

# Meeting Report

## Tobacco Free Partnership of Gilchrist County Meeting

May 5, 2009, 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

**Location:** Gilchrist County Library  
105 NE 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Trenton, FL 32693

**Attendees:**

- Tracy DeCubellis, QDREF
- Dr. Dawn Grinenko, QDREF
- Donna Creamer, Pure Water Wilderness
- Kyle Stone, Gilchrist County Chamber of Commerce
- Verna Watson, Gilchrist County Clerk
- Michelle Barron, Trenton Elementary School Guidance Counselor
- Jean Troke, Troke Realty
- Jim Troke, Troke Realty
- Janice Wasson, Gilchrist Neighborhood Accountability Board
- Karen Heath, Gilchrist County 4-H
- Emily Padot, Gilchrist 4-H
- Chris DeCubellis, Gilchrist 4-H
- Chandler Ash, Gilchrist 4-H

**Members not in Attendance**

- Manette Cheshareck, Suwannee River AHEC
- T.J. Harrington, American Heart Association

**Background:**

Tobacco Free Partnership meetings are held quarterly in Gilchrist County and include members from government, businesses, schools and youth organizations.

**Meeting:**

Dr. Grinenko introduced herself and Ms. DeCubellis along with the mission of QDREF. Other attendees then introduced themselves.

Dr. Grinenko gave a brief overview of recent local activities. She then gave the StoreAlert training presentation (see attached).

The partnership members were very engaged in the presentation and offered ideas and solutions related to recent reports of tobacco products being sold to minors and presence of tobacco products in easy access to minors. All members present were provided with copies of the StoreAlert Report Card to collect data on point-of-purchase advertising in Gilchrist County businesses. The members will be able to mail the forms back to the Quit Doc office.

After the presentation there was an open discussion. Topics included:

- *Local school district efforts to improve lifestyle choices through a health initiative to start in the fall.* The program will focus on several issues, including nutrition, exercise, and tobacco. QDREF will provide the tobacco education programs in the local schools.
- *QDREF staff involvement in the NAB (Neighborhood Accountability Board).* Janice Wasson discussed the recent addition of a tobacco education/intervention program through NAB for youth cited for mtobacco use in the community.
- *Law enforcement activities to ticket underage tobacco user.* Because of the concerns of members regarding youth accessibility to tobacco in local stores, the members discussed ways to increase law enforcement surveillance. The group also discussed efforts to recruit law enforcement for the Tobacco Free Partnership.
- *Creation of a task force to work on smoke-free ordinances.* The group discussed forming a task force to work on a local ordinance to create smoke-free parks and youth sporting events. This seems to be an appropriate project for the group at this time. The TFP requested that the next meeting be dedicated to this topic, including a presentation on such smoke-free ordinances, and formal creation of a TFP sub-committee to work on a local ordinance.

**Summary:**

- Attendance for the Tobacco-Free Partnership meetings has steadily increased.
- The next quarterly meeting will be dedicated to the issue of smoke-free parks in Gilchrist County, including the formal creation of a task force (TFP sub-committee) to work on a local ordinance.