

The Kootenai Alliance for Children and Families

What We Do

The Kootenai Alliance for Children & Families (KACF) exists to build healthy families by promoting broad-based community collaboration and coordination to combine resources to reduce substance abuse, increase literacy and to reduce the duplication of services.

Membership

As a membership coalition, Kootenai Alliance for Children and Families acts as an umbrella organization for numerous agencies, organizations, and individuals that cross over every sector of the community. The diversity of our membership includes youth, parents, business community, media, schools, youth serving organizations, law enforcement agencies, religious and fraternal organizations, civic groups, healthcare professionals, agencies and organizations with expertise in substance abuse. Some of our coalition's service organizations help address domestic violence, probation and juvenile justice, substance abuse, and other community issues that directly affect our youth and their families.

Networking

Networking plays an important part in our ability to address the risk and protective factors at all levels in our community. We begin each meeting with introductions and valuable networking announcements from those in attendance. By building good working relationships, and networking opportunities within our membership, we are able to identify gaps in program services more effectively. KACF meets the second Friday of each month at 11:45 a.m., at St. Pius Catholic Church, 625 E. Haycraft Ave., Coeur d'Alene.

Programs/Activities

The Alliance has been responsible for spearheading, providing oversight, start up assistance and resources, for many prevention activities and services over the past ten years. Some of these programs include: Kids Day in the Park, the North Idaho Family Magazine, Idaho Youth Summit, Strengthening Families Program, Adult and Youth DUI Victims Panels, Restorative Justice Committees, CitiLink Bus Shelter-Art For All Project, and many others.

Communities That Care

In the spring of 2003, KACF began the Communities That Care (CTC) process, a best practice program facilitated by Channing-Bete. Surveys were completed by Coeur d'Alene High School students, and four risk factors were identified as a result. Kootenai Alliance is seeking to reduce duplication of services and direct our energies toward those programs and policies that best focus on the identified risk factors. The identified risk factors were as follows:

- Family Management
- Family History of the Problem Behavior
- Early Initiation of the Problem Behavior
- Transitions and Mobility

In November of 2006, CTC surveys were again administered in Coeur d'Alene High Schools, and the results are now available. Please contact Tammy Rubino at kootenai_alliance@hotmail.com for a summary of that report. New risk factors have been identified and are as follows: Transitions and Mobility, Low Commitment to School, Laws and Norms Favorable to Drug Use and Firearms, Academic Failure, Friends Using Drugs

Kootenai Alliance for Children & Families Member Organizations

1st Judicial Dist. CASA Program
Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention, PHD
Aging and Adult Services
Anchor House/Idaho Youth Ranch
Art on the Edge
Big Brothers/Big Sisters
Borah Elementary
Business Psychology Associates
Camp Fire USA
Catholic Charities of Idaho
CDA School District
Child Care Food Program St. Vincent dePaul
Children's Village Foundation
ECLS
Enough Is Enough
Fresh Start Kiwanis of Coeur d'Alene
Family Services, Panhandle Health District
Fulcrum Institute Dispute Resolution Clinic
Good Samaritan
Hayden Friends Church

Heartbeat Suicide Prevention
I Can Do It Learning Center
ICARE
Idaho Drug Free Youth
Idaho Department of Health & Welfare
Idaho Housing and Finance
Jail Commission
Kagey Company / N.I. Family Magazine
Kootenai Alliance for Children & Families
Kootenai County Humane Society
Kootenai County Juvenile Diversion
Kootenai County Juvenile Probation
Kootenai Medical Center/CHIP
Kootenai Substance Abuse Council
Lake City Playhouse
LaLeche of Greater Spokane
Lutheran Academy of the Master
Mountain States Early Head Start
Multiple Sclerosis (SOM)
NAMI

New Hope S.S.
NIC Head Start
NIC Head Start Kootenai Center
North Idaho College
Parents As Teachers
Planned Parenthood
Project Safe Place
Real Life Ministries
Sandpoint Teen Council
Smooth Transitions
Soroptimists Soterian, Inc.
Spirit Lake Y.E.S.
St. Pius X Outreach
St. Vincent de Paul
Twenty-Four Seven
United Way of Kootenai Co.
Volunteers of America of Spokane
Wishing Star
Women's Center
Women's Gift Alliance