

The Real MCCOY



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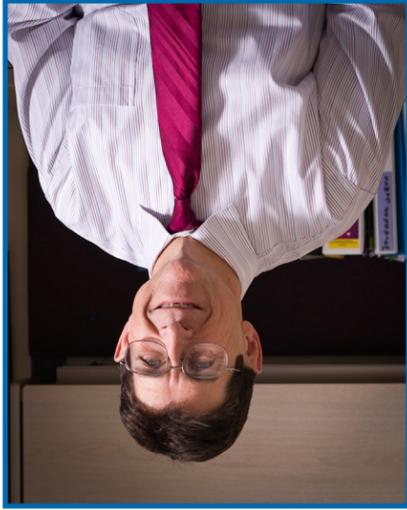
PRESIDENT'S CORNER

If you only watched television or read newspapers to get your information about young people in our community, you could easily be convinced they are all criminals, high school dropouts, and incorrigible. But as famed newscaster Paul Harvey might say, "let me tell you the REST of the story". In fact, the great majority of youth in our city are great people who desire to grow up to be scientists, lawyers, electricians, mechanics, teachers, social workers, business owners, and retail merchants. They want to own homes and cars, raise families, and contribute to making their communities better places for the next generation. They sound just like us---because they are.

over 20,000 copies of the Youth Activity Directory for free; informed lawmakers about the critical needs of youth and families; and conducted literally hundreds of meetings focused on how our community can better support our young people.

In this newsletter, you will have the opportunity to learn

Here at MCCOY, we get to work with and support the countless youth serving agencies across our community that are daily providing thousands of youth with the chances to learn skills, gain knowledge, and build relationships that help them draw ever closer to achieving their goals. So far this year, we have trained hundreds of youth serving professionals; distributed



John Brandon, President, MCCOY, Inc.

more about some of the great work being done to make sure all youth have the supports they need to achieve their goals. It is important to us all that they be successful now and in the future. I hope you enjoy reading good news about youth!

Respectfully,

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH WORKERS CONTINUES TO EVOLVE



Christian Moore from the 'Why Try' Initiative talks with perspective participants of the ground-breaking curriculum MCCOY is offering to our partners with funding from Department of Child Services.

equality and diversity; recruiting summer staff; youth training; and developing a happy, effective and bully prevention.

One of the most influential events of 2014 occurred this fall when Learning Network hosted the kickoff of the 'Why Try' Initiative, led by Christian Moore. This is the first time this residency curriculum has been brought to Indiana and it has the potential to change the way adults work with youth. Check out our website for details about upcoming trainings:

<http://mccooyouth.org/learning-network-workshops.html>

MCCOY welcomed a new Training Director, Becky Reich, this year. With her leadership, Learning Network has served more than 500 youth serving professionals and in October began offering online trainings. With the addition of this more convenient training option, Learning Network looks forward to supporting the growth of even more youth development professionals in the future.

This year's training topics include:

A GOAL WITHOUT A PLAN IS JUST A WISH

MCCOY has formulated a new strategic plan to lead the organization for the next three years. Throughout the process of board, staff, and partner interviews, five key objectives were identified, as well as an implementation plan.

These objectives include:

- MCCOY will enhance marketing and communications tools, messaging and measurement of organizational impact for informing, educating and engaging strategic partners; MCCOY will develop more qualitative documentation and evaluation tools to better capture our impact; MCCOY will strengthen organizational leadership to enhance proficiency; MCCOY will engage strategic community resource blasts.

partners that strongly position us as a leader in the youth development community and increases our visibility to provide access to opportunities and networks; MCCOY will evaluate traditional board, staff, and partner interviews, funding sources, identify new funding streams, create a development toolkit and implement staff/board expectations.

MCCOY has spent significant time assessing our messaging and audiences in which we communicate. We have segmented our messages for specific audiences – affiliated partners, institutional funders, current promoters, advocates, and concerned citizens. We will streamline our communication to include two print newsletters, four quarterly MCCOY electronic updates, monthly electronic issues briefs and community resource blasts.



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United Way agency



Holiday Honors
MCCOY will thank our key strategic partners at a Holiday Honors breakfast on Thursday, December 11. We recognize the importance of the organizations and individuals for their unwavering dedication to being champions for youth.

INDIANA LEGISLATION HAS A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON YOUTH

This past year has been an important one in regards to legislation affecting our children. Of the various bills enacted this year the one poised to have the biggest impact on Indiana's children is HEA 1036, the Child Care and Development Fund Eligibility bill. It creates equitable safety standards for child care facilities within the state, if these facilities receive public tax dollars. This bill was 20 years in the making, and will provide positive outcomes for children everywhere in the state of Indiana.

The 2014 legislative session ended Sine Die in March. Interim Study Committees were created to evaluate issues legislators wish to review before session begins in January 2015.

Topics that have been recommended for possible discussion include:

- School discipline, school start times and how to encourage teachers to work at poor performance schools (HEA1319)
- Child Services Oversight Committee review of criminal background checks for certain entities by different agencies (HR5)
- Human sex trafficking on the internet (HR12)
- Causes of violence and violent crime (HR61)
- Training of teachers who instruct students with neurological disorders (HR67)
- Nullification of federal firearms legislation (SR38)
- Home health workers and service providers (SR59)
- Feasibility of the proposed new soccer stadium (SR75)
- STD prevention and education (SR81)
- Core 40, career & technical education classes, AP classes (HEA1213)
- Whether a father who abandons a birth mother during pregnancy should be required to consent to adoption (SEA27)
- Involuntary commitment of persons with substance abuse disorders (SCR13)
- Cultural competency training as a requirement for licensure in healthcare profession (SR34)

MCCOY is currently following issues regarding school discipline and we've made recommendations regarding juvenile justice reform. Committee meetings are ongoing and MCCOY publishes monthly updates in The Real MCCOY newsletter: <http://mccoyouth.org/News/newsletters.html>.

BELIEVE IN YOUTH VOICE



It's an exciting time to be a youth involved with MCCOY! The Youth Advocacy Council changed its name to Youth Empowerment Team and has a new logo. Though advocacy is still an important priority for the Youth Empowerment Team (YET), the name change is meant to emphasize the work we will do together, in the community. YET has a busy schedule for the rest of the year. In November, we will be featured on the Government Access Channel, spreading the word on youth issues! YET members will appear on "Our Kids, Our Families, Our Communities" to discuss teen suicide/depression, community violence, and school discipline. These will also be the topics for MCCOY's 4th annual youth summit, #we'rejustsayin! #We'rejustsayin was

created to bring together students from all over central Indiana to discuss the challenges teens face, and to think about possible solutions. This year it will take place on December 6th from 10:00am-1pm at United Way of Central Indiana. We are expecting between 75-100 central Indiana youth. Individuals or group can register at: <http://mccoyouth.org/Advocacy/werejustsayin.html>.



YET member, Allison Kim, a junior at Carmel High School participates in the YET #WereJustSayin promotional PSA.

EARLY INTERVENTION & PREVENTION (EIP)

Family Access Network:

EIP continued work on the Family Access Network (FAN). Originally called the Co-location of Services project, this enterprise is creating a one-stop shop of essential services for youth and families in the Near West. The FAN process has picked up steam as have other projects in the Near West that will prevent child abuse, neglect, and delinquency. In 2015 FAN will look to narrow in on a specific location and continue working on collective impact strategies to deploy into the community.

FAN Program Partners:

- Children's Bureau Inc.
- Fairbanks
- Goodwill Industries
- Midtown Mental Health/ Eskenazi

Our Kids, Our Families, Our Community:

Over the course of the past year the EIP show "Our Kids, Our Families, Our Community" has covered topics such as bullying, teen dating violence and suicide prevention. The show welcomed guests such as Tim Nation, Peace Learning Center, to discuss bullying; Michelle Study-Campbell, Reach for Youth, to discuss teen dating violence; Kim Walton, Gallahue Mental Health, to discuss suicide prevention. Monthly shows can be viewed on government channel TV-2 or online at: <https://www.youtube.com/user/MCCOYouth>.

Stewards of Children: Statistics show that one out of 10 children will be victims of child sexual abuse by their 18th birthday. Stewards of Children is a sexual abuse prevention training program that teaches adults ways to PREVENT, RECOGNIZE, REACT responsibly and TAKE COURAGEOUS ACTION against child sexual abuse. It is estimated that for every adult trained in Stewards of Children, 10 children are protected! This year we've instructed over 700 people and the number continues to grow as more trainings are added to the calendar. Stewards of Children trainings are now available in Spanish.

Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative: Much progress has been made with Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative. The school collaborative efforts have been successful in reducing the expulsion and suspension rates. More children are being referred to services that are equipped to deal with their behavior as opposed to being dismissed and arrested. We continue working to improve youth and family engagement in the juvenile justice system in Marion County. We've implement training for police officers to understand children's development so they are better able to understand kids, how their mind works and are better able to approach them. At the same time, we've brought a program to Indianapolis entitled 'Juvenile Justice Jeopardy' which educates kids about the juvenile justice system and teaches them the proper way to interact with police officers. These two programs work to bridge the gap between young people and police officers in order to create better outcomes.

Race for Resources: Through an interactive "speed-networking" process, attendees at this annual event learn about 20 agencies that offer programs and services which address such issues as: mental health, addictions, youth & family violence prevention, teen pregnancy, and homelessness. The 4th annual Race for Resources event was a great success! This year's event was held on May 29, 2014 at the Garfield Park Arts Center.

Board of Directors

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- Evan Thomas - Chairperson
- Cindy Muse- Vice Chairperson
- Liz Belcher - Treasurer
- Kelly Doria - Secretary

Leadership:

- Dr. A.J. Allen -Advocacy
- Steve Rake - Fund Development
- Stephanie Cripe- Communications
- Olivia Spahn - Program

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- Chris Engle
- Melissa Gardner
- Jeff Georgeson
- John Girton, Jr.
- Cheri Harris
- Eric Kilbride
- Mariana Lagunas (student)
- Ivy McConnell
- Olivia Parker (student)
- Michael Simmons
- Brandon Smith
- George Taylor
- James Todd