



Join Together Atlantic County

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

March 10, 2020
11:00am – 1pm

Attendance/Sectors & Agencies Represented:

Youth:

Parents:

Law Enforcement: Undersheriff Richard Komar (Atlantic County Sheriff's Office)

Govt Agency: Assemb. John Armato (NJ State Leg.), James Kube & Nigel Newman (NJ National Guard), Sharon Keyes (Camden MACC-Medicaid)

School: Charles Kerley (Stockton University Recovery Housing)

Youth Service Org: John Roy (Care Management Org.), Kathryn Saxton-Granato (Children's Inter-Agency Coordinating Council)

Healthcare:

Religious/Fraternal Org.:

Business: Melissa Rodriguez (RCA @ Lighthouse), Todd Olson (Truetox Labs)

Media:

Civic/Volunteer: Jason Smart-El (Volunteers of America)

Other Org.: Gabrielle Taylor & Marie Valerius-Hyancinthe (JBRC), Susan Long (Hope One), Sean Kolins (Seabrook), Ken Litwak (800 Gambler), Jody Fernandez (Southern NJ Perinatal Cooperative), Carlos Favretto Jr. (Tobacco Free for a Healthy NJ)

Staff: Laurie Smith, Bob Zlotnick, Amber Cutano

Guest/Other: Te'Ana Hill (APR Intern), Jake Straughn (CADC)

Introductions/Sign-in, Review Minutes:

Laurie opened the meeting, welcomed the attendees and introductions were made. She mentioned as we go through today's agenda, we will discuss events as they are now still being held. If due to COVID-

19 anything is cancelled or postponed we will share that information through email, and posts on our website and Facebook page, for both JTAC and Atlantic Prevention Resources.

Motion to approve minutes from last meeting, 1st Sheron Keyes, 2nd Ken Litwak, Minutes Approved

Internal Coalition Business/Grant Updates:

Drug Free Communities (DFC) – The grant renewal was to already be completed but the due date is now mid-April. Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) and CDC are now partnering on this grant and that's why the grant renewal date changed. The grant which originally began July 1st was pushed back to an October start date this past year, due to this change of grantor. There is a webinar tomorrow that Laurie will be participating in to go over the new renewal process. If you have any ideas of new interventions or outreach relating to the prevention of underage drinking, marijuana or prescription drugs with a link to heroin, please let Laurie know and it could be added to the new activity plan.

STOP ACT – This grant is a federal ONDCP grant that focuses on underage drinking and we thought was ending after year three, but we have it for an additional year. The renewal for this grant was just completed.

CARA Grant – Federal ONDCP grant for opioid prevention, year three activity plan begins in July.

Opiate Athlete Grant – This is a state grant that focuses on athletes and the use of opiates. We are partnering with Shore Medical Center and will be doing an event in May with coaches and athletic directors for athletes and concussions as well as athletes and opiates. Glory Days magazine is an online newspaper for local youth sports, they do quarterly issues that can be picked up in stores and restaurants. Laurie is meeting with Bill Lynskey from Glory Days tomorrow about doing articles and information on opiates and pain management for parents, coaches and athletes.

Partnership for Success (PFS) – State grant; First training with Children's Inter-Agency Coordinating Council (CIACC) on Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) has been completed and Brian is at a statewide meeting today getting information regarding the second training which will be done in the coming months. Laurie and Jessica from Child Protective Services completed Nurtured Heart Approach training for school staff and administrators at Galloway Public Schools, this was a six-week training that was done every Friday at the end of the school day.

Communication – To help communicate any upcoming events, Laurie will send an email out to all coalition members on Thursday afternoons unless there isn't any new information to share. If your organization has any events or information that you'd like to distribute, please send it to Laurie before noon on Thursdays. Amber is working on the JTAC Newsletter and it will be sent out in the coming months.

Cape Atlantic Bridge Coalition (CAB):

Regional coalition, JTAC partners with Cape May County's coalition, sponsored by Cape Assist; The last regional meeting was at the Ocean City library on February 12th and Chief Chris Luesner from the Middle Township Police Department did a presentation on their Handle with Care program. On January 17th, at Stockton's Atlantic City campus, we had a one-day follow-up training on building resiliency teams in schools. There were about 90 school staff and administrators in attendance and there will be another three-day training offered in July for schools/staff who have not previously attended. These trainings help school staff in Atlantic/Cape May County learn different ways to teach/discipline children with

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE's) and build resiliency teams in their schools. There is a ten-question survey to identify a child with ACE's, schools do not do the survey they can identify a child with ACE's. Children with ACE's tend to be exposed to more trauma and teachers may have to go outside of their normal realm of discipline in order to be successful with them. The methods the teachers learn are beneficial for both teachers and students and works well for children without ACE's but still suffer with high anxiety and stress.

The Cross-County Underage Drinking prevention project was created because students from other counties travel into shore communities to celebrate after proms and graduations. Because of this, we have collaborated with members of Southwest Council (Salem, Gloucester and Cumberland) and Cape Assist (Cape May) on creating prevention projects to focus on these special events. One of the projects we worked on were flyers to be posted in high school bathrooms throughout the five counties. The flyers are text message conversations relating to different dangers of underage drinking and bad decision making (ex. delay/loss of license; car crashes; teen pregnancy; sexually transmitted infections (STI's); and alcohol poisoning). We wanted to communicate a positive message as well, so we did one flyer of a conversation of friends meeting to go to the beach to show that not drinking helps you make better decisions and helps you have a better time with friends. Laurie read through the conversations, showed the group what they looked like and had them available for anyone to view more closely.

Another part of the campaign is a handheld information card that we will provide to schools to hand out with prom tickets. We are also going to provide informational rack cards to tuxedo, dress and flower shops to be given to students and parents as they pick up their prom essentials. We have done this type of campaign in the past and most of the shops in Atlantic County will participate. If anyone is interested in helping distribute these materials, please let Laurie know. This will be included in the Thursday email and in order to track what businesses were done and to avoid duplication, we will use a Google spreadsheet.

Stand Up and Rebel (SUAR):

Carlo updated everyone on SUAR, our student coalition. We currently have active groups at Oakcrest, Egg Harbor Township and Buena high schools. Carlo and Amanda from APR recently took six high school students from Egg Harbor Township HS with them to attend the four-day CADCA training in February. The students attended leadership trainings and public health workshops, mainly focusing on tobacco prevention and vaping because that is what they mostly work on in their schools and is the focus of the IncorruptibleUs campaign. They also participated in Capitol Hill Day where they met with Congressman Jeff Van Drew and some of Senator Menendez's staffers. They explained to them all the different work they have been/are doing and thanked them for voting to fund our programs. This was a great experience for the students, and they were excited to come back and share their experiences with other youth.

This month they will be participating in Take Down Tobacco Day which was formerly known as Kick Butts Day. The name was changed since the focus is no longer just on cigarette butts but now also includes electronic cigarettes and vaping devices. Right before Super Bowl, students from our Egg Harbor Township SUAR group participated in Sticker Shock. The students placed bright orange stickers on large packages of beer at Joe Canal's liquor stores in Egg Harbor Township to inform buyers of fines and penalties for providing alcohol to underage persons. CBS 3 Philly came out and did a segment about the project which aired on the news later that night. We also had a reporter from the Press of Atlantic City come out to our February SUAR meeting and do a front-page article on February 12th about vaping and included the prevention efforts of our youth.

Jake gave a shout out to Judy Venafro at Buena High School for all the work she has done over the years. She has been a pioneer with getting students involved and implementing different school programs. Carlo was a Rebel student of Judy's and now works with and mentors SUAR students himself, it is amazing to see her work come full circle and continue.

Opioid Task Force:

Naloxone Training – Urban Treatment is still doing monthly trainings at Stockton's ETTC building on Jimmie Leeds Road, the schedule is available on our website for anyone that is interested. They are available to come out and do group trainings for organizations as well. In accordance with the Gambling Commission mandate, security staff in all of the casinos have completed their Narcan trainings. The Atlantic County Alliance provided the training and initial doses of Narcan, the casinos are responsible for replacing the Narcan when needed.

Hope One/AC LEAD – Susan Long and Undersheriff Richard Komar reported, to date Hope One has linked 660 people to treatment. They have a new van which will be ready soon. An event will be held in April with the new vehicle, no date or time has been set yet but will be sent out to the group when it has been decided. They received another federal grant under Helping Hands and hired two new part time employees (case manager and director). They are starting night outreach next week (Mon and Weds nights from 5-9 p.m.) starting at the Pleasantville bus terminal and all are welcomed to come out. They are also hoping to add some Saturday events. This additional grant will help cover the new employees and any overtime for officers to go out to the night and Saturday events as well. They have been trying to coordinate an event with Judge Nehmad from Egg Harbor Township Court to go out one night and have Hope One available for court clients looking to get connected with treatment. They try to do events all over the county, but when they are selecting locations to go, they look at where the majority of drug arrests and overdoses occur in the county and pick places as close to them as possible to increase their impact. They will be working in conjunction with Angels in Motion for a pasta dinner fundraiser on June 26th from 6-9 p.m. at St. James Hall in Ventnor (Newport and Atlantic Ave). This fundraiser will help individuals who are in sober living with transportation costs to get to and from treatment. Susan will send the flyer to Laurie to include in the Thursday email for anyone who is interested. The AC Lead program currently has 6 clients and recently had one graduate.

National RX & Heroin Summit – National RX Drug Abuse and Heroin Summit is Monday, April 13th through Thursday, April 16th in Nashville. Laurie, Kathy McFadden (Associate Director, APR), Chief Bruce DeShields (Prosecutor's Office) and Jen Pielhau (Atlantic County Municipal Alliance) will be attending. Laurie attended this summit last year and it is a great experience with a lot of information.

Summer Outreach – JTAC has been doing pharmacy outreach each summer to go over proper drug disposal and let pharmacists know where permanent prescription drop boxes are located. We ask them to post flyers to advertise our free locking medicine cabinets and provide the smaller pharmacies with cases of Deterra to give out to patients. In addition to pharmacies, we do a similar summer outreach to physicians, veterinaries and hospice agencies. If anyone is interested in participating in any of our summer outreaches, please let us know.

Charlie's Law – Before Governor Chris Christie left office, he mandated that all physicians who prescribe opioids must have a conversation with patients about opioids being addictive and pharmacies were required to provide information on local drop box locations. We have placed 12 of the 18 boxes in the county. Last week, a Deterra rep came into our office and met with Laurie, Brian and Amber and

informed them about Charlie's Law and showed them their new start up kits for pharmacies. Charlie's Law will go into effect in April and takes the requirements put in place by Gov. Christie one step further. The new law requires that pharmacies provide patients being prescribed any controlled dangerous substance (CDS), written information on the dangers of unsafe medication disposal, proper disposal methods and also an onsite disposal method (drop box or deactivation products). A lot of the bigger pharmacies (Walgreens, CVS, etc.) have started to install their own drop boxes but smaller family pharmacies have had difficulty getting answers on the disposal and licenses needed to do this so most will have to have deactivation products available for free or for purchase. Verde Technologies, makers of Detera, have created a counter-top display box for pharmacies to purchase, the displays will hold Detera and an informational brochure. If any member sees our Detera (which we distribute at no-cost) being sold at a pharmacy, please let Laurie know immediately. This law also requires that hospice workers provide the same written information as pharmacies and have deactivation products available. Another portion of the bill allows hospice nurses to properly dispose of any unused medication when a patient passes away. Hospice agencies already reach out to us regularly for Detera.

Opioid Labeling Bill – Assemb. Armato informed the group the Opioid Labeling Bill went into effect March 1st, any opioid prescription must have secondary label (red with black writing) identifying the medication as an opioid and stating that it may be addictive and/or may cause overdose. This bill took 18 months to enact and came about because based on interactions with people, it was realized that many people didn't know which prescriptions were opioids. This bill is just another example that we are making things happen and making a difference every day.

Jake Straughn asked about the free Narcan distribution day at pharmacies that was held last year. The event will happen this April again, a specific date is not available at this time.

Andrea Mazzini from Emergent BioSolutions, makers of Narcan, was present at the OTF meeting and answered questions the members had and discussed rates available to public agencies.

Interventions/Updates:

Stockton Service-Learning Class – Originally, this class was only offered during the spring semester and would have about 20-25 students. When we started offering it in the spring and fall the number of students dropped to about 15. We are now back up to 25-30 (26 now) every spring and fall. Laurie and Brian go into the class once a week and meet with students. The students are split into about 5 groups and work on different projects for the coalition. The projects this semester are: the Stranger's Project (collect stories on addiction), Above the Influence social media site management (Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat), StoryCorps (interview people affected by addiction which is uploaded to our website and Library of Congress site), prom presentations on underage drinking for parent groups (making new parent info cards, a radio PSA and a power point), youth summit peer pressure presentation (done 6 times to 250 high school students), and a group working on a presentation for realtors (open house medication removal, company policy, power point, YouTube video).

April 7th Youth Summit – Being held on April 7th at Stockton, 8 Atlantic County high schools, roughly 250 high school students, will be in attendance. With everything going on with the Coronavirus, Laurie thinks 1 of 3 things will happen though, either Stockton will be closed, high school field trips will be cancelled or all schools will be closed. If this happens, the service learning students will do online work to finish their projects and presentations and will give us instructions on how to offer it or they suggested they could record their presentations and we could send the videos out to all high schools to use in health classes. We have started preparing for any issues that may arise in the coming months.

Permanent Prescription Drop Box Trays – There are now magnetic file bins available to be placed on the side of the permanent prescription drop boxes to hold Deterra. They will help stop people from disposing of liquids in the drop boxes. Egg Harbor Township Police Department got theirs and it has been installed. All police departments have been notified that they can get the trays and a case of Deterra to go with it.

Tobacco Update:

Numerous grants, some just for Atlantic County and some regional.

Working Well Tobacco Free – This initiative is for businesses, housing developments and/or housing authorities who are interested in developing/changing smoke free/tobacco free policies. They have been very successful signing on new clients and stipends are available for any new sign-ons (including non-profits). They are currently working with John Brooks Recovery Center (JBRC) on opening their new Mays Landing location as tobacco free. If interested, contact Carlo and he will get you in touch with Ashley at APR who handles the regional grant (Burlington County-south).

Atlantic Quit Center – The quit center is currently running a closed group at recovery court and two closed groups (men/women) at JBRC. They are doing another group at New Jersey Manufacturers Insurance Company in Hammonton for employees to attend on their lunch break. This type of group runs for about 6 weeks and lunch is provided to the participants. They are hoping to start an outpatient group at JBRC soon and are currently hosting open groups at AtlantiCare Life Center in Egg Harbor Township twice a month and continue to offer individual counseling as well. Counseling and Nicotine Replacement Therapy (patch, gum, lozenges, medications, etc.) are free and are available for clients or staff. If you know anyone who would be interested, the contact number is (609) 804-QUIT or you can contact APR directly. Carlo has brochures available, if anyone would like them to give out to their clients/staff.

Youth Tobacco Action Groups/Incorruptible Us – Carlo handles Burlington County-south for the statewide IncorruptibleUs youth campaign. IncorruptibleUs and our Atlantic County Stand Up And Rebel group are working together for a Take Down Tobacco Day event. On March 18th, Take Down Tobacco Day, our youth will be doing a power wall event at Buena Regional High School. A power wall are the big displays that you see at retailers (Wawa, etc.) advertising tobacco products. The youth are going to be putting why they take down tobacco on their power wall and will be posting pictures on social media. The Instagram pages are @incorruptible.us (statewide page) and @incorruptible.atlantic (county page).

New Business:

March 16th Opioid Town Hall – We are co-sponsoring an Opioid Town Hall with Shore Medical Center and The Current newspaper on Monday, March 16 at 7 p.m. at Greate Bay Country Club. Everyone is welcome to attend; registration is requested but not mandatory. We have about 40-50 people already registered. There will be one or two tables available for 1-2 brochures for agencies to provide community resources, so if you cannot attend but would like to provide some brochures, let Laurie know and she can get them from you and put them on one of the tables. Jake recently attended a cardiology event that was sponsored by Shore Medical Center at Greate Bay and said it was well attended. We are partnering with them for another event in May for athletes, concussions and pain management for injuries.

Middle School PSA Contest – JTAC will be running their 3rd annual Middle School PSA contest. Middle schoolers (6th, 7th and 8th graders) in Atlantic County will be asked to come up with and design a message to parents from youth about the dangers of providing alcohol to those under 21. Details about the contest will be emailed out to schools this week and Laurie will include it with the Thursday JTAC email. Once we have the entries narrowed down to about 6-8 entries, Laurie will email them out to JTAC members to vote on the winner. The winning submission will have their artwork turned into a billboard in Atlantic County. The billboard for the first year's winner was up for an extended period (over a year) because no one purchased the billboard to replace it. We selected a different billboard this year with the hope that that will happen again.

Jeopardy Presentations – Starting on Monday, we will be going to different high schools in Atlantic County with the peer educators from Stockton to do Jeopardy presentations for health classes. The peer educators created this presentation which includes the following topics, marijuana, tobacco and vaping, alcohol, opioids, and resources in the community. The health classes will be split up into teams and they will do a Jeopardy-like question and answer segment and will be given a detailed explanation for the answers. Over the next couple of weeks, we will be doing this presentation at Buena, EHT and Mainland high schools and it will also be done at the April 7th Youth Summit. We did this at Absegami in the fall and it was previously done at Buena, but this will be the first time it is being done at EHT and Mainland.

Buena & Oakcrest Pre-Prom Parent Events – Buena High School requires that any student attending prom must have their parent come out to a morning or afternoon session on March 19th. There will be presentations on vaping, opioids, marijuana, underage drinking, current trends, etc. This will also be the third year in a row that Oakcrest will be having a pre-prom presentation as well. Oakcrest's pre-prom event is voluntary and our first year we only had about 15 parents in attendance. Last year we jumped up to about 30 parents, so we are hoping this increases to 45-50 parents this year. Last year we had Tim McMahon from the DEA do a Hidden in Plain Sight presentation and we are hoping to have him do that again this year. This event takes place at Oakcrest but is offered to all the Greater Egg Harbor School District high schools which includes Absegami and Cedar Creek. The tentative date for this event is April 30th but has not been confirmed yet.

TIPS Trainings – This is a training for all bartenders and restaurant servers who serve alcohol and would normally cost \$40 per person, but we do this training for free under our grants. This is a great community effort because the restaurant and/or bar offering the location will usually provide lunch/dinner to the attendees and it is opened to any other bars/restaurants in the county to attend. We just did two sessions at the Windjammer in Somers Point and we had some attendees from Gregory's (Somers Point) and Vinyl Brewing (Hammonton) come too. Windjammer gave a donation to the coalition for the training. After Mother's Day, we will be doing a training at Smithville Inn and another one at Windjammer in June for their summer employees.

Upcoming Events/Announcements/Information:

March 19th Eliminate Tobacco Use Northeast Summit in Long Branch, registration is still open, there is a cost for the event.

April 30th Peer Recovery Summit, Atlantic City – Free event in Atlantic City for peer recovery specialists more information and registration is on NJPN.org.

May 1st NJPN Conference, Atlantic City – Friday, May 1st at Atlantic City Convention Center, cost is \$100 until March 15th, price then increases to \$125 and will be \$150 the day of. Breakfast and lunch are included and scholarships may be provided by some municipal alliances, highway traffic safety, coalitions or other organizations.

On Saturday, April 14th Judge Moss from the gambling diversion court in Reno will be doing a free seminar at the New Jersey Lawyers Association that will include a free breakfast. To register, email Ken and if coronavirus prevents in-person conference she will be available by video.

March 18th Ken will be at Stockton campus in Manahawkin talking about seniors and gambling.

PITCH support group for counselors on Thursday nights 8:30 p.m. hosted by Ken Litwak basement of Enlightened Solutions Odessa Ave in Galloway, no fee, no RSVP.

Southern New Jersey Perinatal is currently has some availability in their addiction program, Project Embrace which is a maternal wrap around program for any pregnant women in the southern counties who currently have or previously have suffered from opioid use disorder. The women will be linked up with a peer recovery specialist and case manager throughout their pregnancy and after baby is born. They are also always available to go out to organizations and do trainings on substance use and pregnancy. On May 6th, they will be hosting an event at the Camden County Boathouse on highlighting complexities in mental health and addiction. CEU's will be offered, early registration fee ends April 1st and registration can be done at SNJPC.org.

On May 2nd from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Cape-Atlantic Integrated Network for Kids (INK) is hosting a children's mental health awareness day in Cape May Court House at Crest Haven. This event was being hosted by the Cape May County Special Services School District and any questions or requests for tabling should be sent to John Roy at jroy@capeatlanticink.org.

On Thursday from 12-3:30 p.m., RCA at Lighthouse in Mays Landing will be hosting free continuing education training session, by Trish Caldwell on co-occurring disorders. Flyers are available for anyone who is interested.

On Thursday from 12-3:30 p.m., VOA will be having a hiring event at their office at 26 S. Pennsylvania Ave, Atlantic City. This event is being hosted by Bally's, Caesars and Harrahs and they will be doing on the spot hiring.

Charlie Kerley is now working with Stockton's Recovery Housing grant, they are looking for students interested in a sober college lifestyle, if anyone is working with someone, reach out to them.

NJ National Guard does different mapping and data sets to provide visualizations so if you have any new data you need put into maps, please let them know.

Truetox Labs is a drug testing lab that works with substance use centers all over NJ and NY. They just developed the newest method to test for K2 and are the only lab that has same model as the DEA. This pilot program is being rolled out in Trenton in the next week or so.

Gabrialie Taylor reported JBRC is still full steam ahead on their Mays Landing location and it will hopefully be opened in early May. They have a recovery house in Galloway and are starting a new

Patient and Family Center Care (PFCC) initiative throughout organization to promote family education and events. They are working with JFS to keep clients engaged and currently have availability in their IOP and outpatient drug free programs. If anyone interested or has a referral, they have cards available. Marie Valerius-Hyancinthe was introduced to the group, she is the new clinical supervisor for intensive outpatient program. They have been working with the Atlantic Quit Center and their clients are definitely interested in the program. They have been setting up sessions for clients and working with the quit center on creating an employee policy to move smoking area away from building as well.

Bill requiring higher education institutions do early detection for mental health on campuses to help lower the spike in suicides. During freshman orientation students will be given information about a website, app and social media relating to this and posts on these sites will be increased during key stress point times like mid-terms and finals. Institutions will be partnering with outside institutions to get students immediate help. This will give students the ability to go through health committee. Cost is main issue with it right now, but they are working on that and John will keep us abreast of what is happening with this bill. Jake believes that a similar bill for high schoolers was pocket vetoed so either Kathryn or him will get that bill number for John to investigate it.

If anyone has any ideas for new bills, please reach out to Assemblyman John Armato's office.

NJ lobbyist spent 2 million last year getting marijuana legalized and are projected to spend another 10 million in next 7 months. This is a lot of money, about 25 million was spent to get casinos in Atlantic City so were getting close to that. There was an article about this in Philadelphia Inquirer yesterday that Bob will send to Laurie to share.

On January 2nd, a new federal law was passed banning the sale of cartridge based flavored products. As of April 20th, a New Jersey law will go into effect which is stronger than the federal law and bans all flavored products. The national law is for cartridge based/pre-filed products only, but the NJ law includes disposables such as puff bars as well.

Adolescent treatment in county/state is in bad shape, there are no rehabs or IOP's for adolescents in southern NJ since Day Top closed and outpatient is only available for level one. Legacy is still operating and doing evaluations once a week, but this is only individualized counseling with no groups available. Amethyst is now out of situation in all three locations now because they don't have any drug staff to do drug evaluations or drug counseling. Out-of-County programs - Williamstown Center for family is still operating, Family Matters in Villas (Drive program) is still available if adolescent can get to Ocean City, they can get transportation 3x's a week to their IOP program.

Family Empowerment (609-573-5260) in Galloway is expanding to participate in adolescent treatment and will be doing evaluations and individualized once a week counseling. They will take Medicaid and do educational groups, but they are not covered by insurance. They are also open on weekends.

Next meeting: May 12, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. (virtual if necessary)

Motion to adjourn meeting 1st Jake Straughn 2nd Melissa Rodriguez, Meeting Adjourned