



Child Maltreatment Task Force

- The Child Maltreatment Task Force has partnered with DSS to complete the Child Maltreatment Prevention Plan (authored by Barb and her intern). We have already begun revisions and discussion on component parts of this plan. Draft deadlines have not been set.
- Elizabeth Kjar (Judy Center) will be bringing the Strengthening Families Program to Cecil County. This program focuses on strengthening the family unit over 14 weeks. Families with substance abuse issues will be targeted. They hope to deliver the program in 5 designated areas in Cecil County to reach as many families as possible. This program seeks volunteer trainers that have social work and family counseling experience. An information seminar will be held on January 29, 2014 at the Cecil County Health Department from 9:30 – 11:30 am in the Auditorium. Dr. Janine Greene will be presenting on program and trainer expectations.
- Jean-Marie Donahoo and Sara Smith are working on bringing the Stewards of Children Identifying Child Sexual Abuse training to Cecil County. They are currently working on obtaining grant funding to support the cost per person. The training looks at identifying signs, knowing when to report, and what resources are available for reporting, including state laws that govern reporting. However, this training is different from a mandatory reporting seminar in that it focuses on awareness through anecdotal experience. It creates the sense of not only urgency but an awareness that child abuse is not specific to low income populations—anyone can be at fault and it is important to know your role in stopping it. The facilitators of this training are from Delaware and have agreed to donate their time to train in Cecil County. The goal is to have Task Force members trained first and then roll out the training in targeted professional and residential populations.

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