



## Join Together Atlantic County

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

Northfield, NJ 08225

January 8, 2018

11:00am – 1:00pm

### Attendance/Sectors & Agencies Represented:

Youth:

Parents:

Law Enforcement:

Govt Agency: Charlies Kerley (Atl Co. Alliance), John Armato (Assemblyman)

School: Michael Levin (Stockton University)

Youth Service Org: Brittany Sheridan (FSA, EHTHS Teen Center), George Dannenhauer (Atl. Cnty TRYIT), Katie Gallagher (SNJPC), Kathryn Saxton-Granato (CIACC)

Healthcare: Lisa Celebre (AtlantiCare), Dylan Wulderk (AtlantiCare)

Religious/Fraternal Org.:

Business: Alyssa Fountain (RCA Lighthouse)

Media:

Civic/Volunteer: Liz Alexander (AmeriCorps VISTA)

Other Org.: Nick Geissler (Surfside Recovery Services), Sean Kolins (Seabrook),

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

Guest/Other: Rhonda Fitzgerald (Community Member), Ken Litwak (800Gambler), Christine Sengco (APR Intern)

**Introductions/Sign-in, Ice Breaker, Review Minutes:**

Alyssa opened the meeting with an icebreaker to introduce yourself and tell everyone your favorite quote.

Minutes were reviewed from the previous meeting. Motion to approve minute 1<sup>st</sup> Rhonda Fitzgerald 2<sup>nd</sup> Charlie Kerley

**Internal Coalition Business:**

DCF Grant- the FOA will be released any day, we are in the fifth year of our first five years and will be applying for the next five years, the grant is for a total of ten years (a new FOA after the first five). Bob mentioned there will be some forms that need to be signed by individual sectors that will be emailed. We just need one person from each sector, to actually fill out the coalition involvement agreement.

AmeriCorps- Liz is our AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer for the year. Laurie and Stockton University reapplied for the grant, for next year and we already had a meeting with the New Jersey Campus Compact, to develop out next year's Vista Assignment Description. We will be getting the grant again, as long as there is funding and there are no changes with the state.

STOP ACT- Kathy McFadden did a presentation at the county SAC meeting on underage drinking and also one at a parent meeting in Pleasantville, we have completed, five out of the ten youth meetings that are required under the Stop Act grant. A town hall meeting is being planned.

CARA- We are currently applying for this grant regarding opiates, it is specific for those who currently have or have had a DFC grant. A Rutgers intern is helping research data for the grant and we will be discussing projects with the Opioid Task Force.

Opiate Athlete- The state sent us an award letter for the project. It's a small project and it is going to begin February 1<sup>st</sup>. It is to work with youth athletic programs including high school sports, but also municipal sport associations and recreational sports. The first year is around \$19,000 and then it goes down to like \$12,000 a year. The focus of the grant is community awareness, we're working with NJPN on a toolkit.

Meeting dates- Assemblyman Armato who regularly attends JTAC meetings, cannot attend on Monday's. Laurie sent out a poll and nearly everyone agreed either Monday or Tuesday will work. So from now on the meetings will be every other month, the second Tuesday. The next meeting will be March 13<sup>th</sup>. Laurie will send a list with the 2018 meeting dates.

CADCA National Leadership Forum- Sean Kolins, Christina Smith, and Laurie are all attending. They will present information about the event at the March meeting.

PRIDE Survey- The pride survey was completed the day before the holiday break. There was some delay in shipping them back, but they will be sent out next week. It takes a few weeks to process them. Out of the 20 school districts, 13 participated in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade survey, 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>

grade was completed in the spring that data is already posted on the JTAC website. We do not distribute the individual school data that information goes directly to the school, the county-wide reports are posted on the website. Every 2 years, in the spring the survey will be conducted in high schools and in the fall, middle schools.

**Committee/Work Group Updates:**

Stand Up and Rebel- Currently have school groups in Buena Regional HS, EHT HS, Oakcrest HS and Mainland HS (new group). There is a Vaping- Stomp Out Smoking Campaign taking place in the schools. The youth participated in the Gilda's Club-Holiday Party. The youth participated in two sticker shocks in December at locations in Egg Harbor City and Somers Point This month the students are focusing on underage drinking in collaboration with the STOP ACT grant. SUAR received a mini-grant from Southern Jersey Perinatal Cooperative to create a vaping campaign.

Neither the **Marketing/Media Committee** nor the **Sustainability/Fundraising Committee** have met since October. Both committees will be holding meetings in the spring and most of the work will be done via email.

**Opiate Task Force:**

Next meeting is January 18<sup>th</sup>. Captain Deshields reported all law enforcement agencies in Atlantic County are carrying naloxone in their patrol cars. Since the program has begun there have been multiple reversals, unfortunately, the majority of them used multiple doses and they refused medical treatment. Charlie Kerley said as of last week there are 12 high schools throughout the county who have been trained, have Narcan, and a school policy. Hopefully the trainings with Stockton will continue, he is also in the process of setting up other trainings throughout the county. It seems there are less people attending trainings, Rutgers has also done a few trainings in the county. The faith based Naloxone training will be held March 14<sup>th</sup>. ACCC's security does not carry naloxone, but it's something the task force is going to discuss. Assemblyman Mazzeo had a bill, to give the control to the medical director as opposed to state government having control over who can give it and how much they can dispense. If Chris Christie doesn't sign it technically the process will have to start again. Assemblymen Armato and Mazzeo have been working on NJ adapting a policy for someone to be transported to the hospital after the administering of Narcan instead of being able to refuse medical treatment.

Nursing Symposium- We did 2 physician symposiums with the Partnership for a Drug Free NJ. AtlantiCare and Seabrook. We have had a lot of interest from nurses who would like training. There is a planning meeting later this week with AtlantiCare and Seabrook to have a nursing symposium on opiates. It will be for any nurses: school nurses, hospital nurses, physician office nurses etc. There will be accreditation through Atlanticare. Looking into May because of National Nursing week.

**Interventions/Updates:**

Faith Based- Meeting on January 10<sup>th</sup>. We were unable to get the physicians to present due to scheduling conflicts but Matt Piskun the Director of the Pharmacy from Shore Medical Center is



going to be speaking to the group. We're still getting a small group attending the meetings, a full mailing will be sent to all the faith based organizations within the county for the March Narcan training. If anyone has any faith based contacts, please invite them to the meetings. Kathy suggested the interns put together an email list if they are available on faith based organization websites.

Deterra- a drug disposal deactivation bag that is biodegradable to safely dispose of medications. We recently placed another order for 2500. Captain Deshields, Assemblyman Armato and JTAC staff will be visiting the high rises in Atlantic City on Wednesday to dispose of medications the seniors have and demonstrate and distribute Deterra bags to the residents. Cptn. DeShields is waiting to hear back from the Housing Authority to see if they are still holding the event on Wednesday due to the recent fire at Jeffries Towers displacing residents. Assemblyman Armato had a 1,000 bags donated by Inspira Medical Center for the project.

Prescription Drop Boxes- Brian has been working with Lieutenant Weber from Linwood PD. The drop box for Linwood has been ordered and should be delivered soon. The only departments without drop boxes are Stockton, Brigantine, and Hamilton Twp.

Stockton Recovery Housing- Recovery Housing at Stockton started last semester at Stockton. It's not a very big community. As of September any college with over 30% of the students living on campus, is required to have a recovery housing program. There have been a few new students added into the community this semester. On Thursday evenings 6:00 pm J204 and Mondays @ 1:00 pm the students have S.M.A.R.T recovery group, it's based on motivational interviewing. The meetings are open, please feel free to share the information, Mike will email Laurie a flier to distribute. January 26<sup>th</sup> Stockton is hosting a Sober House party for the students to come out and support the recovery community.

Service Learning classes- Every Spring we have a service learning class that does projects for the coalition. This past fall we had the service learning class as well as a communications class.

The opiate awareness campaign group made a PSA about not misusing prescription medications, they tabled, and posted flyers across campus.

The Strangers Project continued from last year, the students tabled and had people write anonymous stories about their experience with addiction, stigma, and/or recovery. And then they displayed them outside the Wellness Center at Stockton.

Sticker Shock group, a project where students go out and put stickers on alcohol packages in local liquor stores, reminding people about the consequences of providing alcohol to people under 21.

The Youth Leadership Training group, a group of students presented to the group of high school students at our Youth Leadership Training this past fall. The group focused on Team Building and showed the youth some activities for them to bring back to their schools.

The ATI group is Above the Influence; it is a national campaign. The goal of the group was to utilize social media: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and Snapchat and post positive messages and information about substance misuse. They went around campus with a white board, and gave it to students to write what their natural high was, then they'd take a picture to post on all the different social media outlets. They increased all of our social media platforms across the board with likes and followers.

The police outreach group struggled a little bit. Initially their plan was to reach out to local police departments, find out who the community policing officer was and set up a meeting later in the semester. At the meeting they would do a power point presentation and get them familiar with JTAC and our interventions. The group ending up not following up with police departments so we changed the project, they ended up putting together an information packet with all of JTAC's interventions to give to police officers.

In all future service learning projects, students are going to be encouraged to write an article about their projects for the ARGO Stockton newspaper.

The second class we worked with was about 25 students and they did the StoryCorps Project, the stories are on the StoryCorps JTAC page. We met with the students after they finished the project. A lot of them who interviewed family had no idea what their family member experienced. Two of the students in the class were in recovery themselves and volunteered to be interviewed. It was a very successful project. We don't have the full class this semester, but there is a writing class that wants to write out the instructions for the project.

We also have another full class with the peer educators starting up for the spring semester.

Kathy suggested linking the youth coalition with Stockton students for sober events in the future and planning activities for both groups utilizing STOP ACT funding.

Marijuana Presentation Rescheduled- The event was postponed from January 4<sup>th</sup> to January 5<sup>th</sup> and then ended up being cancelled due to the weather. The speaker offered to come back in late February. As soon as the event is rescheduled information will be emailed.

Pharmacy Project- Brian and the Rutgers intern Christine are working on getting materials out to local pharmacies. The materials include rack cards, magnets, stickers, and posters, all of it includes information about prescriptions disposal and drop boxes. If anyone would like to drop off materials to their pharmacy, all the pharmacy needs to do is sign a waiver acknowledging they received the information and will distribute it to their patients.

#### **Tobacco Update:**

The Governor signed the bill to raise the age of sale of tobacco products in New Jersey to 21 years of age. This bill went into effect November 2017. We are working with the State to promote a new campaign, "Stomp Out Smoking". This will be a campaign to educate



merchants that sell tobacco products to “Sign a Pledge” that they will not sell to kids under 21. We also conducted a campaign in the schools to educate high school students about the change, and used this opportunity to educate about vaping. This took place around the Great American Smoke out (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in November). If you are interested in helping educate merchants about the new age, making sure that they are aware of the penalties for selling to underage youth and have the new signs provided by the State, please contact Kim Burns. The Tobacco funding bill was signed by the Governor. This funding would be 1% of the tobacco tax from the State of NJ. It would be approx. 6-7 million dollars. The majority of this funding will be earmarked for youth prevention and cessation. The start date will be July 2018 with the new state budget.

#### **TFHNJ:**

##### **Outdoor Recreational Ordinances**

Atlantic County has 16 municipalities with an outdoor recreational ordinance these ban smoking at recreational fields, parks beaches etc. Galloway Township ordinance has not moved forward. We will be conducting tobacco audits and merchant education in Galloway. Kim is hoping with the change in local government we can have some movement on this. Margate had a resident pushing for smoke free beaches back in the summer after Longport enacted smoke free beaches, there was some concern that people would come onto the Margate beach from Longport to smoke. We attended and presented at 3 commissioner meetings. They were not interested in moving forward at this point. Buena Borough Reached out to the Mayor and a Council member with information. No movement. Smoke-Free Multi Unit Housing -NJPN sponsored a Housing Conference to help Multi-Unit Housing that receive HUD funding to begin to go smoke-free to comply with the July 2018 deadline. Atlantic City Housing Authority has expressed interest but was not able to attend the conference. The ARC of Atlantic County-Will have to comply with the HUD ruling on some properties that receive HUD funding. We have met, this will also be a worksite wellness issue since staff has to abide by the ruling also.

Wildwood and North Wildwood ordinances went into effect January 1<sup>st</sup>, there is no smoking on the Wildwood boardwalks beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **CAB:**

The next meeting is February 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am at the Ocean City Library, this meeting is the Cape Atlantic Bridge coalition, Cape and Atlantic Counties give updates on what the coalitions are working on in each county, as well as collaboration between the two counties. Laurie will not be at this meeting so Brian will run the meeting with Kim Mounce from Cape Assist.

#### **New Business-**

DEA 360 Strategy- About a month ago Laurie was invited to a meeting announcing the 360 Strategy coming to South Jersey. South Jersey is being considered a city, they've done a few large cities with high rates of opiate use. South Jersey is in the pilot program for this year. Some of the things they will be doing is a CADCA training for both adults and youth, they will be doing an ad campaign with both TV and radio. Laurie asked the DEA if the PSA's could be used by JTAC, placing our information at the end to have the ads play at local movie theaters and other

media outlets, instead of JTAC creating something else for a media campaign. DEA said that would be allowed once the campaign is up and running, April is target date for media PSA's. As more information becomes available Laurie will forward it to members.

Youth Summit-Our annual Above the Influence youth summit for Atlantic County High Schools students will be held at Stockton on April 10<sup>th</sup>.

DOJ Marijuana- A memo came out a few days ago. Under the Obama administration the Cole memo was released saying that they were not going to go after any states that were legalizing and selling marijuana. The current attorney general, Jeff Sessions, rescinded that, saying the state attorney generals have all the rights to go after anyone who is selling large quantities of marijuana, including the states that have legalized marijuana. A discussion followed about the possible legalization of marijuana in NJ and the issues surrounding this topic.

NJ RAMP is a 501C4 organization meaning they can lobby against the legalization of marijuana. It is operated by Kevin Sabet with SAM Smart Approaches to Marijuana, and several other people here in New Jersey.

There is a clip of Kevin Sabet doing a TED talk at Princeton University and it was posted on JTAC's Facebook page for members to watch.

#### **Upcoming Events/Announcements/Information:**

Recovery Event "Empowering the Recovery Community to Impact Change"- Thursday January 11, at Mainland High School fliers were distributed.

Recovery Force of Atlantic County is hosting SAMHSA this week for a site visit, Bob and Alyssa will be attending the visit.

Alyssa Fountain Recovery Centers of America- Still have family support group on Mondays 6-8 pm at the Lighthouse in Mays Landing. It's open to the community. RAC takes Medicaid at the outpatient level, at all of the sites in NJ and they are in the middle of a big expansion at their Mays Landing location.

Sean Kolins Seabrook- They have a parent and family support group at the Northfield office the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month. It is free to attend. Next meeting is January 17<sup>th</sup>.

Lisa Celebre AtlantiCare- STEPs which is the medical stabilization for withdrawal the hospital has expanded hours for Thursday evenings. They have filled all the admissions spots. The Opioid Overdose Recovery Program for Atlantic County, started in March. They are in all the AtlantiCare emergency departments and Shore Regional Medical Center in Somers Point. They are waiting to hear about the OORP expansion grant and once that is confirmed it will allow them to operate 24/7 in all 4 of those emergency rooms in Atlantic County. They have served over 200 patients since March, they are not seeing any adolescents being brought in after



Narcan reversals. They are tracking repeat overdoses that information is requested by the state.

Nick Geisler Surfside Structured Sober Living- for men ages 18-34. They just purchased 11 acres of land, they will be setting up a young adult action adventure based campsite. Including a paint ball course, a low ropes course, and some other activities. They also just purchased another house for men to transition to from the main house. Laurie and Bob asked if the adventure camp could be utilized for outside agencies such as the JTAC summer retreat and the youth coalition, Nick will look into that and get back to the group.

Dylan Wulderk AtlantiCare Foundation- He is the Opioid Project Manager with the AtlantiCare Foundation. He will be working across the system to work on initiatives around opioids.

In Buena there is a family support group that has a very low number of attendees it was discussed at what point should the group disband due to attendance issues. Suggestions were to advertise the group in a different way since it is not a typical NarAnon group meeting. It has been advertised and the group still has not grown.

Assemblyman Armato will be hosting a summit to bring together and coordinate events throughout the county, this will be planned after his office moves in the coming weeks.

Ken Litwak from 1-800-Gambler- He is willing to do presentations if anyone is interested in having him come speak, he speaks about prevention. Usually about gambling, he is a problem gambling prevention specialist. Ken@800gambler.org

Kathy McFadden- APR is starting up 2 new Strengthening Family's Programs if anyone has families with children ages 10-14 in EHT on Tuesdays and ages 6-11 in Brigantine on Thursdays. They provide childcare, transportation, please call Kathy if you know of any families that may be interested.

Kathryn Granato-Saxton works in child behavioral health. Children, adolescents, and young adults through the Child Behavioral Health services or Children System Health services. During this time in the election cycle there is a new nominee for Department of Children and Families and Children's System of Care also has a vacancy so they are just waiting to hear on appointments from the new Governor to learn of any new initiatives.

TRY-IT Services in Atlantic County- for Youth 13-17 they have 4 locations in the County Building in Northfield on Tuesdays at 3:15. On Wednesday's at 3:30 at the Inland Family Success Center in EHT and at 3:30 at the Family Success Center in Hammonton and Fridays at the Courthouse 3:30. Program is more education prevention information in groups.

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday March 13<sup>th</sup> 2018.

Motion to adjourn the meeting – 1<sup>st</sup> Kathy McFadden 2<sup>nd</sup> Nick Geissler