MENTORS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Regional Conference

APRIL 12, 2012
9:30 AM - 5:00 PM IN THE HUME ROOM
HUME HOTEL, NELSON BC
“The biggest threat to young people today is YOU. Rather, the absence of YOU.”
- Josh Shipp

Overview

The Mentors Make a Difference Conference is part of the Helping Boys Become Healthy Men Project. This project focuses on interventions that strengthen protective factors and foster attachment, inclusion and self worth in young men in the West Kootenay Boundary. Helping Boys Become Healthy Men Project communities are Kaslo, Nelson, Castlegar, Trail and Grand Forks.

Conference Objectives

Knowledge Exchange - learn about the five local initiatives, the overall regional project and hear from Jim Conway, an expert in the field.

Engagement - partake in engaging activities designed to look at next steps for mentorship in the Kootenay Boundary region.

Network - meet stakeholders from around the region.

Participant Benefits / Outcomes

- Share ideas for raising healthier boys
- Share mentoring strategies
- Aid in the development of concrete strategies for healthier communities
- Identify & connect with useful resources
- Learn about local and regional projects
Agenda

8:30 - 9:30 am  Registration, Refreshments & Networking

9:30 -10:00 am  Opening, Introductions, Objectives & Process
Andrew Jarrett

10:00 - 10:30 am  Who's who in the room?
Mike Kent

10:30 - 10:45 am  Break - refreshments provided

10:45 am - 12 pm  Local project presentations and questions – local
project coordinators: Barry Pratt, Naomi Bain, James McFaddin, Brodie Whitney, and Roger
Luscombe

12 pm - 1 pm  Lunch – provided at the Hume Hotel

1 pm - 3 pm  Keynote Speaker – Jim Conway, The Search Institute

3 pm - 3:15 pm  Break - refreshments provided

3:15 pm - 4:30 pm  Community Engagement: Where do we go from here?
Gary Ockenden

4:30 pm - 5 pm  Wrap up and Farewells – Andrew Jarrett

5 pm - 6 pm  Networking and refreshments
Master of Ceremonies - Andrew Jarrett
Executive Coordinator, Kootenay Boundary Community Services Co-operative

Andrew started his career working with boys who had come into conflict with the law, then moved on to manage a specialized school program in a large children’s mental health centre. When he moved west he set up his own consulting company to provide organizational development support to health and social service organizations. After moving to the Kootenays, he returned to the field to manage a small community service agency, which became one of the founding members of the Co-op. He and his wife have 7 grown children, two of them boys, and now enjoy 7 grandchildren, 4 of whom are boys.

Keynote - Jim Conway
Senior Trainer, The Search Institute

Jim Conway has over 20 years of experience speaking to audiences of all ages. His engaging approach draws you in, the strength of his message provides hope and inspiration, and his genuine humor engages the soul. Jim’s personable and dynamic presentations explain how science can inform our efforts on behalf of young people. His message is grounded in both research and his direct experience as a street youth-worker and former staff member of the Center for Early Adolescence, and he has enlivened conferences throughout North America and abroad.

Facilitator - Gary Ockenden
Director, Community Engagement, Columbia Basin Trust

Gary Ockenden works as the Director of Community Engagement for Columbia Basin Trust. He worked for many years in the social, health and international development and human rights sectors. He then spent a decade as a consultant focusing on governance, planning and stakeholder engagement projects. One of his final projects before the shift to CBT was to coordinate the development of the plan for the Helping Boys Become Healthy Men Project. Gary has lived in the Nelson area for more than 20 years.

Facilitator - Mike Kent
Regional Coordinator, Helping Boys Become Healthy Men Project, Ripple Effect Consulting, Inc

Mike is an experiential educator, facilitator, consultant, outdoor leader and youth worker. Since 1997, Mike has implemented a variety of programs and projects focusing on leadership training, wilderness experience, therapeutic drug and alcohol treatment, conflict resolution, personal development, experiential education and community capacity building. He loves living and playing in the Kootenays with his family.
MENTORS MAKE A DIFFERENCE CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Project Coordinators

Roger Luscombe, Nelson Supporting Positive Mental Health and Resilience in Boys
Roger has lived and worked in the Kootenays for 20+ years as a forest tech, an art therapist, and as a child & youth counselor. He fathers three sons 12, 22 & 25 yrs old & a forth bonus son of 14 yrs. He is coordinator of the Nelson project through Nelson Community Services Centre where he works as their Behaviour Management Consultant for children & youth. Roger also coordinates the regional Dad's Project through the Kootenay Boundary Community Services Cooperative. When not hanging out with his partner Mary, or his kids, he can be found in the great outdoors, in a yoga class or embracing one of his many beloved guitars & drums.

Brodie Whitney, Kaslo Boys Town
Brodie Whitney is a gentle and caring soul who lives in the mountains of BC, Canada with his wife and two boys, age 9 & 12. He is a youth mentor and life coach who helps people believe in themselves and create success and fulfillment in life and in livelihood. Brodie runs his company, Living Fully Enterprises, from his home and is involved as a coach with Anthony Robbins’ Global Youth Leadership Summit, Teen Journey and the YA! Experience. Brodie runs the Kaslo ‘Boys Town’ Mentorship Program and opens the Kaslo & Area Youth Centre every Saturday night.

James McFadden, Castlegar Camp ESQ
James has a heart for youth, and desires to see them reach their fullest potential. James has been working extensively with local teens for about six years through the church, and welcomed the opportunity from Castlegar Community Services to help young men get on the right track with great mentorship! He believes strongly in Helping Boys Become Healthy Men, as he himself had incredible mentors that shaped him as he grew up. James and his wife Maria have two daughters aged 7 and 4, and are thankful for the community of Castlegar. They own a local coffee shop, Bagels & Brew, and strive to give back to the community by serving.

Naomi Bain, Trail Boys Connect
Naomi was born and raised in Trail and returned to the area six years ago after living in Kelowna, Korea and Toronto. Naomi has been working at Trail FAIR Society since her return to the area as the Children’s Communications Facilitator and a Children’s Support Worker.

Barry Pratt, Building Resilience in Boundary Boys
Barry has a long history of involvement with youth as a coach and 23 years in the Boy Scout movement. He has worked as a youth outreach worker, alcohol & drug and child and youth mental health counsellor in addition to providing contracted men's services to the Attorney General's department and youth services to Job Corps in the USA. Barry holds a Social Service Diploma from Selkirk College and a degree in Child and Youth Care from U-Vic.
Thank you to the numerous local businesses and agencies that have given support.

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I wholeheartedly believe every student is ONE mentor away from being a success story. The flip side, of course, is every mentor is ONE student away from being a success story. Mentors and students need each other. The student needs an example to follow. The mentor needs the motivation to be a good example.”
- Josh Shipp