

PROFILE of Mill Woods Youth Sub-Committee

Goals:

- To better serve the youth population in Mill Woods and area
- To strengthen partnerships between service providers in Mill Woods and area

Expected Outcomes:

- Enhanced awareness of existing resources and supports among partners and youth
- Improved relationships between agencies/organizations providing services to youth
- Traditionally uninvolved youth have opportunities to participate in their community
- Traditionally uninvolved youth are involved in activities to whatever level they feel comfortable.
- Youth are participating in decision making.
- Youth feel valued in their community
- Youth feel safe in their community

A Collaborative Community Mapping Planning Process

Joint Commitment:

- February 2007: First Meeting.
- June 2007: Priority area set: Traditionally uninvolved youth. Consensus to provide youth aged 12-16 with an opportunity to participate in 'non-traditional' recreational activities in their neighbourhood. (Youth will have the chance to decide on activities, and will be offered positive leadership and role modeling opportunities. Efforts will be made to reduce the barriers which are often faced by youth, i.e. transportation, cost, etc. The program seeks to engage youth which traditionally are uninvolved in activities and their community.")
- November 2007: Terms of reference and Inventory of Resources are written.

Community Profile:

- February 2007: The Profile of Maps created for the Mill Woods Mapping and Beyond Committee is available for use.
- November 2007: Demographic maps presented
- November 2008: Census 2006 Demographic maps are presented
- Matrix created to locate the community for the drop in program.
- January 2008 Trends Identified: Racism, Transportation, Access to services, Language and Recession.

Community Engagement:

- July 2008: Participate in Mill Woods Canada Day Event at Bubble Station to distribute Survey to families.
- December 2008 Starbucks agrees to donate treats for kids on an ongoing basis.
- February 2009: Reported back to community stakeholders at the Mill Woods Forum. A small group discussion engaged interested in conversation about youth needs.

Action:

- Autumn 2007: Planning begins for a drop in youth program for traditionally uninvolved youth.
- Spring 2008: Free Youth drop in program at Southwood Community league is launched (Community League waves fees for participants for 1 yr)

- May 2008: Participate in Youth Week.
- October 2008: Daly Grove School is allowing the group to use the gymnasium for free.
- May 2009: Participate in Youth Week
- March 2009: participated in the Community Youth Forum: we gave an update from the youth sub-committee. The community determined that youth were still a priority.
- February 2010: curriculum developed for the asset building project called "A Student Voice". This is a "community consultation" project where we will be consulting with youth about how their view their community. The DRAFT curriculum (named "Mapping Curriculum") is attached if you want more info.
- Fall 2009: group began work on their 2nd major project which is a Youth asset building project that will take place in the schools
- February 2010: we officially changed our name to Mill Woods Mapping and Beyond Youth Collaboration
- February 2010: Updated terms of reference. (attached)
- March 2010: Southwood Youth Drop In is still running with an average of 13 youth attending each week

Members and Organizations Represented

- AEII
- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Bredin Institute
- COE Community Services
- Edmonton Police Neighbourhood Empowerment Team
- Edmonton Public Library, Mill Woods Branch
- Edmonton YMCA
- McMan South
- Mill Woods Evangel Assembly Church
- Mill Woods Family Resource Centre
- YMCA Enterprise Centre

Outcomes Achieved To Date:

- Members have enhanced knowledge of youth resources and needs.
- Youth drop in attendees are participating in their community in a safe and positive way.

Date Profile Updated: March 24, 2010