



WCCY MINUTES

Wakulla County Coalition for Youth

Date | time 05/07/2025 12:30 pm-1:30 p.m. | *Meeting called to order by* Jennifer Phillips

In Attendance

Karen Zak, Jennifer Phillips, Bonnie Wertenberger, James Lewis, Lottie Roy, Melonie Hendry, Lisa Sherry, Anne Bozik, Margaret Waldbauer, Olivia Piazza, Amanda Gruebel, Caden Gruebel, Tammy Boone, Verna Brock, Tom Mallon, Regina McQueen, Lisa Sherry, Stacey Bian, Amanda Madden, Anissa Southall, Yolanda Gillette-Carlson, Marquesas Blimes, Stacy Beckford, Gabrielle Aboki

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from April Meeting – Lottie Roy and James Lewis Approved

Agenda Items/Presentation

1. Karen Zak on Drug-Free Communities Grant:

- Submitted our proposal for the STOP Act grant (Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking Act) on March 17th. The STOP Act is only awarded to DFC grantees and focuses on the prevention and reduction of alcohol use among youth, as well as focuses on capacity building activities – less about our implementations and more about equipping people in our community to do the work.
- Year 2 of the DFC grant comes to an end September 30th, but our reporting of activities goes through the end of July. We have two more months to make our number goals.
 - Each year our goal is to teach the Too Good For Drugs curriculum to 200 students and we are currently at 53 students after the completion of 10 lessons at COAST Charter's 4th and 5th grade students. We are partnering with 4H and Sun Chaser Fitness again this summer to teach TGFD to students at their Teen Fit camps, so we will be able to add to our number.
 - After meeting with Superintendent Myhre at the end of March, we learned that WCSO will teach TGFD through the LEAD program to 8th grade students next year. We've spoken to Captain Yarbrough about possible ways we can work together next year to reach both of our goals.
- Poster #7 in our Join the Crowd social norms campaign is available and will be our last poster in this series. We are currently formulating a new social norms campaign for this fall.
- "Dancing into the Decades" safe space dance is happening 5/17 from 6- 9 PM for youth aged 11-16 y/o at the Extension office (84 Cedar Ave). Kids are encouraged to dress up according to their favorite decade. All adults chaperones are level 2 screened. Contact kzak@fsu.edu for more information.

2. Jennifer Phillips on Bylaws Committee:

- Revisions are in progress and a committee meeting will be scheduled soon.
- Jennifer will reach out to Novella Franklin about a possible collaboration on the Bylaws.

3. Karen Zak on Fundraising Committee:

- Brainstorming Zoom meeting will be 5/13 at Noon. If interested in joining, please email: hello@wccy.org to be sent the Zoom link.

County Report

Josh Lawhon was not in attendance.

Sheriff Report

Lt Tom Mallon: WCSO is helping with 4H Teen Dance (5/17) and with Project Graduation(5/20) and WHS Graduation ceremony (5/22).

School District Report

No one from WCSB was in attendance.

Treasurer Report

Regina McQueen: April/May 2025

- **Expense:** TaxAct 2024 – \$129.99
- **Bank Balance:** \$3,065.66
- *Note:* An additional \$1,250 is earmarked for 4-H Hygiene Kits.

Regina McQueen and James Lewis have been added to SunBiz as officers.

We are filed the 990N to the IRS for 2024.

Searching for an accountant to help us in the future and to also help with the two previous tax filing years.

Partner Reports

Jennifer Phillips (North Florida Learning Center): STEAM Summer Camps will last six weeks Monday – Thursday starting in June for kids 7-12 years old, 9 AM – 4 PM, 1626 Crawfordville Hwy Suite C, for more information email: info@northfloridalearningcenter.com

Margaret Waldbauer (Wakulla DOH): The Bubble Run took place May 3rd and was a success – 30 kids participated; “Seven Habits for Highly Effective Teens” talk at the Wakulla Co Public Library on 5/29 from 6-7 PM and attendees receive a free book; Mobile Mammogram bus will be in Wakulla 6/6 from 8 AM – 5 PM at the Community Center for women 40-64 y/o.

Lottie Roy (LWREA): Featured in the April 18th edition of the Wakulla News with the students who won the essay contest; Recipients of LWREA scholarships were awarded to two Leon County students.

James Lewis (Wakulla DOH): Family Fun Day and Bubble Run was a success; Margaret Waldbauer’s Teen Resiliency talks for parents/significant adults can be scheduled for groups (churches, workplaces, etc); DOH will be supporting Project Graduation (5/20) by hosting a photobooth for seniors; request for mosquito spraying in the community will be going live online soon. **(Optimist Club):** Men Bake Cakes auction will go live 5/8. All proceeds go to scholarships for Wakulla students.

Melonie Hendry (Healthy Families Franklin/Wakulla/Gulf): Offers free home visiting for prenatal and postnatal mothers in the Wakulla Health Department. There’s a virtual parent group every first Tuesday and they are currently serving 27 families.

Stacey Bian (DISC Village): DISC Village support the wellbeing of individuals, families, and those who are adversely affected by alcohol and substance misuse. Serves juveniles, and adults.

Anne Bozik (SEDNET): Works with youth with emotional or behavioral disabilities or at-risk. Works on an IDEA funded project through DOE to work with communities or state agencies to provide training specific to behavior or specific to

those who work with different populations. Has resources available for students who need assistance regulating. Contact for more information: bozika@nefec.org or 850-510-0855.

Amanda Madden (Capital Area Healthy Start Coalition): Lunch and Learn Preeclampsia 101 5/9 at 12pm Lunch & Learn Series –registration is open, we are accepting applications until 6/5 at 5:00 pm; Free Infant and Child CPR class July 12th 10am-12pm, registration is now open. Contact Amanda at: amanda@capitalareahealthystart.org

Bonnie Wertenberger (FSU FCPR): Thanks to everyone who came out to FCPR's open house; FCPR has been awarded a DJJ mentoring grant for Jackson County (Graceville School).

Anissa Southall (TSC Wakulla Center): Free Workforce Development programs available this fall: Clinical Medical Assistant (2 semesters), Patient Care Tech program (2 semesters and 4 certs), Medical Administrative program (at main campus); 3 new programs this fall: Vet Assistant, Marine Technologies, and Landscape and Turf Management; also in-person GED classes starting 5/12; there are ten community computers available for resume printing, or job search to the community.

Lisa Sherry (DISC Village): Available for talks with your organization about DISC Village programs and services, and the opioid epidemic/fentanyl crisis and how they are addresses these issues in our community. Contact Lisa at: 850-567-8609 or email: lisa.sherry@discvillage.org.

Yolanda Gillette-Carlson (Big Bend AHEC): Current Programs: 1. Kid Care Application Assisters, 2. Navigators for the Federal Marketplace Health Insurance, 3. Tobacco Free Florida Quit Smoking classes (giving away up to \$125.00 in Walmart gift cards--thru June), 4. Aging Programs that include--(Diabetes Education, Tai Chi exercise classes, BingoCise (exercise with bingo), and Chronic Disease Self Management class) Contact Big Bend AHEC if you are interested in any of our workshop classes. 850 224-1177.

Marquesas Blimes (FAAST): Provides free assistive technology and support services (magnifying glasses, table top magnifiers, devices for hearing, devices for early learning). faast.org

Stacy Beckford (211 Big Bend/Help Me Grow): Free developmental and behavior screening 0-8 y/o. For any questions, email Stacy at: sbeckford@211bigbend.org.

Gabrielle Aboki (Early Learning Coalition): They continue to offer support for families and childcare providers seeking childcare options, including available tuition assistance through the School Readiness program. They also assist families with enrolling in Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK). Services are offered locally at CareerSource, located at 3278 Crawfordville Hwy, Unit G. Applications for the Kidpreneur Summer Business Program, open to children ages 8–12, will be accepted from May 7 through May 19. Additionally, the Screen Virtual Resource Fair is scheduled for May 20, providing an opportunity for community partners to promote their services to families in the area.

Rebecca Sahar (Wakulla Co Public Library):

Weekly Programs: Tuesdays - *Book Bunch* **10-11AM** for ages 2.5yrs through school age. Stories, songs, movement, & craft. Wednesdays - *Book Babies* **10-11AM** for ages newborn through 2.5 yrs. Stories, songs, movement, & socialization.

Through the month programs: *A Superpowered Saturday* StoryTime with the Library, YMCA Alliance, and Edward Clark to promote literacy and aid kids with reaching reading goals through games and activities. You must register for the FREE event. A link for registration can be found on our library calendar or on Facebook. For those who register, food is provided and there will be chances to win great prizes. May 17th from 9:30-11:30 AM

LEGO Club, 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of the month. Kids of all ages with adult caregiver. You bring the imagination and they provide the LEGOs.

Math Night, May not return until 2026 (to be reevaluated in Fall 2025).

Mommy and Me Yoga, 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month | Mommies with babies newborn through 2 yrs. Registration is required per session and can be found on the library website on the event calendar.

Middle Manga, 2nd Thursdays of the month, May 8th 5-6 PM, 6th-8th grade. Japanese comic books and Anime club.

Teen Manga, 3rd Thursdays of the month, May 15th 5-6 PM, grades 9th-12th. Japanese comic books and Anime club.

TMH R.E.A.D. Therapy Dogs 1 Saturday a month, May 17th from 10 AM – NOON. This is a program through TMH that is dedicated to improving children's reading skills by using registered Pet Partner therapy teams as literacy mentors.

Family Game Night, 4th Fridays of the month, May 23rd 4-5:30 PM. You bring the family, and they will provide the games. Kids of all ages with adult caregiver welcome.

Lego Robotics Parent Meeting, May 22nd 5:30-6:30 PM. We are starting a Lego Robotics team(s) for ages 9-14 through the FIRSTLego league and this will be an informational meeting for kids and parents to ask questions and sign up.

***Urgent need: We are still searching for anyone who might be interested in making a donation to our Friend of the Library to help us register two LEGO Robotics teams (middle school ages) that will compete in the 2025-2026 First LEGO Robotic League. Please reach out to Mrs. Patty at POWENS@MYWAKULLA.COM for details. This can be a tax-deductible donation.

NO CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS May 27th – 30th for the children's program specialists to prepare for the start of summer reading.

Summer Reading starts June 3rd with our opening kick off from 4-7 PM with games, touch-a-truck, food, relays/water balloon fight, community partners, and 2 BIG raffles with a chance to win BIG prizes. This is also a great time to register kids for the Summer Reading Challenge and get kids started reading.

Jennifer Phillips moved to adjourn the meeting. Lottie Roy and Regina McQueen seconded the motion. The motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:32 PM.

Next Meeting

June 4th, 2025 at 12:30 pm at Wakulla County Public Library & Virtually