

Join Together Atlantic County

Atlantic County Government Offices
101 S. Shore Rd, Shoreview Building
Northfield, NJ 08225
Monday May 9, 2016
11:00am - 1:00pm

Attendance/Sectors & Agencies Represented:

Youth:

Parents: Laurinda Hendrix, Ted Khoury

Law Enforcement:

Govt Agency: Charlie Kerley (Atlantic County Division of Public Health), Rhonda Fitzgerald (Atlantic City Department of Health)

School: Karen Yacovelli (Egg Harbor Twp HS)

Youth Service Org: Kathryn Saxton-Granato (CIACC), Brittany Sheridan (EHT HS Teen Center), Jake Straughn & George Dannenhauer (Atl. Cnty TRY-IT)

Healthcare: Dawn Belamarich (Family Service Assoc)

Religious/Fraternal Org.:

Business: Tracy Smith (Speakers for Change)

Media:

Civic/Volunteer: John Livezey (Brigantine Municipal Alliance)

Other Org: Erin Cowley (Our Place Recovery), Arlie Brown (APR Treatment)

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

Guest/Other: Valerie Mielke (NJ DMHAS)

Introductions/Sign-in, Review Minutes:

Minutes were reviewed from the previous meeting. Motion to approve minutes - 1st John Livezey
2nd Rhonda Fitzgerald

Internal Coalition business:

JTAC website membership information –Brian is now overseeing our JTAC website to make it easier for us to manage/edit information faster. In the past we had an outside person handling this for us. We will be creating a membership section on the website for members to have a bio and a hyperlink to their organization. We will hand out forms for members to register if they are interested in being on the website. There will also be a section for the opiate task force and other workgroups within JTAC. Minutes and other relevant information will be added to the website.

AmeriCorps VISTA grant –Stockton University along with Laurie wrote a grant for an AmeriCorps Volunteer to work with JTAC on many different projects. Stockton/JTAC were awarded this grant assigning one AmeriCorps Volunteer to work with JTAC for one full year. This individual will receive a stipend in the amount of 12k which Stockton will handle and up to 5k in college loan forgiveness. Stockton will have office space for this individual and will monitor throughout the year while they specifically work on JTAC initiatives.

STOP-ACT grant – Atlantic Prevention is applying for this grant which will allow them to focus on advancing their underage drinking projects. Only eligible agencies allowed to apply for this grant are those previously and currently funded through DFC. This focuses solely on underage drinking and young adult binge drinking and not drunk driving.

CADCA Midyear – Sunday, July 17 - Thursday, July 21, 2016 and will be held in Las Vegas NV. This is very similar to the National Leadership Forum that was in Washington D.C. this past February that Bob, Laurie and Brian attended only the workshops at mid-year are more in depth workshops for coalitions. If anyone from the coalition is interested in attending please let Laurie know as soon as possible. Registration cost continually increases and room discounts end June 24th. The brochure was passed around with more information.

Committee/Work Group Updates:

Opiate Task Force – An open public meeting is scheduled for this Thursday May 12th at the Mays Landing Library upstairs meeting room, 40 Farragut Ave Mays Landing , NJ 08330. There have been three Opiate Task Force meetings so far, but this is the first open public meeting. This task force is working on many different issues surround the epidemic that we are currently faced with in our specific county. This meeting is to inform the public on the different strategies that we are taking to help combat this issue and to allow the community to share their ideas. One idea that is constantly brought up is having police officers carry naloxone. Tracy made suggestion to bring in more guest speakers to get different perspectives.

Recently one of the faith based representatives researched to see what area congregations have substance abuse resources/groups. We have found that 5 different congregations offer specific programs for substance abuse in our area. Some of these programs offer treatment for up to two years. Teen Challenge USA was mentioned. This is a large Christian based organization that offers wide range of substance abuse treatment/prevention throughout the country. Some of the other churches members believe offer services that we will look into are Fusion Church, Mainland United Methodist Church, Fresh Start church and Mission Point.

Do no Harm Symposium for physicians will be held in the fall through Partnership for a Drug Free NJ. AtlantiCare is working in house with doctors prescribing opiates and are willing to host the Do No Harm Symposium at their location. Also in the works is a Do No Harm Symposium for all faith based organizations.

It was stated that the Ocean County Opiate task force has disbanded. Their original goal was to have naloxone in every police department and they accomplished this task. They have come to the conclusion that more resources are needed in their county and are trying to apply for 501C status to be able to apply for grants.

Tracy suggested we invite the Brigantine Chief of Police to the county task force. Also invite Chief Earl or Chief Winters from outside the county to represent what they are doing utilizing drug forfeiture moneys and other initiatives for police departments. Camden has a Tri-county program including police chiefs, parents speaking and sharing prevention messages. Erin had been a member of the Ocean County Task Force and said they used forfeiture money for naloxone trainings.

Linking Youth to Services Workgroup – This workgroup has met several times to discuss linking youth, who have violations through police and schools, to appropriate treatment services. The workgroup has been collecting data, researching ideas from other counties and moving forward with speaking to community members (police, schools) and local representatives. Moving forward the group wants to work with legislators to try and have courts mandate specific penalties/services for youth. The workgroup is looking for members to represent the school and court sectors. Next Meeting will be June 1st 8:30am at Atlantic Prevention Resources in Absecon. Tracy mentioned she now has a national juvenile justice speaker on her speakers bureau.

School Policy Work Group – One of the coalition's interventions is to work with schools to update their school drug policies. It was suggested by the Linking Youth to Services workgroup that we form one county-wide model policy utilizing all the best practices in existence and present that to the County Superintendent and in turn the superintendent's roundtable in the Fall. An email was sent out to SACs to see who may be interested in getting involved.

Charlie discussed having naloxone available in the schools and training nurses and SACS in case of an overdose at school. They just recently passed state policy for us of epi pens. The county superintendent is leaving it up to the individual districts to have naloxone in their schools.

Naloxone training is set up for Atlantic County Juveniles Officers Association.

SUAR Update:

At the Stockton Youth Summit 4 SUAR members did a presentation on vaping, creating a power point and 3 minute video. They received several new members from different schools. Mainland SAC has also reached out and would like to start a SUAR group at her school next year. Sticker Shock is scheduled for May 24th, after school in EHT area. Next County meeting is May 26th at the Mays Landing Library meeting room.

Buena Regional High School just finished an Above the Influence Event in their lunch rooms for the whole school. They also read book on secondhand smoke to Buena 2nd grades on Monday, May 9th.

Oakcrest High School did Above the Influence campaign event in lunch rooms. They are working on an awareness event to do for middle schools involving selfies. (Creating Frames)

EHT- Above the influence campaign was conducted during lunches, they presented at Youth Summit about their campaign. They also requested 911 lifeline legislation cards from the coalition, to place them at each table setting during their prom.

Intervention/Updates:

April 8th Youth Summit – This was the largest youth summit to date with over 250 participating students from 7 different area high schools. The day opened up with a showing of the “If Only” film that was produced by the Wahlberg Foundation. The day was filled with many different awareness/prevention activities for the students to participate in.

TIPS Training/We Check 21- A mailing is being sent to all liquor licensees of the June We Check for 21 conference. Responsible Beverage Server Training (TIPS) will also be offered.

Realtors/Funeral Homes – Kelly is completing a mailing to realtors and funeral homes providing them information on organizational policies when it comes to safely securing medication and or disposing. Many times when realtors show homes the owners of the home leave medication in bathroom cabinets unsecured. Also when families lose someone they often don't know how to dispose of unused medication.

Prescription Drop Boxes – Brian explained that we purchased 8 permanent prescription drop boxes with the goal to place them throughout the Atlantic County in local police departments. Since we purchased the drop box we have been able to place 6 out of 8 of them with the most recent one being in the Absecon Police Department. Pleasantville Police Department is expected to be the next to install a permanent prescription drop box. Pleasantville Police Department has already received waiver from DEA. We are also in communication with Somers Point Police Department and Hammonton Police Department. A handout with all the locations in Atlantic County was left on back table for anyone interested. Information is also on our website.

Prescription Lock Boxes – We have given out over 300 prescription lock boxes for families to safely secure their medications. We recently delivered 100 of these boxes to Stockton University for students to safely secure their medication in their dorm rooms. The school plans to begin using them in the fall semester of 2016. They will oversee all aspects lock boxes and assigning them to students that are interested.

Stockton Service Learning: All of the Stockton Service Learning student projects have been completed for the spring semester.

On-campus opiate prevention campaign – This group had an article published in the Stockton University Argo paper. They also set up awareness tables on campus and displayed different posters of famous people who lost their lives to addiction.

Youth Summit Workshop – This group ran one of the workshops at the April Youth Summit. They used an app called Triller to create music video with students holding up different drug free signs and statistics.

100% proofing – 100% proofing is checking every customers ID when purchasing alcohol no matter if the person appears to be 21 or 101. This group researched different stores to see if any already have this policy. They wrote letter addressed to store owners and councilmen urging them to consider adopting a 100% proofing policy.

ATI Campaign and social media presentation – This group oversaw all aspects of Above the Influence Campaign social media website such as Facebook, twitter and Instagram. They also created a Snap Chat account for ATI. In addition to this they created an instruction video on the different social media website to familiarize those who aren't tech savvy.

Under 21 obtaining alcohol – Created survey for students on campus to complete. Survey asked questions such as how much alcohol have you consumed in last 30 days? How did you get the alcohol? Where did you get the alcohol? Many students answered the questions openly and honestly and others were hesitant and weren't as forth coming.

Tobacco Update:

Outdoor Recreation Ordinances- EHT-Ordinance passed and the signs are in the process of going up. We are encouraging them to make announcements at games and tournaments about the parks being completely smoke free. Buena Vista-Ordinance passed and they have received signs, are in the process of putting them up. Galloway- contacted them and sent information, still no response. Kim is working with Hamilton Township Municipal Alliance Coordinator to ask Council to revise their current ordinance from 2003 to include Electronic Smoking Devices. Also would like to provide them with signs. Kim will be approaching Buena for Outdoor Ordinance and Egg Harbor City and Hammonton for Point of Sale.

Smoke Free Multi Unit Housing- Have approached Atlantic City Housing Authority, waiting to hear back

Look See Check ID Campaign– This is part of the coalition’s Partnership for Success grant from the state. We are required to do tobacco merchant education for tobacco licensees in the county. We are just needing a list of tobacco licensees and then will be sending out a packet of information. The tobacco age of sale statistics are directly linked to federal funding the state receives for prevention and treatment money. Rhonda mentioned stores in AC sell “loosies” (single cigarettes). Laurie said information about selling loosies can be added to the letter.

The FDA has now regulated authority to all tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, cigars, hookah and pipe tobacco. California just raised their minimum age to purchase tobacco to 21. Cal raised age to 21. All t

John Livezey reported that he had heard that a death was recently attributed to e-cigarettes.

Cape Atlantic Bridge Coalition:

Regional Coalition Survey – All members received an email and were asked to complete a survey. The surveys took about 20 minutes to complete. Laurie thanked all members for completing surveys.

Prescription magnet – Magnet has been created and is in the shape of prescription medicine container. The 5 steps of the American Medicine Chest Challenge are listed on the magnet along with our website letting them know where the permanent prescription drop boxes are throughout Atlantic County.

We check for 21 Conference – Will be held at Stockton University in the beginning of June. Additional information will be sent out via email.

New Business:

Pleasantville High School will be having a panel discussion on marijuana for over 100 students. Laurie is working with Steve Katzen from Pleasantville HS to set up the panel.

Boys and Girls Club Keystone Law allowing youth 16 and over as new age of consent for mental health and addiction services utilizing health insurance. There have been some issues with the actual treatment centers having policies in place for the changes. As cases come up these issues are being addressed.

Upcoming Events/Announcements/information:

Erin Cowley spoke about Our Place Recovery which is a traditional 12 step, 6 day holistic treatment model located in Deerfield Beach Florida. Erin Cowley is the North East Outreach Coordinator for Our Place Recovery. She can be reach 24/7 by email and or by phone. Informational brochures and business cards were handed out.

NJPN is hosting a SBIRT (Screening, Brief Intervention Referral & Treatment training on May 16th.

Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area shows that marijuana use among youth in Colorado is much higher than the rest of the country. This is clearly related to the recreational laws in Colorado.

Recovery Month - Instead of the Board "Walk" for Recovery in Atlantic City this year JTAC will be organizing a group to attend the Pro-Act walk in Philly. There has been discussion of getting dropped off on the New Jersey side of the Ben Franklin Bridge and walking across to intersect with the Pro-Act walk. More details will be available as it gets closer.

Marijuana Summit day before NJPN conf. – It is important to stay ahead of the marijuana issues in NJ. When the state elects the next Governor of NJ marijuana laws may/will be affected. We need to stay vigilant in efforts to protect current laws regarding marijuana.

FBI Chasing the dragon – FBI created video addressing the opiate epidemic. Positive feedback from members.

Mainland Regional High School is offering an Alateen group. Tracy and her daughter have gone to speak to students.

EHT HS Teen Center is open during the summer and offers trips and services to students. Looking for any youth that you think may be interested. Contact Brittney Sheridan

Speakers for Change - Tracy Smith founded a speakers bureau for prevention, recovery, motivational speakers.

SFP – 10-14 curriculum if anyone knows of a group that would be interested please contact Kathy McFadden. Also if anyone has a connection to Military please let Kathy know. They have until the end of June to complete a group for military veterans.

"Young People in Recovery" May 12 at Our Lady of Sorrows in Linwood at 6:30pm. Ted explained the group helps youth navigate through recovery. The group is country-wide and helps people access resources including legal, recovery, job-seeking. Their website has a list of programs. Tracy said they are leading the way in advocacy and changing laws.

John Livezey said the Hooked on Fishing in Brigantine is July 16th.

Next Meeting is on Monday, July 11th 11:00am -1:00pm at the same location Atlantic County Government Offices, 101 S. Shore Rd., Northfield.

Motion to adjourn meeting – 1st Tracy Smith, 2nd Jake Straughn