



Join Together Atlantic County

Atlantic County Government Offices
101 S. Shore Rd, Shoreview Building
Northfield, NJ 08225

July 11th, 2016
11:00am – 1:00pm

Attendance/Sectors & Agencies Represented:

Youth:

Parents: Laurinda Hendrix, Ted Khoury

Law Enforcement:

Govt Agency: Charlie Kerley (Atlantic County Alliance) Ben Mount (Atlantic County Division of Public Health), Rhonda Fitzgerald (Atlantic City Health Department), Lily Britton (NJ Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services)

School: Donna Marie McElroy (Atlantic Cape Community College)

Youth Service Org: Kathryn Saxton-Granato (CIACC), Jake Straughn & George Dannenhauer (Atlantic County TRY-IT)

Healthcare:

Religious/Fraternal Org.:

Business: Tracy Smith (Speakers for Change)

Media:

Civic/Volunteer: John Livezey (Brigantine Municipal Alliance)

Other Org.: Arlie Brown (Atlantic Prevention Resources Treatment)

Staff: Laurie Smith, Bob Zlotnick, Kathy McFadden, Brian Wilson

Guest/Other: Kim Burns (Tobacco Free for a Healthy NJ), Committeeman John Armato & Mrs. Armato (Buena Vista Twp.)

Introductions/Sign In, Review Minutes

Minutes were reviewed from the previous meeting. Motion to approve minutes – 1st Kathryn Saxton-Granato – 2nd Tracy Smith

Internal Coalition Business

Website information – As you know from our previous meeting Brian is now overseeing our JTAC website. He recently sent out email requesting information from those members who would like to be added to the “Coalition Member” section of the website, which will list your name, title, organization and website. If you provide a website it will be hyperlinked directly under your information. Those of you who missed that email or have not had a chance to respond index cards were handed out at this meeting for you to write down this information.

AmeriCorps VISTA Grant- AmeriCorps is like the Peace Corp, only volunteers work within the United States. Laurie worked with Stockton University and wrote a grant to have an AmeriCorp VISTA volunteer to work with JTAC for one year. Stockton and JTAC were successfully awarded the grant. One person will be assigned to JTAC for one full year. This person will have housing at Stockton along with an office space. Interviews took place a couple of weeks ago and Mary Walton was selected. Mary is a graduate of Stockton University. Mary will be focusing on underage drinking and on our marijuana campaign. She will also be assisting with other projects that we are currently working on.

Committee/Work Group Updates:

Opiate Task force –This meeting will take place this Thursday July 14th 3:00pm – 5:00pm at the Atlantic County Prosecutors Office in Mays Landing. The open public meeting minutes have been emailed.

Linking Youth to services – This meeting will take place this Wednesday July 13th at 9:00am at Atlantic Prevention Resources Absecon Office.

SUAR – 25 to 30 members. We teach them alcohol and drug prevention strategies through a number of different activities. Schools that are currently involved EHT, Buena and Oakcrest and we hope to work with MRHS in the fall. Some recent activities include “Sticker Shock Project” that was done right before Memorial Day weekend in EHT liquor stores and “Above the Influence” campaign at Oakcrest High School.

Recovery Month Activity –

Bob spoke about the two options. Participate directly with Pro-Act walk in Philly or park on the NJ side and walk across the Ben Franklin Bridge and meet up with the Pro-Act walk. This event is on September 17th, 2016. JTAC would have team shirts made and would provide transportation. This was put up for a vote and everyone agreed to go directly to the Pro-Act walk in Philly.

Motion to approve driving directly to pro-act walk and participating – 1st Ted Khoury– 2nd Laurinda Hendrix.

Interventions/updates

TIPS Training – Several restaurants have reached out to us to receive TIPS training after receiving information in the mail that we sent out.

Realtors – Kelly Gallagher has been working on contacting Realtors throughout Atlantic County Requesting a copy of any policy that they may currently have pertaining to prescription drugs being

secure in homes during open houses. Kelly sent out 157 letters requesting this information along with tips and policy suggestions for the realtor and their clients on how to safely secure and dispose of prescription medication. Also included was a small flyer for them to post reminding them of the dangers of unsecured medications during an open house.

Funeral homes – Kelly is also working on sending information out to funeral homes in Atlantic County. She will be sending out 30 letters requesting that when a family comes in to arrange a funeral that they are reminded of how and where to dispose of unwanted, unused medication from the deceased loved one. The next step is to reach out to hospice providers and have them do the same thing pertaining to the safe disposal of unused prescription medications.

Drop Boxes – Brian explained that we purchased 8 permanent prescription drop boxes with the goal to place them throughout Atlantic County. We have been able to 7 of these prescription drop boxes with the most recent being the Pleasantville Police Department which began collecting unused, unwanted and or expired medication at the beginning of June. Brian has recently been in contact with Buena Borough Police Department and is just waiting for them to receive the waiver of approval from the DEA. As soon as that waiver is received and Brian is made aware of that he will set up a date and time to deliver the drop box. We are considering purchasing additional drop boxes to place in the remainder of the Atlantic County police departments such as Somers Point, Linwood, Northfield, Hammonton and Brigantine. Also we will look into possibly placing them in area pharmacies and or hospitals.

John Armato from Buena Vista Twp. said that they have collected over 100pounds since they installed their drop box a little over a year ago. John explained that this is a huge amount and success for Buena Vista. John and Sheriff Frank Balles worked very hard to in getting this program into Buena. This is one of the first in the state and possibly even the country to not be located inside of a police department or court house.

Pleasantville high school panel on marijuana – This took place on May 25th and was held at Pleasantville High School Cafeteria. The panel was made up of a number of different professionals from the prevention, treatment, recovery, and the medical field. Laurie Smith, Dr. Brian Acunta, and Jake Straughn were in attendance. They had a great turnout and the cafeteria was completely packed.

Officer from Northfield Police Depart along with Laurie did presentations at Cedar Creek High School.

Tobacco update

Look See Check ID – We recently mailed out “Look See Check ID” guides with important information about selling tobacco products. These guides when opened can be hung up and displayed with additional information on the laws and tips for checking I.D.’s. The legal age to purchase tobacco is 19 years of age. Selling single cigarettes (loosies) or other tobacco products is against the law. We sent out to Hammonton, EHC, Pleasantville and Atlantic City. Brian and one of the interns hand delivered the majority in Pleasantville because it is quite costly to mail out. If anyone knows of any specific stores there are packets on back table for you to grab and hand out.

300 ordinances throughout the State for smoke free parks. Hopefully will be 301 after tonight. Most recently Buena Vista Twp. passed. We are currently trying to get in touch with Galloway Twp. to have them begin working on an ordinance.

Point of Sale – Goal is to go back to a town that already has a tobacco ordinance and try to get them to add to it.

Vaping restrictions - Vaping information on the laws/regulations and brochures are available at Tobaccofreenj.com type in vaping. All is free.

Other tobacco projects include content neutral advertising utilizing a tobacco audit tool, Smoke free unit housing and workplace wellness

CAB -

Prescription drug disposal magnet – We worked on this magnet with Cape May County. We took the American Medicine Chest Challenge Five Simple Steps for safe disposal and condensed into three steps and listed on magnet. We also listed our website where they can locate a prescription drop boxes near them and more information about JTAC.

Fentanyl W-18 Brochures - NJPN provided us with these brochures. This is great information about what Fentanyl W-18 is and its harmful effect not only on the person using it but anyone who comes into contact with it. We encourage you to please take them to help get this important information out to the community.

New Business -

Then and now Movie – We showed this film during lunch. This film is a look at how the tobacco industry pioneered compelling addiction marketing strategies to build a massive consumer base of lifetime users that led to a national public health crisis, and how the current marijuana industry is using all the same tactics. Coalition members enjoyed this film and said its right on the money by accurate portraying the issues that Colorado is currently facing. This opened group discussion about current laws and regulations specifically decriminalization vs. legalization and what is our stance on it? We will put together a packet of information about the different viewpoints/stances for next meeting.

An Ordinance packet is being put together to send and present to local town councils. Laurie and Cape Assist are working on this project and will reach out to coalition members to work within there town once the packets are sent. There are seven ordinances total including private property ordinances, Nuisance Abatement Ordinances, 100% proofing to name a few.

Buena Opiate Town Hall Meeting – August 29th. John Armato is looking for flyer to just change and add Buena Vista information to it. Tracy encouraged John to start marketing right away for this event and to make sure he has a well informed panel to answer a wide variety of questions correctly and not to mislead anyone.

Generation Found - from the creators of “Anonymous People” – A documentary about recovery high schools throughout the United States – Alternative peer groups. There are currently 36 across the country. Tracy would like to bring this movie to Atlantic County. This movie will be shown at Hamilton Regal Movie Theater. Tickets are \$11. You have to sell a certain amount of tickets for them to show the video. Goal is to show this video during recovery month. Tracy will soon pick a date in September and will let us know. She ask that we all support this cause and if anyone is interesting in helping please contact her.

Youth Risk Behavior Survey YRBS – Ben Mount spoke about this survey that was developed by the Centers for disease Control and Prevention distributed by Holleran. Survey was taken by 9th and 11th grade students throughout Atlantic County Schools in February of this year. Atlantic County has been conducting this survey since 1995. This year we had 950 completed surveys. The purpose of this survey is to monitor health risk behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death, disabilities and social problems among youth and adults in the United States specifically in our county. These behaviors include unintentional injuries and violence, sexual behaviors leading to unintended pregnancy and disease, alcohol and other drug use, tobacco use, unhealthy diets and obesity.

Upcoming Events/Announcements/Information

MRHS Group – New program ready to go by October.

SAD Fest 2016 – July 30th & 31st. SADFEST is music festival to raise awareness for suicide, addiction and depression. Flyer was given out at this meeting.

July 16th Brigantine Hooked on Fishing 17th street and the beach. Last year 120 people this year hope to have 300. First 100 youth will receive a fishing pole. For additional information contact John Livezey jelivezey@msn.com

International Overdose Awareness Day is August 31st. This day aims to raise awareness of overdose and reduce the stigma of drug-related death. Speakers for Change is planning an event to create and promote awareness and education. Tracy briefly spoke about having a candle light vigil on the beach to remember those who have lost their lives to this horrible disease of addiction. If anyone would like to help or get involved please contact her at tracy@speakersforchange.org.

Caucus for Addiction Solutions hosted by Facing Addiction will be held on July 26th – 1:00-3:00pm. A variety of professionals and those directly affect by addiction coming together to make addiction solutions a national priority. Flyer was given out at this meeting.

Naloxone training will be held on July 19th. This will be the last training of the 300 kits that have been funded. The county is currently looking for additional funding/resources to continue to offer naloxone trainings. Contact Charlie Kerley for additional information.

CARA Act -Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016 passed 400/5 on May 13th 2016. This will enable Attorney General and Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants/monies to combat the prescription drug and heroin epidemic we are currently facing. This will also look to modify/change current medical prescribing practices.

Behavioral Crossroads accepts Medicaid for Level 1 and Level 2, Ambulatory Detox.

Next Meeting:

Monday, September 12th, 11:00am – 1:00pm
Atlantic County Government Offices
101 S. Shore Rd., Northfield (Shoreview Building)

Motion to adjourn the meeting – 1st Donna Marie McElroy – 2nd John Livezey