BE STRONG

Building, Encouraging and Supporting
Trusting Relationships On Neutral Ground

Helping build inclusive, caring and safe communities

LCCJ Community Animator Report – March 22, 2018

Submitted by Andrew Lynch, Community Animator

Schools & Youth Centres News

Almonte District High School – Andrew met with Melanie Fielding, student support worker and Sarah Graham, the newly-appointed mental health coach / guidance teacher to discuss strategies for incorporating restorative practices into a student leadership initiative. They will be canvassing students for issues and forming a representative group of about 16 students that Andrew and a volunteer will work with. This also will serve as a template to share with the other high schools.

Andrew has met with the Executive directors and program managers of all of the youth centres to schedule training for staff in addition to activities we are already running in their respective programs. So far, sessions have been held with the staff of YAK and Mississippi Mills YC with more scheduled at the other centers for April. Each of these training sessions also results in next step strategies for working with youth. By working through the staff at the YC's our impact is broadened. We will attempt to survey the majority of youth visiting these centres.

Numbers of Student Engagements

I still have not received logs from several volunteers, but can reasonably guess that our total is well over 9600, with approximately 3900 of those being high level, weekly engagements.

Volunteers & Be Strong Handbook

We held a meeting with available volunteers to introduce the Be Strong Handbook, review its contents and get some initial feedback. Its real value will be determined over time. Volunteers who were unable to attend this meeting are meeting with Andrew to receive their copy.

A training day for new volunteers is scheduled for Friday, April 6th.

Next Steps

The information package for superintendents of the UCDSB and OCDSBEO is complete and will be delivered to them the week of March 26th.