

Join Together Atlantic County

November 9, 2015
New Day Family Success Center
622-624 New York Road
Galloway, NJ 08205

Attendance/Sectors & Agencies Represented:

Youth:

Parents: Tracy Smith

Law Enforcement:

Govt Agency: Charlie Kerley (Atlantic County Govern), George Dannenhauer (TRY-IT), Mary Olah- Zollner (JISP)

School: Brittany Sheridan (EHT HS Teen Center)

Youth Service Org: Jake Straughn (TRY-IT), Kathryn Saxton-Granato (Children's Inter-agency Cor. Council)

Healthcare:

Religious/Fraternal Org.:

Business: Michael DiMarco (Behavioral Crossroads)

Media:

Civic/Volunteer: John Livezey (Brigantine Municipal Alliance)

Other Org.: Anna DeAngelis (Covenant House), Dawn Belamarich (Family Service Assoc), Tyler Hurst (Footprints Recovery)

Staff: Laurie Smith, Bob Zlotnick, Brian Wilson

Guest/Other:

Introductions/Sign In, Reviews Minutes

Minutes were reviewed from the previous meeting. Motion to approve minutes- 1st Kathryn Saxton-Granato, 2nd Michael DiMarco.

Internal Coalition Business:

PRIDE surveys: Atlantic County middle schools are working on the PRIDE Survey, a few schools still have not responded, Absecon and Hammonton cannot participate due to staffing issues. We are planning on having them completed by the schools and back to us by Thanksgiving, results by the end of the year.

CADCA Leadership Forum - The 26th Annual National Leadership Forum will take place from February 1st through the 4th in National Harbor, MD. This is a four day training with many different workshops. JTAC will also be receiving recognition/graduation from the CADCA Academy which was a three separate week training that Laurie attended throughout the year. Any coalition member interested in attending this event should contact Laurie for further details.

Media/Marketing Committee - Promotional items: We purchased the agreed upon items that were voted on at from the last meeting. Included are the USB adopters, ice scrapers, media shelves, and pens. These items were distributed to all members in attendance. Additionally we order six inch black lights along with a black light/laser pens for people who serve alcohol. We also ordered JTAC sharpened pencils that are being used by the middle schools that are participating in the PRIDE Survey. We also ordered bags for our youth group (SUAR) and the remainder of the bags will be used at our April youth summit at Stockton.

Movie theater advertising- currently there are two organizations/companies that oversee advertisement in movie theaters throughout the country. These advertisements are shown prior to the main movie. We would like to have our PSA shown before all movies. The PSA that we are considering on using can be found on our website and deals with prescription drugs. The PSA was shown to at JTAC meeting. We have received quotes from both companies. In addition to this we received quotes for having the current PSA changed/updated for this specific 30 second advertisement and would cost us roughly five hundred dollars. This PSA would show prior to every movie k and the specific theaters that we decide on. Some concern has been raised as to whether or not to show it before children's movies. Member's agreed that PG and above would be appropriate. Many members agree that this is a terrific opportunity for us to educate people and to get our name out there. One suggestions was to also look into PSA that deal with alcohol/marijuana not just prescription drugs, especially for younger movies. Another suggestion was to have a local psa contest with high school students and try to get theater to give reduced cost because it will generate more business. It was stated that this idea may be better for a statewide project.

JTAC Logos - A Stockton has created five different logos for us. These samples were passed around for members to look at and give feedback. However one member suggested that the logos are extremely busy. Some specific changes were recommended and we will work on having them changed for further review.

Intervention updates:

Never Alone Youth Meeting – This is a group for high school students to meet and have a discussion for an hour followed by an activity for an hour. The group is open for anyone who is experiencing stress, relationship issue, substance abuse problems and/or any other topic the group feels is relevant. The group meets every Wednesday 6:00- 8:00pm at Hope All Day Recovery Center in Egg Harbor City. The first few weeks have been very successful having anywhere from fifteen to twenty youth. Some of the activities have included bonfires, pumpkin painting, and education activities. Students from Absegami HS, Cedar Creek HS and other programs throughout the area attended. Lighthouse Recovery is bringing students each week to participate in this group. JTAC members are encouraged to participate by volunteering on a Wednesday night. A signup sheet was passed around for members. Also if anyone knows of any young speakers that would be willing to come out please let Laurie know.

TIPS Training - TIPS training is a beverage server training, to educate and train responsible service, sale and consumption of alcohol. We have three trainings currently scheduled.

-TIPS off Premise for sale of packaged goods

Thursday, November 12th from 1:00pm to 4:00pm at the Ocean City Library

-TIPS on Premise for alcohol servers

Monday, December 14th, 10:00am to 4:00pm at Stockton University Meeting room 5

-TIPS off Premise for sale of package goods

Tuesday, January 5th, 9:00am to 12:00pm at Ocean City Library

Linking youth to services workgroup – There is a lack of youth getting drug/alcohol and mental health services throughout the state even though services are available. A subcommittee was created to address the issues underlying this topic. The meeting will be held on Monday, November 16th 2:30pm at APR in Absecon. Eventually we would like to open this group up to other professionals in this field. One of the main things we would like to work on is gathering the data/statistic on this issue.

Prescription drop boxes – As you know we have purchased six permanent prescription drop boxes through the Partnership for a Drug Free New Jersey and American Medicine Chest Challenge. So far we have successfully placed three of these boxes throughout Atlantic County. The boxes are located at Buena Vista Twp. City Hall, Egg Harbor City Police Department and Mullica Twp. Police Department. We are currently working with Galloway and Pleasantville Police Departments. These two departments have submitted their paperwork to the DEA and are waiting for waiver of approval. We believe these boxes should be placed by year end. We have three boxes in storage and have recently purchased two additional boxes.

Locking Medicine cabinets – We recently ordered an additional three hundred boxes medicine lock boxes and have promised Stockton University one hundred of them. Bob Zlotnick showed a sample box installed into a medicine cabinet. The boxes can also be installed in a closet or bathroom vanity. These boxes have been handed out at many different events free of charge to the citizens of Atlantic County. This is a safe way to lock up and secure any medication in your household.

Policies – Nuisance abatement and private property ordinances will be concentrated on again in the new year. Several towns have shown interest.

Opiate Task Force -Laurie met with Atlantic County Prosecutor Jim McClain about the epidemic that we are currently facing in Atlantic County and throughout our State. Prosecutor McClain and his office will be participating in the opiate task force that JTAC will be coordinating. We have had different events shedding light on the issue of prescription drugs and heroin abuse and now it's our goal to offer solutions. The first meeting will be Friday 12/3 3- 5pm at the Atlantic County Prosecutor's office. Laurie is reaching out to specific sectors asking them to send a representative and later meetings will be open to more community members. If anyone on the coalition has something they would like announced or brought up at this meeting please let Laurie know.

2015 Board "Walk" for Recovery -This year's Board "Walk" for recovery mirrored are first years walk with about eighty walkers. After the walk portion was completed the sober beach picnic took place. However the weather was working against us which ultimately turned a lot of people away. Many of the larger groups that signed up and sponsored the event did not show up. We were however able to cover all expenses thanks to our sponsors. We asked if there are any suggestions or ideas for next year.

-Move the event to the Spring and don't market it as a walk. Instead this would be a rally for prevention/treatment followed by a walk. There is too much competition in September and many people participate in many different walks in the fall.

-Another suggestion was to participate in the Philadelphia Recovery Walk and have our own little separate celebration before or after.

-Maybe team up with Hope all day and have the event there.

One thing for certain is that we need to plan further in advance. We will start a committee to handle this before the holidays.

SUAR Update-This is the youth group that meets once a month. Currently they are working on preparing for great American smoke-out which will be on November 19th 2015. They will be reading tobacco scholastic books to youth and placing hundreds of pin wheels out front of the school to represent the amount of people who lose their life to tobacco related illnesses ever second.

New Business:

Look See Check ID – We were giving these brochures to handout to local store that sell tobacco. Members were asked to hand these out in their travels.

Middle School Prevention – At the freeholder's meeting and several other recent presentations Laurie has been asked what the coalition is currently doing in middle schools. Laurie asked the members if anyone has any ideas of projects that are geared more toward middle school aged youth and their parents or if they think of any interventions that we can do to engage this specific group.

JTAC Meetings- there was a suggestion to move the meetings to a different time ort switching them at night so more school people can attend

Upcoming Events/Announcements/Information:

NJPN Coalition Database- a database has been created for coalitions, any health/wellness coalition can go on NJPN website and register their coalition for the public to view

Be the One NJ Mobile APP – This is an app that NJPN has created to help coalitions identify problems in their designated areas. This app will use photo voice allowing user to capture different issues throughout the community as they see them. The coalitions will then be notified of the issue so that they can help resolve.

John Brooks Recovery Center residential will be closing on or around April 2016. Funding did not come through for their new residential facility.

Dual Recovery group – open to anyone living with mental health challenges along with addiction. Every Wednesday night from 6:00pm to 7:00pm at Hope All Day Recovery Center.

Patrick Kennedy will be speaking out at Stockton University on November 18th

Partnership for a Drug Free New Jersey breakfast meeting for families affected by opiate abuse will be on November 20th 9:30am-11:30am at Marriott Teaneck at Glenn pointe 100 frank W. Burr Blvd. Teaneck NJ.

Atlantic County Naloxone trainings have been extended into December. For further information you can contact Charlie Kerley at the County or John Brooks Recovery Center.

Kathryn informed the group the Children's System of Care will be doing a needs assessment survey in January.

Behavioral Crossroads is about to open Black Horse Acres in Monroe Twp, a sober living component of their already existing programs.

Dawn and Jake gave information on the high school teen centers. ACIT is trying to find funding to start a teen center, Jake said there is one in Hammonton in the basement of the county building, does not get many youth.

Footprint to Recovery open house November 15th from 2:00pm to 5:00pm 3535 Quaker bridge Rd, Ste 300, Hamilton, New Jersey 08619

Tracy reminded the group of the Lighthouse Family Program and announced that Recovery Centers of America is purchasing Lighthouse. There is also a family recovery meeting at the recovery center two days per month.

Next Meeting: Monday January 11th, 11:00am – 1:00pm

Motion to Adjourn the meeting- 1st Dawn Belamarich, 2nd Jake Straughn