



Join Together Atlantic County

Atlantic County Government Offices

101 S. Shore Rd, Shoreview Building

Northfield, NJ 08225

November 13, 2018

11:00am – 1:00pm

Attendance/Sectors & Agencies Represented:

Youth:

Parents:

Law Enforcement: Bruce DeShields (ACPO)

Govt Agency: Jennifer Pielhau (Atl. Cnty Alliance)

School: Michael Levin (Stockton University)

Youth Service Org: George Dannenhauer (Atl. Cnty TRYIT), Kathryn Saxton-Granato (CIACC), John Roy (Cape Atlantic Inc)

Healthcare: Lisa Celebre, & Dylan Wulderk (AtlantiCare), Christine Bracey & Matt Piskun (Shore Medical Center), Katie Gallager (SNJPC)

Religious/Fraternal Org.:

Business: Victoria Reigle (Helping Hands), Lindsay Dragon (Legacy Treatment Services), Kelsie Custodio (RCA), Alyssa Fountain (Summit Behavioral Health)

Media:

Civic/Volunteer: Mohammed Ullah (AmeriCorps VISTA)

Other Org.: Sean Kolins (Seabrook), Ken Litwak (800Gambler), Kathryn Gibson & Joe Faldetta (Cape Assist), Joanne Garofolo (John Brooks Recovery Center), Barbara Sorace (Private Practice)

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

Guest/Other: Rhonda Fitzgerald (Community Member)

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

Alyssa opened the meeting with all members introducing themselves. In honor of National Kindness Day, Laurie opened up the meeting by asking all coalition members to write a note saying a nice thing to someone they know, and to give that note to them at some point today.

Minutes were reviewed from the previous meeting. Motion to approve minutes 1st by Kathryn Saxton-Granato 2nd by Rhonda Fitzgerald.

Internal Coalition Business/Grant Updates:

DFC- As previously stated we did not receive the DFC grant this year. We have received the review of the grant application and had most points taken off because of the action plan. The application is due at the end of March, we will make changes based upon their recommendations however we will keep most of what was in the application the same since it is what the group had suggested throughout the years.

AmeriCorps- Laurie mentioned that we are in the third and final year of the grant. Saul who is the director of the program mentioned to Laurie that he wanted us to apply for the next round of grants since they will be dealing with specific topics such as opioids.

STOP ACT- This grant is for underage drinking prevention. We will be having mini town hall meetings, most likely at the municipality level. If anyone is interested in having a town hall meeting in their town, let Laurie know. The goal is to gear this towards prom season and graduation time.

Opiate Athlete Grant- Laurie reported that she has a toolkit that is a rough draft that she passed around at the JTAC meeting. This toolkit is from New Jersey Prevention Network (NJPN) specifically designed for coaches, athletics director, school nurses, and recreational athletic directors. There are 100 copies being printed, Laurie will have an email version of this toolkit she will email to all coalition members. Included in the toolkit are resources and facts that can be used. On December 11th, there will be a breakfast at the Mays Landing Country Club where athletic trainers, coaches, doctors, nurses, SACs and more will be invited. Kathy from APR also added in that if any coalition members personally know some coaches, athletic trainers, etc. they can pass along the information to them so they can also attend the breakfast. The grant is focused on the high school level, but recreational and college levels are also being invited as well. Partnership for a Drug Free NJ will be speaking that day and also an orthopedic doctor who works with youth athletes. Everyone in attendance will receive a toolkit.

CARA Grant- Laurie reported that they will be doing a lot of things targeting opioids. A life skills prescription drug module has been ordered that will be implemented into already existing programs. There is a possibility that the Stand Up and Rebel (SUAR) group will be presenting that at the Youth Summit as well as to other schools. Bob from APR talked about 5 minute physician visits, where volunteers will try to get a 5 minute in-person meeting with a prescriber, group of physicians, etc. to talk about non-narcotic prescribing options and information about proper drug disposal and securing of medication with one of our lockboxes. We recently had

these flyers made up with information on how to obtain one of our locking medicine cabinets that we will supply to these office to hang up for their patients.

Veterinarian offices are also being visited. If anyone would like to volunteer and assist with either of these projects we would welcome you.

Partnership for Success Grant- Laurie reported that we got an increase to 70,000 dollars. The grant started on October 1st but we are still waiting for a contract from the state. We will be doing something in conjunction with the CIACC (Children's Interagency Coordinating Council). In past years, the focus was on underage drinking, prescription medication and tobacco.

Website Updates- Brian reported that the website is constantly being updated. However the membership section has not been updated in quite some time. He asks that if you are not currently on it and would like to be added, email him your name, title, organization and website. If you are currently on it he asked that you check to make sure your information is correct and if not please email him any corrections. Brian's email address is bwilson@atlprev.org

Committee/Work Group Updates:

SUAR (Stand up and Rebel) - Bob from APR reported that SUAR has started meetings at Buena HS, Egg Harbor Township HS, Oakcrest HS, and Pleasantville HS which is a new group. In addition, there is a county group that already meet regularly. All groups are increasing in size this year and staff has worked on activities with Above the Influence in these schools. SUAR members will be presenting at the peer leadership conference in Cape May on vaping and working with the Gilda's Club holiday party. The focus for December is underage drinking.

Membership Committee- Laurie reported that they have been redoing the by-laws, there are a lot of things they we want to add to the by-laws. Laurie will email all members, asking them to participate in one of the committees or work groups. Sections in the by-laws that were spoken about to be updated were how to be a member, a member in good standing, membership removal, conflict of interest if two JTAC members organizations are competing for the same grant and want a letter of recommendation from us etc. A membership packet was also brought into discussion to be made in the future. This committee does not need to meet in person most of it can be done through email.

Marketing/Media Committee- Laurie reported that they were going to work with the Opiate Task Force on advertisements at the movie theaters which were discussed about at the last meeting. The advertisements were going to be the Truth commercials about opioids. This project is being reconstructed due to the movie theaters that the advertisements were going to be shown at (Town 16 and Tilton 9 in Egg Harbor Township) filed for bankruptcy. Another option was the Regal Movie Theater in Mays Landing, but the price to put advertisements there was a little high and also Comcast. We will be working on this in the coming months.

Sustainability/Fundraising Committee- We would like to plan a fundraiser in 2019. Laurie will email coalition members, asking them to participate. If you have any input for any of the committees please reach out and let one of us know.

Opiate Task Force: Next meeting will be at the prosecutor's office on Thursday November 15th
Naloxone Update – Bruce DeShields reported that numbers are climbing; from April 1st and June 30th, there were 192 deployments in Atlantic County alone. From January 1st to today (11/13), they are at 293 law enforcement deployments in the County which doesn't take in EMS. Through looking at all the information and statistics coming in, a lot of repeated overdoses are being reported that are being deployed, those individuals are refusing to go to the hospital or seek additional treatment. The Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office and Sheriff's Department will work together to start a program called AC Lead. This program will give individuals who have a substance use disorder and also have the potential of facing arrest on a smaller offence an option into going to treatment. Bruce also reports that the number of prescriptions for opioids have dropped. They have written almost a million less opiate prescriptions compared to the previous year. Atlantic County is ranked #1 for fentanyl submissions throughout the state, where fentanyl submissions have increased by 400%. Bruce is doing a research study with Stockton University, where they will find a focus group that will try to find a root cause of an increase of drug misuse.

Nursing Symposium- Shawn reported that the Nursing Symposium (which was hosted by AtlantiCare in collaboration with JTAC, Seabrook, Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office, NJ DEA) was held at the Tropicana on September 28th. There were around 45 attendees. Dylan reported that there was very good feedback about all the presentations from the nurses that attended.

Surgeon General's Spotlight on Opioids- Laurie passed around the Addiction in America report from the Surgeon General, which had a section highlighting opioids. Brian uploaded this to the JTAC website, on the bottom right. In the report, there were sections also for specific topics such as treatment and recovery.

Interventions/Updates:

Prescription Drop- Brian reported that nothing much has changed since the last meeting. There are 19 drop boxes in the county, the most recent one was in June which was placed in the Brigantine Police Department run by the Atlantic County Sheriff's Department. They are still pursuing Stockton University. We reached out to the new Public Safety Director but has not heard back yet. Dylan reported that AtlantiCare has placed 3 drop boxes at their pharmacies. If anyone knows of a pharmacy that has a drop box, they can email Brian so he can put those locations on the website as well. Laurie reported that Joe Bunting from Bunting Family Pharmacy is looking into adding a drop box.

Stockton Recovery Housing- Michael Levin reported that there are 4 students that are currently in the Recovery Housing Program. There are students that attend meetings but do not live at the housing specified for recovery students. They are more along the lines of building a

recovery community. There are two S.M.A.R.T Recovery group sessions a week, Michael runs a session and his student intern runs the other. People in the community are welcome to come to S.M.A.R.T meetings which are on Monday and Thursday from 6-7pm in J204 in the Wellness Center. They are currently working on getting S.M.A.R.T group counselors to run meetings next year.

Knock Out Opioid Abuse Day- This day was on October 6th. Mo recruited over 230 volunteers who gave out 3000 door hangers. Volunteers included JBRC, Bunting Family Pharmacy, local high schools, clubs and organizations at Stockton, and more.

Service Learning Classes

*Strangers Project- This is a Stigma awareness campaign where students are asking to write their thoughts on addiction. They can be positive and negative and also be done anonymously. Thoughts will be hung up and put on display in Stockton at the end of the semester next to the library. The thoughts will also be made into a book for the group to present.

*Opiate Awareness Campaign- Laurie reported that a group of students is doing this campaign on campus where they filmed a video PSA that will be able to be used in the future. They also created advertisements and flyers where they have been handing out around campus specifically focusing on opioids.

*ATI- Brian reported that this group is working on the Above the Influence Campaign which is a national campaign that focuses on spreading facts about alcohol and drugs with an emphasis on alternative activities and positive messages. This group of students is utilizing social media such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Snap Chat to reach their peers and the larger community. The group created two PSA's, one was for underage drinking and the other was drinking on college campuses. Both PSAs were submitted to the Stockton radio station which should be played soon. This group is also writing an article that will be submitted to the Stockton newspaper where they will interview the Dean of Students, Stephen Davis. The group has also been going around campus with a small white board, asking students to write what their natural high is and then take a picture of them to be posted across the different social media platforms. .

*Hotel Policies- Laurie reported that another group of service learning students are working on hotel policies. The students researched different activities where hotels can put policies into place to deter underage parties at their hotel. The students put together a list of policies that hotel can display and will be going to local hotels to speak to managers about these policies.

*StoryCorps- StoryCorps is a stigma awareness campaign. Students are interviewing now and will upload soon to the StoryCorps website with a JTAC tag. They are given the choice to interview a person in recovery, a person who lost someone to an addiction, or a family member of someone who has/had a substance use disorder. The page for StoryCorps can be found on the JTAC website.

Tobacco Update:

Bob reported that the state has put out several million dollars of funding for tobacco control and prevention. Along with NJPN APR applied three of the projects and got all of them. The grant started on October 1st. A project that is being talked about is tobacco cessation

counseling in Atlantic County for adults. This counseling will be face-to-face and can be done in groups or individually. Some of this can be carried out through skype or something similar. Several locations will be used, including the APR Absecon and Pleasantville offices and other possible locations will be the Carnegie Library in Atlantic City and a few casinos. At the moment, APR is looking for staffing, including a tobacco cessation counselor. Free nicotine replacement and therapies will be included such as the patch, gum and lozenges. This will hopefully be up and running by January 1st 2019. Another project is a work-site state wide project which is focused on workplace tobacco prevention control. Another one is focused on trying to reduce and change policies on college campuses. The final project is targeting prevention among the youth. This involves a youth leg program to educate peer leaders in schools information that can be taken to their peers. Our current CDC grant is still working with ORO's and Point of Sale and Smoke Free Housing and Workplace Wellness for tobacco. Point of Sale: EHT audits will be done, presentation for EHC to Municipal Alliance for vaping issues. Michael Levin also reported that Stockton University did get a grant for tobacco prevention, but a project has not been set or organized yet.

Cape Atlantic Bridge Coalition:

Laurie reported that the next meeting will be in February 2019. We have been updating the needs assessments for the past couple months, as well as updating logic models. Laurie passed around a sample logic model that was not approved yet by the New Jersey Prevention Network or Rutgers. A lot of the alcohol and underage drinking interventions remained the same. A responsible beverage server (or TIPS) training was added in. Property ordinances were kept in also, because some municipalities do not have those yet. An interesting topic that was discussed that would be a part of the logic model was marijuana, because of the chance it may become legal within the next year. Laurie reached out to New Jersey Prevention Network about what they should do when it comes to marijuana in their logic models, who also discussed they are thinking of what to do in the state-wide models. In the logic model, education about marijuana was added along with schools to review and enforce policies regarding vaping. Another thing that was added was an increase of municipalities that would ban the sale, production, and or growth of marijuana since towns have the power to do that within their community even if marijuana is legalized.

Information on children abuse and neglect was added. Interventions include providing training to school based resiliency teams, recognizing trauma and having tools to support students with more adverse childhood experiences that typically cause a higher chance to misuse any substance. Joe Faldetta from Cape Assist spoke more in depth about adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and explained why it is important for schools to be trained on how to use a brain-based approach to dealing with trauma. A further step in this logic model was to train law enforcement to better engage schools when a student has a traumatic experience at home. Laurie concludes that this is not finalized yet, but once it is she can provide a copy to anyone.

New Business:

Brigantine and Pleasantville have both passed an ordinance to ban recreational marijuana.

Marijuana Position Paper- To use as a resource, a position paper was created by the coalition to collectively share their thoughts on the legalization of marijuana. This paper can be used to present to anyone, giving the opinion of JTAC. Members were divided into small groups to create talking points to guide their position on the legalization of marijuana. The purpose of this paper is to state what side the coalition is on when it comes to the legalization. Laurie passed around two separate positions papers from different organizations for our coalition to look over. The two sample position papers have two completely separate positions, one for and one against. Also another handout with an activity on it was passed around. This activity had a statement on it and we all had to take a position on it. This showed the group that there would be many opinions/positions but we would have to narrow it down to what was most important. The same would have to happen with our coalition position on marijuana.

After breaking up into smaller groups and discussing our position on marijuana the group came up with many thoughts. There were 8 total statements in this paper that includes common arguments if it came to the legalization of marijuana. The 8 statements included:

1. Marijuana is illegal
2. Marijuana is harmful and addiction
3. Marijuana THC levels have increased
4. Among youth, as perception of risk decrease, use will increase
5. Use among youth and college students can affect their education
6. Drugged driving has increased in states that legalized marijuana
7. Social justice reform can be accomplished for removing criminal penalties
8. Workplace issues will increase with the legalization of marijuana

In conclusion, the group suggested that JTAC would focus on the social justice aspect of the legalization of marijuana because of the decriminalization. People who are in support of legalizing marijuana mostly because they want it decriminalized, but JTAC can focus on having a position where marijuana should still be illegal and decriminalized. Another topic that was discussed was that legalization will pull law enforcement from more important emergencies because of the increase of drugged driving and other related emergencies do to marijuana use. There will also have to be a way to find out if one is impaired because they were drugged driving.

Upcoming Events/Announcements/Information:

May 10th, 2019 New Jersey Prevention Network Conference in Atlantic City. Laurie asked for members to try to get municipal alliance funding due to no DFC grant this year.

Reconnections Family Support Center works with family members and friends who have a loved one battling an opioid use disorder. Reconnections offers various services to family and friends such as peer to peer coach, wellness plan development, education and boundary setting, positive communication tools, Narcan training, and more. This program is funded through the

state and does not require any fees. This program meets the family friends with their loved one's current path.

Ken from 800-Gambler reported that they now have a therapist they can refer for gambling treatment. A grant was given to expand their treatment funding. They are a funding sources for gambling treatment in New Jersey. Their number of providers has increased by five in the last month. 800-Gambler is looking to keep increasing that number by offering trainings. They contacted DMHAAS (Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services) agency in New Jersey about their services. Anyone who wants to go through the application process can contact Ken.

Victoria from Helping Hand reported that they are having an open house at their mental health location on November 14th in Galloway on Pitney Road. She also reported that they are doing a sneaker drive at the same location. They accept new and gently used sneakers.

Kelsie from Recovery Centers of America reported that all of their beds were licensed, bringing a total of 133 beds (53 detox and 80 residential).

Joe from Cape Assist reported that on December 6th is their annual Tree of Hope event at 6 PM. This event is celebrate hope in recovery. This event is free and food is provided. Someone in recovery comes and shares their story of hope.

Barbara Sorace reported that she is accepting referrals. She has an office in Pleasantville. She can be contacted via phone at 609-287-5468.

Alyssa from Summit Behavioral Health reported that they have a clinician who does a presentation on juuling and vaping in adolescents/teenagers. If anyone thinks they would benefit from this presentation, they can reach out to her.

Next Meeting: Tuesday January 8th, 2019

Motion to adjourn meeting – 1st Jen Pielhau 2nd Victoria Reigle