

MALHEUR County 2009 Annual Report

Panel Members (as of 09/30/09):

Name	Agency
LaDonna Wiedenman	Project DOVE
Sharon Kiplinger	DHS Self Sufficiency
Claudia Wilcox	Child Welfare
Bobbi Rudell	CASA
Jane Pagette	DHS
Ramone Rodrigues	Ontario City Police
Kelly Poe	Executive Director Malheur Commission on Children and Families
Angie Uptmor	Malheur Commission on Children and Families Ontario, OR
Sheri Smith	SAFE KIDS

Meetings:

November 9,2008

February 10, 2009 and February 24 (Planning session for April Events)

March 13, 2009 (Finalization Session for April Events)

May 13,2009

August 20, 2009 (World Child Abuse Prevention Planning session)

September 9,2009

October 1, 2008 (CAPTA recruitment, Plan toy drive for Foster children at Christmas time)

Activities:

The train the trainer, “How to Protect your Children: Advice from a Child Molester” presentation has been utilized and presented. The presentation was done for Four Rivers Cultural School personnel and parents.

For the 2009 April Child Abuse Awareness Month, CAPTA engaged in several activities to involve all members of our community and raise awareness regarding child abuse and neglect. CAPTA provided the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and Fruitland Idaho Chamber of Commerce an

educational presentation regarding the statistics and types of abuse and neglect most commonly seen in our area as well as what to do if they suspect abuse and neglect and resources that they could use. Each Chamber meeting during the month of April we honored two individuals who were nominated by community members/agencies who provided services to children and families in reducing the effects of child abuse and neglect. We honored eight individuals with the "Making a Difference" award. CAPTA also made presentations to Toast Masters. Treasure Valley Community College Education classes, Ontario high school and Fruitland high school. CAPTA also did one radio spot per week for the month of April informing the public about CAPTA and child abuse and neglect issues.

During the month of May, CAPTA provided information at the Nyssa Kids Fair. Brochures about child abuse prevention, bracelets, and necklaces were distributed. A Family Fun Run was planned, however it was rained out. In June we participated in a similar Kids Fair held in Ontario at the County Fair grounds. Similar brochures, bracelets and necklaces were distributed.

CAPTA leased a bulletin board for one year with the message of preventing child abuse and neglect along with the child abuse reporting phone number.

CAPTA printed brochures to inform people of what CAPTA is and gave two presentations to community clubs (Lions and Eastern Star) with the purpose of informing people about CAPTA and recruiting members.

Subcommittees:

None for this period.

Future Plans/Next Steps:

CAPTA plans to participate in the World Child Abuse Prevention Day in November and will utilize information and add specific county data and information to address child abuse . In addition to this, CAPTA plans to assist the local FAPA (Foster Adoptive Parent Association) with their annual Christmas Toy Drive for foster and adopted children in our community.

CAPTA plans to continue educating the community, parents especially, regarding protecting their children from child molesters. We strongly believe that this is an issue that needs to be addressed in our community and that responsibility to protect children needs to be on the shoulders of adults.

Unfortunately we had two of our presenters for this training resign their positions with Project DOVE and the CAPTA panel. Reorganization and commitment from remaining trainers needs to be renewed.

CAPTA looks forward to activities in April 2010 for Child Abuse Awareness Month. Planning will begin in January, and we hope to form new partnerships and renew old relationships with community organizations in order to include a variety of activities that are unique and informative to the public regarding the effects of child abuse and the need to prevent such abuse.

Recommendations:

1. We recommend that at both the County and State level more training are conducted for professionals and para-professionals in schools, private non-profits that work with children and families, individual counselors or behavioral mental health agencies that come into contact with children and families be required to have additional trainings in the area of mandated reporting.

Response: Professional groups representing mandatory reporters are responsible for arranging training for their constituents. DHS is not funded to develop new mandatory training materials. There are training materials, including a video, currently available on the DHS website.