

Raymond Coalition For Youth ~ Meeting Minutes
October 12 , 2023 ~ 9:00 – 10:30 am
In Person at Raymond Baptist Church Basement



Present:20

School	Patrick Arsenault , LEAP Caroline Connolly, IHGMS Abbi Massey, IHGMS Sam Horrigan, Raymond School District Joseph Saulnier, Raymond School Board Charlie Harcourt, Milton Hershey School
Health Care	Annalise Poirier, Lamprey Health Care
Town/ Government	Kristen Buckman, Dudley Tucker Library Paul Spera, DEA Tim Cahill, State Rep
Youth Serving	Pamela Turcotte - RCFY Finance Coordinator Celeste Clark - Exec Director, RCFY Pam Baker - RCFY Program Coord
Service Organizations	Kim Coronis, Breathe NH Ashley Stratton, AmeriHealthCaritas NH
Community Organizations	Kate Kucharski, TD Bank/Rotary Katrina Langlois, Rotary Rich McCarthy, Keller Williams Ed Wood, Raymond Area Rotary
Faith Organizations	David Newton, Raymond Baptist Church

Welcomes, Introductions, Announcements were made.

Celeste opened the meeting and asked if anyone had any thing to share. David Newton of the Raymond Baptist Church talked about donation boxes they are putting together. If anyone had anything to add to boxes that will be distributed to youth in need. Item such as small games, school supplies, etc. are needed.

It was mentioned that Deerfield Dental is providing free dental care for veterans on November 13, 2023.

Celeste then introduced today's speaker, Charlies Harcourt, New England Administrator for the Milton Hershey School located in Hershey Pennsylvania. Milton and Catherine Hershey started the school as a place for orphan boys which has grown to a co-ed school of over 2000 students. The Hersheys were childless and set up the Hershey Trust to fund the school. It is a place with no cost to families.

The school is designed for children in need, 20% of the population is homeless or raised by someone other than parents. Average family income is less that \$23,000 per year. This is a school for children who would otherwise not thrive.

They are housed with houseparents having 8 to 12 students in each home. It is not there to replace family and students address house parents by their names and not by mom or dad. The students between the ages of 4 and 15 at time of enrollment. They must be free of serious behavior problems likely to disrupt life in the classroom or student home life.

All costs are covered by the school including but not limited to food, shelter, clothing, extra curricular activities, health services and students have the opportunity to accrue up to \$95K in continuing education scholarships.

To learn more or refer a child visit the website at mhskids.org/professionalreferrals or call/text to 717.647.5050.

Pam Baker then updated everyone on some of the things happening during Red Ribbon Week, October 13 through 23, 2023.

T-Shirts were designed by the Youth Action groups and will say Be Kind To Your Mind, Live Drug Free. The Elementary School will not have the Live Drug Free statement on them.

On Thursday, Oct 26, 2023 will be Lights on Afterschool with a spaghetti supper for parents and students at Middle School.

- Fall Family Festival/Touch A Truck will be at the Elementary School on October 14 from 10 to 1.
- Prevention Summit is scheduled for October 20, 2023
- Fundraising Gala is scheduled for March 23, 2024
- Fall RX Take Back will be held at Hannafords on Saturday, October 28.
- Dates for RCFY at The Brook are October 18-28th.

Thank you for joining us today, being an RCFY advocate, passing along the information learned today, and encouraging others to learn more and get involved.

Next Meetings October 12, November 9 and December 14

Mission Statement:

The Raymond Coalition For Youth empowers the community to promote positive youth development and reduce youth substance use and suicide risk.

Promoting Positive Healthy Choices for our Youth!

www.rcfy.org

