



Marion County Tobacco Free Partnership (TFP)

Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 25, 2013

9 attendees

Meeting started: 3:35pm

**Welcome, Brief Introductions**

TFP Discussion

- The first guest presenter from the Marion County YMCA gave a very interesting and informative overview of the services provided by our local YMCA. She informed the Partnership that Frank DeLuca made a very generous donation that is allowing them to expand their facilities into the Frank DeLuca Family Center with several amenities. She also informed the TFP that there are other types of opportunities for supporting the Y that may be of interest to the Partnership. For \$1000, payable in monthly installments, the TFP could provide the scholarship funding to allow an entire family a year's membership to the Y, as well as have a logo banner hung in a highly visible location indicating our partnership with the Y. The members present agreed this would be a good investment and the Tobacco Prevention Specialist will take this into account as we review the end of the fiscal year budget and the beginning of the next fiscal year July 1st.
- Our second guest speaker, the new Director of the Marion County Unit of the American Cancer Society, also gave a very informative overview of services provided by our local ACS office. Their current main focus is their annual Relay for Life events at various locations throughout the county, with the main Ocala Relay for Life happening May 17<sup>th</sup> starting at 6pm at Trinity Catholic High School. She mentioned that the ACS also has other sponsorship opportunities that may be of interest to the TFP, payable in monthly installments. The TFP members present, including a Team Leader for a Relay for Life Team sponsored by Munroe Regional Medical Center, agreed that this would also be a worthwhile endeavor for the TFP to

investigate. The Tobacco Prevention Specialist has put this on the list of items for review for the end of the fiscal year budget and beyond.

- Discussion about various other items pertaining to the remaining TFP budget were addressed, including a potential membership to the Chamber/Economic Partnership (will pursue in January, 2014 to maximize the benefits); no smoking door mats were requested for The Centers facilities; various other sporting/fundraising events occurring in the next few months.
- Nancy Castillo asked if the TFP was familiar with Laurel Lingle, the Wellness Coordinator for the Marion County Public School District. The Marion County Children's Alliance has partnered with Ms. Lingle's program to host various health oriented activities and programs, and Ms. Castillo suggested this would also be a worthwhile angle for our TFP to pursue. The TPS is familiar with Ms. Lingle and will follow up and report back to the TFP on the outcome.

#### Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT) Update

- The Marion County SWAT Coordinator reported that recruitment activities are ongoing, and we currently have 3 school based SWAT clubs and one community faith based SWAT club. She also made the exciting announcement that the PACE Center for Girls will be starting a SWAT club during the next school year.

#### Other discussion

- The TPS shared pictures of graphic warning labels used on Canadian cigarettes that were mentioned at the last TFP meeting.
- The President of the United Way of Marion County attended this meeting and shared some valuable information with the group. A CHIP—Community Health Improvement Plan—was recently completed in Marion County and the full results can be viewed and downloaded from the United Way's website:  
<http://www.uwmc.org/news/146/77/Plan-Creates-Roadmap-to-a-Healthier-Marion>  
The United Way was a partner in this endeavor along with 50 different community organizations, and the report was prepared and presented by the WellFlorida Council at various meetings recently. The United Way has developed three councils to address the findings of this community assessment, and indicated that tobacco use is a problem in Marion County, as well as a host of other issues. The TPS was previously asked to serve on the Health Council, and there are also Education and Income Councils to address the important basic issues facing our community.

- The next TFP meeting will be April 23, 2013, 3:30-5:00pm @ UW Bonnie Heath Community Room (1401 NE 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Ocala).

Meeting adjourned at 4:10pm

The Tobacco Free Partnership of Marion County meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month at the United Way's Bonnie Heath Community Room (1401 NE 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Ocala) from 3:30-5:00pm and is open to the public.