova Scotian Community. She has been doing work/outreach to the street and hill community. Deena goes to the aboriginal AIDS Task force on Friday afternoons but she is planning to change her time to another day because the original time is not good. Lorne and Deena are planning to try and facilitate a support group for Black Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual people. This will be an outreach initiative in which the purpose will be twofold: to further address HIV/AIDS and to supply a safe environment to do that.

Resource Kit and Training Manual:

Deena has been passing out a questionnaire to participants of presentations during her outreach in the rural areas. There was a suggestion that there should be questions in the evaluation for people who don't want to do presentations, but have feedback on what they would like to see. There was another suggestion to include a question that gets at the specific skills of a person willing to present.

Presentations:

Deena has been doing a variety of presentations in the community i.e. - North Branch Library
- Sydney
- Upper Big Tracadie
- Bridgewater
- Hfx Correctional Ctr

and others Sherry said that she's not interested in doing a presentation, but is willing to do promotional work to get information about the project out in the community. Deena is planning to hold a training session on HIV/AIDS for the Adv. Board and she will notify of presentations as they are booked.

Brochure:

Deena submitted a final draft of the Brochure for review. She is looking at the African colors for the Brochure.

Best Matches:

Deena has been in touch with CEC to keep Patricia for the rest of the year through the Best Matches program. A reply's forthcoming.

Racism Response:

There has been problems with AIDS N.S. making racist comments about the BOP. The BOP and the coalition wrote a letter to ANS regarding their concern over the comments. AIDS NS responded to the letter. Deena attended a provincial consultation retreat where she was approached about the letter we sent to AIDS NS and some of the same comments were made. Denise from ANS asked Deena if members of AIDS NS could meet for lunch with our board. We do not agree with this plan Deena will contact Denise to inform her that we are willing to meet after work with this issue being the only thing on the agenda Deena will update us on the date of the meeting and we will meet to discuss our strategy.

Upcoming Events:

Atlantic AIDS Network- Kim will go with Deena to the AAN and Kim will be doing an Anti-Racism workshop. Deena faxed info to Moncton on the workshop outline, but it did not make the draft agenda. Lorne will write a support letter from the Ethno Cultural committee (C.A.S) to address our concerns regarding Anti-Racism workshops at AAN.

Conference:

Deena will be going to Jasper, Alberta, Edmonton and Moncton (before the AAN) to conferences representing the BOP.

The "Walk":

Deena gave out pledge form for the WALK and is working to get a team together to WALK.

Provincial Consultation: tabled**Other:**

Lorne is the Atlantic rep for the strategic planning committee for the Canadian AIDS Society. He is therefore looking for an alternate to fill in for him when he can't make the Ethno Cultural Committee meeting. Sherry will be Lorne's alternate.

New Members- Marsha Gannon, Reginald Oblitey and Chris Bundy have showed an interest in sitting on the Adv. Board. There were no objections. Deena will approach these people to ask them if they are willing to serve on the board.

There's a national conference on HIV/AIDS in Vancouver that Lorne is trying to raise monies to attend. He is asking for a donation from the BOP. There was a discussion and we feel that if we give up the monies, we need to see something in return ie-workshop, information brought back to the BOP.