

**Afterschool Coalition of Indianapolis  
General Meeting**

**July 8, 2008**

**Girl Scouts – 1800 N. Meridian Street**

**Meeting Notes**

**In Attendance:**

Adrienne Preddie, Charlotte Pedraza, Meresa Armor, Joenne Pope, Gary Pellico, Jay Geshay, Julia Conner-Fox, Janice Hicks Slaughter, Kim Black, Annie Smith, Ann Hansen, Ophelia Wellington, Maureen Gray, Coco Wolf, Shalom Black, Tony Perkins, Judy Fraps, Jeanine Coleman, David Klinkose, Debbie Zipes

**Introduction: David Klinkose:**

David introduced Debbie Zipes, Assistant to David Klinkose and the Indiana Afterschool Network. Debbie was with Bridges to Success for several years. She helped form the ACI.

David reported that there are 126 full-time afterschool programs in Indianapolis (not a current statistic). Members need to rededicate themselves and work on ACI committees. We need PR from afterschool programs. The Indiana Afterschool Network can promote our programs through the website – [www.INafterschoolnetwork.com](http://www.INafterschoolnetwork.com). ACI can help with grants (identifying funding), writing letters of support, etc.

**Bridges to Success: Jay Geshay:**

Bridges To Success has gone through a transition.

- Steering Committee is in place now.
- Issue gathering quarterly meeting – all are invited.
- IPS will present education strategies, introduce new IPS administrators on July 24, 10:00 – 12:00. The vision is to try to open up IPS to possible ways to work with community.
- Ready to Learn: Birth – K and elementary school areas. Near Eastside and Martindale Brightwood areas; 30 child care centers; book distribution programs (Early Readers Club) through 6 years old, receive books quarterly by mail; 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade tutoring programs (Read-Up Tutoring Program).
- Working with organizations to bring mentoring into elementary schools
- Twenty schools split four Area School Coordinators
- Lyman Rhodes is director of Bridges To Success

**Urban Mission YMCA Updates: Meresa Creekmore-Armor:**

Meresha is new executive director. Urban Mission is “YMCA without walls” and utilizes existing building like schools, churches, health centers and community facilities. Serves 3,000 young people per year through afterschool enrichment programs, drug prevention programs, young parenting skills and support programs, and summer camps.

## **Committee Reports:**

### **Business Committee: Gary Pellico:**

The committee will become the backbone of ACI.

- Need to focus on where funding is for afterschool programs.
- Can bring non-ACI people into committees
- Questions: How do we formalize the organization? Dues? Email ideas to Gary. Committee will develop thoughts before the next meeting.

### **Training/Standards/Evaluation Committee: Maureen Gray**

- Plan to revise the standards.
- Will keep everyone apprised of training
- Will continue peer site visits

Indiana Youth Pro offers an Indiana Youth Credential; recognizes core competencies; started 4 years ago

### **Media Committee: Joenne Pope:**

- Lights On Event: October 16 at Garfield Park
- August 19: subcommittee meeting at Harrison Center at 11:00
- If anyone has youth to showcase, let Joenne know.
- Question: Should a booth fee be charged? This is the 8<sup>th</sup> year of doing the event.
- Transportation tends to be an issue. Might need to focus on schools in the vicinity. Suggested that we might want to have different sites going at the same time – “Lights On Across Indy”.

### **New Business:**

Andre Lewis, author, spoke at Washington Township. Judy Fraps recommends him. The “students loved him. His site is [www.abutech.com](http://www.abutech.com) or [abutech@mac.com](mailto:abutech@mac.com).

Ann Hansen reported that the IPS Drug Education Office has received two grants. Twenty-eight elementary schools have Safe Haven programs (after school programs) including different topics and drug prevention activities. About 2,000 students participate on a regular basis.

**Next Meeting: September 16, 10:30 – 12:00 at WFYI, 1630 N. Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202.**

David asked members to let him know if an earlier time would be better for the November meeting.

Submitted:

Janice Hicks Slaughter, Secretary