

Join Together Atlantic County

May 18th, 2015 11:00am – 1:00pm
New Day Family success Center
622-624 New York Road, Galloway NJ 08205

Attendance/Sectors & Agencies Represented:

Youth:

Parents: Gineen DeMari

Law Enforcement:

Govt Agency: Charlie Kerley (Atlantic County Division of Public Health)

School:

Youth Service Org: Brittany Sheridan (EHTHS Teen Center), Kathryn Saxton-Granato (CIACC)

Healthcare: Joia Di Stefano (Cape Atlantic Coalition for Health, Shore Medical Center)

Religious/Fraternal Org.:

Business: Kurt Ohlson (CODI)

Media: Bill Lynskey (Glory Days Magazine)

Civic/Volunteer: John Livezey (Brigantine Municipal Alliance)

Other Org.: John Seidel (Our Place Recovery), Dawn Belamarich (Family Service Assoc)

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

Guest/Other:

Introduction/Minutes

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

Internal Coalition Business

CADCA Coalition Academy – One week left of the three week training in Gulfport, Mississippi. The first two weeks of the training have been completed. Laurie and Brian attend the first week together, and Laurie attend the second week by herself. Laurie is required to attend all three weeks. We are looking for a volunteer for the third week, which will take place in July from the 5th through the 10th. Charlie Kerley has volunteered to attend the third week.

CADCA Mid-Year Institute – This event will be taking place in Indianapolis, IN from Aug 2 to Aug 6th. Registration deadline is June 15th, if anyone is interested in attending please contact Laurie.

PRIDE & YRBS Surveys – Federal grant requires data collection. These two surveys are being used for that purpose and we will be partnering with Atlantic County Government to have middle and high schools participate in the Fall. Students must have permission slips from parents due to active consent State law.

Site Visit Report – Site visit was on October 28th, 2014. April 1st we received follow-up letter and passed everything. We need to complete a sustainability plan by March 2016. The third week of the CADCA training in Mississippi will focus on developing a sustainability plan.

Committees:

Membership – July 27th there will be a board leadership training as part of the JTAC meeting conducted by Lori Singley. Charlie will check availability of the Bridge meeting room for the July meeting/training.

Marketing – We continue with our ads in Glory Days Magazine. We recently changed the ad to pertain to underage drinking. Bill L. will be DJ for Mainland after Prom party. Offer to coalition if anyone would like to display any information to let him know. Glory Days added 50 new locations which brings the distribution spots to 140.

Action/Intervention – Partnership for Success grant which supplements some activities by the regional coalition utilizes local data for evaluation. Seniors is a possible target population but we need local data for it was suggested Kathy reach out to Center for successful aging at Stockton University, Dave Burdick to see what data exists for the senior population.

Finance – Will be scheduling a meeting.

Regional Coalition Grant – Cape Atlantic Bridge Coalition is currently in its 4th year (5 year grant). Rutgers is currently having grantees submit data for evaluation.

Interventions/Updates

Stockton Service Learning – The group, Above the Influence, Town and Gown Relations, Youth Summit, Reaching Non-college Peers, and Natural Helpers have all completed their portions of the interventions that were selected.

April Youth Summit - was held on April 21st at Stockton University. There were approximately 175 high school students in attendance. Stockton service learning students and peer educators conducted workshops that included many activities relating to substance abuse prevention and education.

Youth Recovery Group-the workgroup will continue to try to get a meeting up and running. A possible location for this group may be Hope All Day Recovery. Laurie will reach out and set up a meeting to see if they would be interested in hosting a recovery group for youth.

Marijuana Presentation-Reefer Sanity – Kevin Sabet came to speak at Stockton University on Thursday April 30th to expose the myths of marijuana. There were about 30 people in attendance. Ultra credit was offered to students at Stockton University. Overall was very good presentation, however due to the speaker needing to change the date the turnout was very low.

Permanent Prescription Drop Boxes-JTAC purchased 6 permanent prescription drop boxes through the Partnership for a Drug Free New Jersey and American Medicine Chest Challenge. Our goal is to get these 6 drop boxes into local police departments throughout the county. Currently we have had success in getting Buena Vista Twp. City Hall a drop box which is being monitored by Atlantic County Sheriff's Department. This is the first non-police department to have a prescription drop box not only in the county, but in the state. Also Mullica Township Police Department recently was granted a waiver of approval by the DEA to have a permanent prescription drop box. We delivered the box to Mullica Twp. Police Department and are just waiting for public works to bolt it down and a date/time for the unveiling of it. Brian has met with Hamilton Twp. Police, Stockton Police, Galloway Police, Absecon Police and Longport Police. All are very interested and as far as he knows have started the process of requesting waiver from DEA and creating SOP.

Substance Abuse Resource Guide – JTAC created a substance abuse resource guide with the Egg Harbor Township Police Department. Brigantine Police Department has now begun distributing the resource guide as well adding their logo to the brochure. We will offer this brochure to other police departments throughout Atlantic County. This is a great resource for all law enforcement to have so that they are able to help direct family members of substance abuse users or the users themselves to find treatment.

Brigantine Opiate Summit – Brigantine Police Department, Join Together Atlantic County and the Atlantic County Municipal Alliance sponsored this Opiate Summit for all Brigantine residents ages 13 and up. Information was presented on what community members can do to help prevent substance abuse and addiction to opiates and other drugs. There was about around 75 attendees at this summit. Prescription medicine lock boxes were available free of charge to anyone who was interested. Also John Brooks Recovery Center instructed naloxone training after the summit. About 17 residents of Brigantine attended the naloxone training.

We check for 21/TIPS Training – Laurie is waiting on a date from Stockton for these events.

Medicine Lock Boxes -JTAC purchased 250 personal medicine lock boxes last year to distribute to members of the community to safely lock up their medication from their children and anyone else that may want to abuse the medication in their homes. The boxes are made of steel and have two key locks on them. They cost around \$50 each to purchase. We distributed around 193 between the three heroin summits. We also supplied John Brooks with 30 to give out at their naloxone training leaving us with about 23 left over.

School Substance Abuse Policies- Bob Z. will be setting this work group up in the Fall.

Opiate task force – We are looking to move forward on creating the opiate task force. We will officially be meeting over the summer. We have been doing the work of this task force, but will be extremely beneficial have a group dedicated to focusing all energy on this.

2015 Boardwalk for recovery-Coalition decided to keep the walk the last Saturday in September despite the Pope being in Philadelphia that same weekend. The walk will take place on Saturday, September 26th Albany Ave. and the boardwalk. A sign-up sheet was passed around for anyone who is interested in joining the walk committee.

SUAR Update-Natural helpers lock in for SUAR members took place at Stockton on March 21st from 7pm to 7am. There were roughly 24 high school students in attendance. The event went very well and was a success. In the future we may break it up into 2 or 3 shorter sessions from 7pm – 12pm. 12 hours was very long for the students and many were having trouble staying awake.

Sticker shock/beach cleanup – Shore towns and Somers point We are looking to do sticker shock in Ventnor and Margate the week leading up to 4th of July weekend. We are aiming for Tuesday June 30th in the morning. After sticker shock is complete that morning we will head to the beach with our SUAR group to do a beach cleanup. We are also looking to do Sticker Shock in Somers Point at Circle Liquor and Passion Vines on Wednesday July 8th. We haven't had success in getting Circle Liquor store to participate in the past and ask that if any coalition member has a contact there to please let us know so we can reach out together.

Summer leadership camp -This is a leadership camp for middle and high school students. It will be once a week for about four weeks long in July. In the past it was eight weeks long, but we will be cutting it back to four weeks. Kim Burns and Lisa Catalano will be running the camp.

Buena students held an event utilizing the Above the Influence Campaign.

EHT students will be distributing information on the Good Samaritan/911 Lifeline Legislation to students for upcoming prom and graduation season.

Upcoming events/announcements/information

Hope Fest-The Hope All Day Recovery Center and Rockers in Recovery will hold a three-day recovery rally and music festival, Hopefest 2015, on Memorial Day Weekend, May 22-24 on the center grounds at 600 S. Odessa Ave. JTAC will have a information table there along with youth from SUAR. JTAC members were asked if they could help out at any point. Sign-up sheet was passed around.

NNO Tuesday Aug 4th -National Night out is taking place on Tuesday August 4th in many different communities throughout Atlantic County. We will need JTAC members to possibly partner up and volunteer to display JTAC information if already planning on attending any of these events. We don't have enough staff to send out to all NNO events so are looking for some coalition members to help. If you are able to help in any way please contact Laurie. John Livezey offered to help with the table for Brigantine.

New Day Family Success Center Job/Career Fair- June 17th 10am. Dawn informed the group that the success centers have hired a career counselor.

EHT high Teen Center-Will be beginning summer programs in June. Weekend trips for students. Also help out with sticker shock.

Fed up rallies- Bob Zlotnick talked about these “Fed-up Rallies” throughout the country where they display hundreds of used empty medicine bottles to spell out “Fed-up”. He suggested that we start collecting empty used medicine bottle so that we can do something like this in Atlantic County.

Medical Marijuana for Veterans- There was recently a vote in congress to make it legal for American Veterans to use medical marijuana, but the bill did not pass, however Congressman Frank LoBiondo voted YES in favor of this bill.

SFP Military Family Nights-Tuesdays, beginning 6/2/15 and continuing each Tuesday through 7/14/15. 5:30pm – 7:30pm @ Egg Harbor Township Family Center. Address is 3050 Spruce Ave, Egg Harbor Township. Program includes dinner, gift cards/prizes for attendance and participation, free childcare(for younger siblings) and fun activities and incentives for the children.

Next Meeting: Monday, July 27th, 2015