

Taylor County Shared Services Meeting
August 29, 2022

Present:

Sarah Bayes, Tonya Bell, Rhonda Brooks, Melissa Cephus, Cindy Hutto, Yolanda Gillette, Jacob Clore, Camye Edwards, Heidi Grantham, Tonya Hobby, Melissa Jusino, Marlena Lopez, Tevis Page, Maria Monroe, Susan Loftis, Paulina Pendarvis, Janie Register, Hannah Smyrnios, Betsy Stephens, Brandi Turner and Martine Young,

Agencies Represented: Healthy Start Coalition, Taylor County District Schools, Big Bend AHEC, Taylor Co. Health Dept., Big Bend Cares, FDLRS Miccosukee, Partnership for Strong Families, Boys & Girls Club, Early Learning Coalition, North Florida Medical Centers, Healthy Families Seven Rivers, And Early Head Start.

Tonya Bell opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Sarah Bayes with Healthy Start announced their Lunch and Learn for expectant Mothers would be held on September 15th.

Yolanda Gillette with Big Bend AHEC reported they are working to get their tobacco cessation classes to in person again. Classes can be taught in English and Spanish, they also have diabetes classes. Health Navigators are also available to help with applying for insurance beginning November 1st. You can call for an appointment at 850-224-1177 or schedule an appointment at www.bigbendahec.org.

Camye Edwards with Big Bend Cares announced the AIDS Walk would be held on September 15, you could go to their website to register at www.BigBendCares.org.

Brandi Turner with Healthy Families announced they have a position open for a Home Visitor, resumes should be sent to Donna Hagan at dhagan@healthystartjmt.org.

Rhonda Brooks announced they would start taking referrals for the Backpack program beginning in September.

Jacob Clore with Partnership for Strong Families advised of funding to JMT. Taylor was given \$1500.00; to date \$600.00 has been spent. They also provide training classes on Adoption and Foster Care throughout the year. They have had 16 removals in Taylor County, 13 for substance misuse, 2 for inadequate supervision and 1 for physical abuse.

Tevis Page with the Early Learning Coalition of the Big Bend talked about the CCR&R (Child Care Resource and Referral) program. This free and confidential service bridges resources and information for the entire family. They offer childcare listings, financial assistance in applying for childcare assistance. This program provides consumer education on a range of topics, including how to locate quality early learning programs. The program can also connect families with local resources that may be able to assist with other needs, such as housing and food or utility assistance. You can contact www.elcbigbend.org or 1-866-973-9030 for more information.

The next Taylor County Shared Services meeting is August 29, 2022.

Notes taken by Cindy Hutto

