

A Report to the Community

The Work of the Reproductive Health Advisory Lakeview School District – August 2006 to May 2008

The following is a breakdown of the progress/purpose of reproductive health advisory meetings held and staff work from 2006-2008.

Reproductive Health Advisory meetings held: 4 from 2006/07 school year – April 2008 (4/24/07, 10/30/07, 2/13/08, and 4/16/08).

Staff, teaching the sexuality education classes at Lakeview began discussion on the possibility of adding additional curriculum to the high school classes, as students through surveys had indicated a desire for more discussion on this topic beyond what is currently taught in 9th grade health classes. Members supported looking into this possibility. Other updates on teen pregnancy data and the MiPhy survey was shared. *Parent resource library* materials continue to be added to the Parent Library on sexuality education and the idea of hosting some parent forums to support their important role was shared. Some additional videos were suggested to add to the 8th grade curriculum. Two members attended *aYouth Voices* training at the CISD, hosted by the State of Michigan - Dept. of Community Health and the Michigan Dept. of Education. The purpose was to encourage youth involvement in advisory committees and activities around sexuality issues. They have an important voice.

The Battle Creek Area Education & Health Collaborative – BCAEHC, held 2 professional development workshops from 2006 to 2008 for area sexuality teaching staff in the four districts, Lakeview, Pennfield, Harper Creek and Battle Creek.

Recommendations made by the advisory included: add *Tough Roads* to the 8th grade curriculum (this story covers what is already in curriculum, but in a story form to better support information around decision-making skills. It was also recommended to add EC (Emergency contraception) information to the contraceptive information in high school human sexuality curriculum. These recommendations will be reviewed by the Lakeview School Board of Education in the fall of 2008 (next school year).

Parent meetings on sexuality curriculum have been a regular occurrence at Lakeview School District for many years. There have been six regularly scheduled parent meeting held each school year. About 40-50 parents have attended the five parent meetings in 2006-2008. They cover fourth through sixth grade curriculum and one personal safety curriculum (grades K-3). Parents have also checked out materials from the parent resource library on sexuality education that was initiated six years ago. Many parents also call asking for a copy of the reproductive health curriculum (grades 4, 5 and 6) or other additional information/resources. Our District will again be able to purchase resource materials for the parent resource library through the funding of the Battle Creek Area Education Health Collaborative, as will the three surrounding districts in the Greater Battle Creek Area. All districts are all working to increase parent resources around sexuality education. This past year Lakeview School District added the Love & Logic Program and around 75 parents attended these sessions. The PTA at the Middle School added books and DVD resources on Love & Logic for parents to check out.

Consultation provided to this school district in reproductive health curriculum and Advisory Board work (2006-2008) was supported by a grant from the United Way of Greater Battle Creek to the Battle Creek Area Education & Health Collaborative (BCAEHC): an educational collaborative to support districts in the development of sexuality education in the Greater Battle Creek area.

