

Effort to reduce truancy underway in York County



News - Regional & State News

Written by Melanie Herschorn

Tuesday, 23 February 2010 13:24



(York) -- YorkCounts and the United Way of York County are working to alert the public about the county's truancy problem. The third in a series of town hall meetings took place last night, but YorkCounts spokesman Dan Fink says the gatherings are only the first step toward solving the problem. He says an 18-month study from the United way shows over the past decade, an average of 4 students drop out of school in the county each day. "By investing our dollars and targeting them at truancy," he says, "we could make a big difference in graduation rates and there would be a whole slew of secondary benefits to the community in terms of increasing the education of the workforce, improving productivity, reducing the amount of costs on the court system." Fink says the aim is to help dropouts

who may end up in jail or relying on social services to become wage-earning citizens. He notes it costs three times more money to incarcerate someone than to give them a public school education. [Click here](#) for a link to the study.