



BCP: Empowerment Gazette

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

MAY 31, 2010

MISSION

To champion the collaboration of resources to improve results for children, families, and the community.

PURPOSE

To enable all Burke County children to complete their education at least through high school graduation.

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Family Empowerment 24/7

On April 24, 2010, the Burke County School System Title I Program, Communities In Schools of Burke County (an Adolescent Family Life Project), the East Central Health District, Burke County Chamber of Commerce and Enterprise Community Healthy Start collaborated to host a Family Empowerment Summit.

The summit was held at the Burke County Middle School. Over 135 students and parents joined in as the host for the day Mr. Keith L. Brown "The Motivator of the Millennium" utilized his special motivational talents to excite community members about Family Empowerment.

There were several guest



speakers for the event:

Mr. Marc Fomby, professional trainer and motivational speaker presented powerful information on "Messaging In The Music". The goal of his presentation was to provide youth and parents with a better understanding of the types of music that is listened too by all individuals.



Mr. Joseph B. Washington was brought forth his message of "Breaking The Spirit of Avenge". It is his goal to empower individuals through challenges and to help them embrace their future. Mr. Keith L. Brown proposed a \$50 challenge to all students to read Mr. Washington's book and submit an essay to Communities in Schools by May



3. Mr. Davis, Communities In Schools Executive Director, was asked to select a winner. The winner will be announce in the next BCP: Empowerment Gazette.



Dr. Allen Kicklighter, Title I Director, also spoke on programs offered by the Burke County Board of Education. He encouraged parents to participated in school activities and to become more involved.

Event vendors included: The Georgia Meth Project, Cheer Pro., Just In Case, Way 2 Love, Burke County Health Department, Enterprise Community Healthy Start and Communities In Schools.

Participants left the event with a sense of empowerment and many are already asking when the next Family Empowerment Summit will be held.

BCP Happenings.....Summer Camps

Summer Leadership Camps are fast approaching.

- Reading camp will begin on Monday, June 7th through July 2nd, 2010 at 9 a.m. The camp will be located at Blakeney Elementary School. The cost of the camp is \$60 for the entire four weeks. For more information please contact 706-554-7213 or Mr. Ben Dorsett at 706-513-9696.
- Summer Leadership Camp will be held on June 7-18, 2010 at the Burke County Middle School. Adolescent Family Life students (7th and 9th graders) will receive a scholarship for the camp. Students who do not qualify for the AFL scholarship will pay \$50 for the two week camp. Only cash and money orders are accepted. For more information contact Clatina Wimberly or Ms. Cynthia Griffin at 706-554-7213.
- Teen Scene Camp will be held on June 21st through July 16th at the Teen Scene located at 808 Davis Road. This is a free camp for all youth ages 12-18. This camp is limited to 50 students. For more information please contact Teresa L. Carter at 706-554-1680.



We celebrated the end of the year with a picnic at Georgia Power Park in Waynesboro with lots of fun activities, delicious food, and achievement awards. We recognized two students for outstanding achievement: Student of the Year is Aaron Williams a 7th grade student at Burke County Middle School. Student of the Year is Naomi Strange a 9th grade student at Burke County High School.

“Leadership is an action not a position. All things are possible, since I can believe I can achieve. I will walk, talk and behave as a leader. For I am the future, I am the hope for tomorrow.”



Adolescent Family Life

“You are worth the wait,” says Clatina Wimberly and Peter Parker Abstinence Educators to their students at Burke County Middle School and Burke County High School. During the initial stages of planning for the abstinence program we began thinking of a name to call the class. When working with youth especially teenagers in order to get them interested in participating it had to be a “cool and catchy” name but meaning-

ful and relatable to abstinence. The name of the class S.K.I.T.T.L.E.S. is an acronym for “Seeking Knowledge In Time Through True Love Equals Success”. Our youth need to know how to love and what true love is. The message that we share with the youth is practicing not having sex until marriage by using refusal skills, motivation, education, recognizing healthy relationships and benefits of marriage. The students



really enjoyed the abstinence education. One student quoted: “I have learned to stand up more for myself, feel confident, build my self-esteem, and use assertive skills thanks to this abstinence program,” says Naomi Strange 9th grade student at Burke County High School. We wish all of the students much success and happy healthy long lasting relationships.

The Teen Scene



Our mission is to empower teens and pre-teens, ages 12-18, and their families through programs and services that assist them in developing and reaching their greatest potential and teach community and personal responsibility.

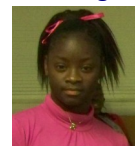
The Teen Scene welcomes Mr. Alex Holmes. Mr. Holmes volunteers his time to work with the staff and students at

the Teen Scene. Formally an active BCP student, Mr. Holmes brings a wealth of knowledge to the organization and prides himself in setting a positive example for the students. The Teen Scene currently served 54 students.

We welcome new Teen Scene participants and parents. Applications are available at the Teen Scene located at 808 Davis Road in Waynesboro. We also

welcome parents who would like to volunteer at the center.

Messages from the Students



“A positive attitude is the key that will open many doors.”
Rozetta Johnson

PROGRAMS..... RIF

BCP partnered with the Burke County School system to host three book distributions at: Waynesboro Primary, Blakeney Elementary and SGA Elementary Schools. Over 648 students received 3 free books to take as their own. Each distribution brought about a new theme. During the first

distribution in December, students joined staff on “The Polar Express”. The book “The Polar Express” was read to students and Santa event made a guest appearance.

At the second distribution the theme was focused on Fairytales. Students were amazed to see a fairy princess with

huge blue wings smiling at them as they selected their books. During the third distribution “Spring Into a Good Book”, BCP staff members were adorned with flower hats and shirts to capture the essence of Spring. The excitement of the students was truly magical.



This Just In...

Holla Back Atcha 2010 Macon, GA

The Burke Community Partnership's Teen Scene and Abstinence Family Life students attended an abstinence summit in Macon, GA on Saturday, May 1, 2010. The theme for the summit was "Holla Back Atcha".

The purpose of the event was to make youth more aware do the importance of remaining abstinent until marriage. Other subjects included messaging in music and the effects of making bad decisions. A total of 28 students and four staff members attended from Burke county.



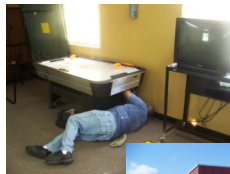
The United Way: Project Serve



On Friday, April 30, 2010, Project Serve, United Way

volunteers, offered their provided a day of service to Burke Community Partnership's Teen Scene. The individuals participating in Project Serve on this day were Brian Higby and his

team from SRS.



Breaking the Spirit of Average

At the Family Empowerment Summit, Mr. Keith L. Brown proposed a \$50 challenge to students. They were to read Mr. Joseph Washington's Book "Breaking the Spirit of Average" and write a one page essay on what the title means to them. Ta'Nai Gattis, Teen Scene Member won the essay contest.



Updates

AmeriCorps and Mentoring

We are recruiting new AmeriCorps members and Mentors for FY11. Interested individuals should contact Mrs. Angie Bragg at 706-554-7213.

Fighting Back Against Meth

Teen Scene students attended the CSRA Event on Meth prevention on Tuesday, May 25th at the Columbia County Government Complex. The

Georgia Meth Project representatives presented information on the effects of meth on individuals and families.





Burke Community Partnership

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Helping Kids Prepare for Life

Burke Community Partnership (BCP) is the umbrella organization for Family Connection and Communities In Schools. BCP is a (501c3) non-profit organization dedicated to helping students succeed in school and families become self sufficient.

Board of Directors 2009-2010

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- Ms. Kathi May, Vice Chair
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DeAndre Davis

Administrative Assistant

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Abstinence Coordinator

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 Rosa Hill
 Rosa Martin
 Elese Howard

Teen Scene Counselors

Katrina Harmon
 Suprina Richardson

Teen Scene Assistant

Willie Powell

Summer Camp Coordinators

Cynthia G. Griffin
 Ben Dorsett

Volunteer opportunities include serving as a Board member, mentor, BCP class and after-school presenter, tutor, field trip sponsor, service project coordinator, etc. Please contact our office for more information at 706-554-7213.