



2009 West Virginia's Promise Grant Report
High School Graduation and Dropout Prevention Regional Summit
 Pamela Dugan, WV's Statewide Director
 HC 66 Box 1 F
 Frankford, WV 25438
 304-661-1460
pdugan@frontiernet.net



2009 WV's Promise Summit Grant Report
(Due: Saturday May 9, 2009, please email and mail to Pam Dugan)

Name: Chris Merritt **Title:** Region VIII Adolescent Health Coordinator

Region 2 & 4: Berkeley, Hampshire, Jefferson, Mineral, Morgan; Barbour, Grant, Hardy, Pendleton, Pocahontas, Randolph, Tucker, Upshur

Organization: Region VIII Adolescent Health Task Force

County: Pendleton, Grant, Hardy, Hampshire, Mineral, Morgan, Berkeley, Jefferson

Phone: (304) 358-2531 x113

Email: cmerritt@pcc-nfc.org

Expense Report/Budget: attached
(Please attach an itemized budget report of actual expenses)

Grant Amount Awarded from WV's Promise: \$1250

Community Match Received: attached
(Please attach documentation of community match actual funds/in-kind donations)

Date of Event: April 6, 2009

Number Attendees: Children/Youth 5 Adults 59

Location of Event: National Conservation Training Center, Shepherdstown, WV

Summit Details: The summit was held on April 6, 2009 at NCTC outside Shepherdstown, WV. Sixty-four people attended (5 youth; 59 adults). The morning included two facilitated panel discussions. The first panel included the Educational Alliance, a community member, a county attendance director, and the teen pregnancy prevention specialist. This panel looked at questions, such as, what are reasons students are dropping out of school; what are barriers to solving the dropout issue; what strategies can be implemented to reduce dropout numbers; what policy changes need to take place to change dropout rate; etc. The second panel was made up of 5 youth from the Opportunity Learning Center in Jefferson County. They addressed questions, such as, what is good and bad about school; what are reasons you see for kids dropping out of school; what keeps you from dropping out of school; what advice would you give adults to reduce the dropout rate, etc. The youth panel was facilitated by Pamela Wilson, a consultant from Oxon Hill, Md.

The afternoon session of the workshop focused more specifically on one group of youth at risk for dropping out of school: teenage fathers. The presentation and discussion centered on what needs to happen to help young fathers succeed in life so that they can nurture their young child to become a

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productive member of society—not at risk for dropping out. This was presented by Pam Wilson, MSW, a consultant and national trainer.

CATCH PHRASE: "Helping Our Kids Achieve America's Promise"

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Please attach a contact list of all participants involved/participated in Regional Summit using this format.
attached

ORGANIZATION	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	TITLE	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP	PHONE	EMAIL	FACILITATE AT STATE SUMMIT
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Please identify key leaders, speakers involved with local Regional/County Summit that would be interested in participating as a facilitator in the State Summit in July 2009.

Please include in report, **Three Points of Interest:**

1. Why students dropout of school/identity the problems/reasons
2. What are the solutions
3. Identify effective policy change
 - a. How did you gather the above information from the participants (*small groups, flip charts, open microphone, etc.*)

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Three Points of Interest:

1. Why Students Are Dropping Out of School:

Students Said: Classes too large
 School too large
 Classes not interesting (need more hands on learning)
 Drug Issues
 Difficulty fitting in and following all the rules

Adults Also Mentioned: Teen Pregnancy
 Current Attendance Policy takes too long to enforce

2. What Are Solutions:

Add more services for at-risk students
Bring back Truancy Diversion Program (mentioned several times)
Put more DHHR services in schools
More reaching out to parents
Smaller class sizes
Forums and Task Forces to teachers deal with at-risk students
More funding for hands on learning and field trips

3. Policy Changes:

Raise drop out age to 18
Different types of Diplomas (Honors, vocational, etc.)
Flexible schedules –school day start later, evening classes
Changes in suspension policies

How Identified: Panel Discussion and Discussion and Feedback sheets from attendees at table groups

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Post-Summit Summary Report Overview

The Region VIII Summit was held on April 6, 2009 at the National Conservation Training Center near Shepherdstown, WV. Sixty-four people attended (5 youth; 59 adults). The morning included two facilitated panel discussions. The first panel included the Educational Alliance, a community member, a county attendance director, and the regional teen pregnancy prevention specialist. The panel discussed several issues regarding causes and solutions of the dropout issue. The second panel was undoubtedly the highlight of the day! It consisted of five youth from the Opportunity Learning Center in Jefferson County and was expertly facilitated by Pamela Wilson, MSW, a national trainer and facilitator. They again discussed causes and solution to the dropout issue.

The afternoon session of the workshop focused on a specific group of youth at risk for dropping out of school: teenage fathers. The presentation and discussion centered on what needs to happen to help young fathers succeed in life, stay in school, and help their children become productive members of society.

The summit appears to have been highly successful with good evaluations and numerous positive comments from attendees. It also generated interest in the dropout issue with several groups in the Eastern Panhandle. The United Way of the Eastern Panhandle has discussed taking this on as an issue to address. Also, the Mineral County FRN has discussed doing a youth summit on dropout prevention issues. The Region VIII Adolescent Health Task Force will continue to look at ways to address the dropout prevention issue.

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BUDGET

	America's Promise Grant	Registration Fees (55 x \$20)	Matching Funds	Total
Room at NCTC (Donated)			750	750
Speaker/Facilitator (including travel)	500	700	500 (APPI)	1700
Lunches and Breaks	700	267		967
Postage And copies	50	33		83
Registration Materials (from Task Force members)		25	75	100
Program Staff Time (Donated)			500	500
Gift for Student Panel		75		75
	1250	1100	1825	4175



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First Name	Last Name	Organization	Organization Type/Affiliation	Email Address	Position/ Job Title	Attendee Affiliation
April	Alderman	VISTA	Government	aprilalderman@frontierment.net	VISTA	America's Promise Staff
Kindra	Boyd	AmeriCorps Vista	Government	kboyd@childhswv.org	VISTA	America's Promise Staff
Dale	Bradfield	Shenandoah Community Health	Health	dbradfield@svms.net	social worker	General Attendee
Mary	Brittingham	counselor	LPC	marybrittingham@aol.com	counselor	General Attendee
Lisa	Carper	Jefferson Cty Schools	education	lcarper@access.k12.wv.us	social worker	General Attendee
Stacy	Catrow	general attendee	general attendee	scatrow@aol.com	attendee	General Attendee
Shamus	Cleveland	WVPRC	Education	clevelands@marshall.edu	prevention spec	General Attendee
Karsheena	Davis	Juvenile Detention Center	Juvenile Justice	Kdavis@djs.state.wv.us	Juvenile justice	General Attendee



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Pam	Dugan	America's Promise	State	pdugan@frontiernet.net	Director	America's Promise Staff
Ann	Ebersole	Jefferson Cty Schools	education	cebersol@access.k12.wv.us	Counselor	General Attendee
Stephanie	Eye	Hardy Cty Schools	education	sarmentr@access.k12.wv.us	counselor	General Attendee
Brandy	Fisher	Mineral Cty Schools	education	brnfisher@access.k12.wv.us	attendance	General Attendee
Sheila	Hamilton	community	community	rolandsheilah@yahoo.com	community	presenter
Marcia	Hamrick	Jefferson Cty Schools	education	MLHamrick@access.k12.wv.us	counselor	General Attendee
Janie	Harrell	community	community	ejharrell@frontiernet.net	attendee	General Attendee
Margaret	Hedrick	health	nurse	Mhedrick@pcc-nfc.org	nurse	General Attendee
Sandra	Henry	Schools	education	sjhenry@access.k12.wv.us	education	General Attendee



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Linda	Henson	Schools	attendance director	pdugan@frontiernet.net lghenson@access.k12.wv.us	attendance	General Attendee
Karla	Hinis	Government	government	Karla.J.Hinis@wv.gov	attende	General Attendee
Patricia	Holden	VISTA	government	youthclubmc2@yahoo.com	VISTA	America's Promise Staff
Carla	Hunter	Jefferson Cty Schools	education	chunter@access.k12.wv.us	counselor	General Attendee
Rachel	Kellar	VISTA	Government	marioncountypromise@yahoo.com	VISTA	America's Promise Staff
Gregory	Kinney	counselor	community	GRKenneyLPC@frontiernet.net	counselor	General Attendee
Abigail	Kerns	DHHR	Youth Service Worker	Abigail.L.Kerns@wv.gov	social worker	General Attendee
Cynthia	Kessel	education	counselor	ckessel@atlanticbb.net	counselor	General Attendee
Bruce	Kibby	education	counselor	bckibby@yahoo.com	counselor	General Attendee



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jkilbane@access.k12.wv.us

Jay	Kilbane	education	teacher	pdugan@frontiernet.net jkilbane@access.k12.wv.us	teacher	General Attendee
Cindy	Largent-Hill	education	counselor	largenthill@trscool.org	counselor	General Attendee
Shari	Loar	education	education	sloar@access.k12.wv.us	counselor	General Attendee
Rachel	Lough	health	Health	rachel.lough@yahoo.com	nurse	General Attendee
Linda	Marsh	education	attendance director	lmars@access.k12.wv.us	attendance	presenter
Michael	Marsh	education	counselor	mymarsh@access.k12.wv.us	counselor	General Attendee
Robin	Mauck	Juvenile Detention Center	Juvenile Justice		Juvenile justice	General Attendee
Christy	McCune	human services	human services	Christy.L. McCune@wv.gov	human services	General Attendee
Diana	McCutcheon	mental health	social worker	diana_mccutcheon@yahoo.com	social worker	General Attendee



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virginiamcneil@wvdhhr.org

Virginia	McNeill	health	prevention spec	pdugan@frontiernet.net virginiamcneil@wvdhhr.org	prevention spec	presenter
Chris	Merritt	health	prevention spec	cmerritt@pcc-nfc.org	prevention spec	presenter
Ralph	Miller	education	education	ralphmiller@educationalliance.org	education	presenter
Kimberly	Moore	education	education	khmoore@access.k12.wv.us	education	General Attendee
Teija	Neville	education	counselor	tneville@access.k12.wv.us	counselor	General Attendee
Lucinda	Nicholson	VISTA	Government	youthclubmc2@yahoo.com	VISTA	America's Promise Staff
Sandra	O'Brien	court system	Government	sandra.obrien@courtsww.gov	probation	General Attendee
Rachelle	Price	Workforce Investment	Government	rprice@wvregion7wib.org	Wib	General Attendee
Lauren	Prinzo	VISTA	Government	marioncountyfrn@yahoo.com	VISTA	America's Promise Staff



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Patty	Ralston	VISTA	Government	pdugan@frontiernet.net pralston@childswv.org	VISTA	America's Promise Staff
Jeannie	Rose	human services	human services	jeannie.m.rose@wv.gov	human services	General Attendee
Stephanie	Simmons	education	counselor	sacooper@access.k12.wv.us	education	General Attendee
Jennifer	Steen	education	counselor	jsteen@access.k12.wv.us	education	General Attendee
Christina	Stickley	Hardy Cty Schools	counselor	CLSTICKL@access.k12.wv.us	education	General Attendee
Steve	Tuck	VISTA	Government	stuck@childswv.org	VISTA	America's Promise Staff
Mary Kate	Shannon	student intern	intern		student	General Attendee
Elizabeth	Venosh	human services	human services	elizabeth.r.venosh@wv.gov	human services	General Attendee
Veronique	Walker	Berkeley Cty Schools	attendance director	vrwalker@access.k12.wv.us	education	General Attendee



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dwilbur@access.k12.wv.us

David	Wilbur	Hardy Cty Schools	attendance director	pdugan@frontiernet.net dwilbur@access.k12.wv.us	education	General Attendee
Gail	Wright	health	nurse	gwright@pcc-nfc.org	nurse	General Attendee
Pamela	Wilson	consultant	consultant	pamwilson@comcast.net	social worker	presenter
Charles	Yakubow	WVPRC	prevention spec	yakubow@marshall.edu	prevention spec	General Attendee
Katie	Zakin	counselor	counselor	kzaken01@hotmail.com	counselor	General Attendee
Kerry Jo	Gladwell	Hardy Cty Schools	counsleor		counsl	General Attendee
Jessica	Smith	student	student		student	presenter
Crystall	Stillions	student	student		student	presenter
Justin	Parrish	student	student		student	presenter

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Rodney	Shiflett	student	student		student	presenter
Kyle	Ramey	student	student		student	presenter

