

From: Denise Wike
To: Wilcox Clayton
Sent: Fri 1/14/2005 2:46 PM

Subject: Important Question - Please respond asap

Dear Dr. Wilcox and School Board Members,

I came across some testimony of Laurie Flynn, the director of TeenScreen on Capitol Hill on March 2, 2004. You will find below an excerpt from that testimony. The complete testimony can be found here:

http://www.pathnow.org/resources/FlynnTestimonySenate3_04.html

I know for certain that the Hillsborough County School Board has not "partnered" with TeenScreen and is not piloting district wide mental health screening on 9th graders.

My simple question is and this can be answered by anyone of you:

Is the underlined testimony below on Pinellas County, true or false?

Denise

Federal Document Clearing House Congressional Testimony
March 2, 2004 Tuesday
CAPITOL HILL HEARING TESTIMONY
COMMITTEE: SENATE HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR AND PENSIONS
HEADLINE: SUICIDE PREVENTION AND YOUTH
BILL-NO: H.R. 3063
TESTIMONY-BY: LAURIE FLYNN, DIRECTOR
AFFILIATION: THE CARMEL HILL CENTER FOR EARLY DIAGNOSIS AND
TREATMENT

Statement of Laurie Flynn Director , Carmel Hill Center for Early Diagnosis and
Treatment Committee on Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions

March 2, 2004

Good Morning Mr. Chairman and Members of the Subcommittee: as Director of the Carmel Hill Center for Early Diagnosis and Treatment within the Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at Columbia University, I am honored to participate as a witness at today's hearing on youth suicide prevention. The Carmel Hill Center administers the Columbia University TeenScreen Program, a mental health screening and suicide prevention initiative for youth. The issue of youth suicide prevention is personal to me; *my daughter made a suicide attempt during her senior year of high school. She had deteriorated inexplicably and rapidly, moving quickly from severe stress to depression with few warning signs. At the time, there was no reliable way for youth to be screened*

for mental illness or suicidal tendencies and parents had no reliable way of knowing their child was in danger.

In partnership with the University of South Florida we are piloting district wide mental health screening of 9th graders in Hillsborough and Pinellas counties.

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From: Wilcox Clayton
To: Denise Wike
Date: 01/14/05 20:24:44
Subject: RE: Important Question - Please respond asap

I cannot speak to what she allegedly said ... though I am trying to find out ... but I can assure each of you that to the best of my knowledge ... we are not piloting the screening tool in Pinellas County schools ... **and if this person said what they allegedly said . I would have serious reservations about partnering with such an organization .**

Clayton

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From: Denise Wike
To: Wilcox Clayton
Sent: Sat 1/15/2005 2:46 PM
Subject: Laurie Flynn Testimony

Dear Dr. Wilcox and School Board Members,

There's no need for you to find out what Laurie Flynn "allegedly said".

The testimony is clear. Laurie Flynn, director of TeenScreen testified before the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor & Pensions on March 2, 2004, 10:00 AM: "In partnership with the University of South Florida we are piloting district wide mental health screening of 9th graders in Hillsborough and Pinellas counties" You can find her testimony on the Senate Committee website here:
http://help.senate.gov/testimony/58_tes.html

Even if that U.S. Government record is incorrect, which is highly doubtful, Flynn, the director of TeenScreen and David Shaffer the developer of TeenScreen are reporting her testimony as fact: http://www.pathnow.org/resources/FlynnTestimonySenate3_04.html

Pathnow.org is managed by Flynn and Shaffer. See here: www.pathnow.org

The Hillsborough County School District says that her testimony is false and even claim that TeenScreen is promoting that they are "partnering" with Hillsborough when in fact they are absolutely not.

My opinion is that you and the school board should have serious reservations about partnering with TeenScreen because of this statement and for a myriad of other reasons.

You should also have very serious reservations about changing the survey policy which was just implemented one year ago for the benefit of and only at the behest of "TeenScreen".

My simple question remains for both you and any member of the Pinellas County School Board who cares to answer:

Is the Laurie Flynn testimony of March 2, 2004, below, true or false?

"In partnership with the University of South Florida we are piloting district wide mental health screening of 9th graders in Hillsborough and Pinellas counties"

If the Pinellas County School District already is piloting district wide mental health screening I want to know about it.

Yours,

Denise Wike

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From: Wilcox Clayton

To: Denise Wike

Date: 01/15/05 17:39:22

Subject: RE: Laurie Flynn Testimony

Denise ... **We are not involved in a pilot of the TeenScreen. Clayton**

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From: Denise Wike

To: Wilcox Clayton

Sent: Monday, January 17, 2005 8:55 AM

Subject: RE: Laurie Flynn Testimony

Thank you sir.

Denise Wike