

Meeting Report

Tobacco Free Partnership of Gilchrist County Meeting

March 10, 2009, 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

Location: Gilchrist County Library
105 NE 11th Avenue
Trenton, FL 32693

Attendees:

- Tracy DeCubellis, QDREF
- Dr. Dawn Grinenko, QDREF
- See attached list for additional members and attendees

Background:

Tobacco Free Partnership meetings are held quarterly in Gilchrist County and include members from government, businesses, schools and youth organizations.

Agenda:

Ms. DeCubellis initiated the meeting and Dr. Grinenko welcomed attendees. Dr. Grinenko gave a brief review of the past partnership meetings and discussed member's goals for future meeting topics. Attendees introduced themselves and explained why they were interested in joining the Tobacco Free Partnership.

TJ Harrington, a representative from the American Heart Association, gave a presentation on the cigarette tax in Florida. He explained the position of the American Heart Association and the plan of action to alert the Florida Legislature about the potential benefits to Florida citizens and the benefits to the state budget if the tax is enacted. A copy of Mr. Harrington's hand out is attached.

Ms. DeCubellis presented the SmokeScreeners program and explained to the partnership that 4-Hers and SWAT members in Gilchrist County are participating in the program as well. Following the presentation, members discussed the perceived messages presented in movies regarding tobacco use and how this influences youth to smoke. Gilchrist 4-H County Council representative, Chandler DeCubellis, explained that movies have an impact on youth and voiced the idea that youth in the community are beginning to be concerned about movie smoking after participating in QuitDoc programs.

Summary:

As a result of this meeting community leaders and business owners partnered with youth in the community involved in the SmokeScreeners program.