

Join Together Atlantic County

September 14, 2015 11:00am – 1:00pm
New Day Family Success Center
622-624 New York Road
Galloway, NJ 08205

Attendance/Sectors & Agencies Represented:

Youth:

Parents: Kim Burns, Laurinda Hendrix

Law Enforcement:

Govt Agency: Lily Britton (NJ Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services), Charlie Kerley (Atlantic County Division of Public Health), Rhonda Fitzgerald (Atlantic City Health Department)

School: Dorothy Bowker (Eagle Academy, EHT Schools)

Youth Service Org: Anna DeAngelis (Covenant House), Kathryn Saxton-Granato (CIACC), James DeAnnunitis (Covenant House), George Dannehauer (Atlantic County TRY-IT) Jake Straughn (Atlantic County TRY-IT)

Healthcare: Kurt Ohlson (CODI)

Religious/Fraternal Org.:

Business: Tracy Smith (Consult Advancements)

Media: Bill Lynskey (Glory Days Magazine)

Civic/Volunteer: Ted Khoury

Other Org.: John Seidel (Our Place Recovery), Michael DiMarco (Behavioral Crossroads)

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

Guest/Other: Kelly Gallagher (Atlantic Prevention Resources), Amanda Wachter, Cyndi Balles (HERO Campaign for Designated Drivers), Mary Olah Zollner (JISP), Fran Mazza (Cape Atlantic CMO)

Introductions/Minutes

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

Internal Coalition Business

PRIDE and YRBS – We are currently working with Bob Widitz from Atlantic County on these two surveys. Laurie and Bob will be attending Superintendents meeting on Sept 25 to present information on the PRIDE Survey for 8th graders and will meet about YRBS in October.

Sustainability Plan- Oct 1st starts the new grant year –We need to start a sustainability group to work on a plan. There are three free webinars that are available to coalitions so that we can better understand and start to develop our sustainability plan. A sign-up sheet was passed around for those that are interested in joining this workgroup.

Media/Marketing: We are continuing our ads in Glory Days. There will be two ads. One will be on recovery month with special events listed on in such as our Board”Walk” for Recovery and Facing Addiction Rally in D.C., and the second ad will be for parents focusing on back to school tips they can use with their children. Another topic for upcoming issues is an ad pertaining to alcohol and drugs and their affect’s on student’s athletic performance. Promotional materials for the coalition have been budgeted– Pictures of different promotional material s/ideas were passed around and later voted on. The media shelf, USB keychain phone charger, and beach towels were the one that the group liked the best. We will also be ordering pens with JTACs information on them.

Linking Youth to Services workgroup:

Jake presented on how adolescents are decreasingly getting into needed substance abuse treatment. Despite the usual barriers to treatment of cost and transportation, a third barrier has increasingly emerged over recent years. That is the unintended negative consequences of the New Jersey JDAI Juvenile Court philosophy, including how treatment services are being lumped in as punitive measures when they’re not. Although numbers have consequently decreased for juvenile legal involvement, the numbers have also decreased for kids following thru on the treatment services they need. A similar phenomenon has been observed with school administrations when disciplining teens for substance related incidents. As a result, 70 adolescent inpatient rehab beds are currently going unused in the state. And the second stage of the treatment continuum (intensive outpatient programs) once again no longer exists in this county following Rehab After Work/School and Atlanticare both terminating their IOP programs due to lack of participants despite a paradoxical obvious need in the community. Agencies choosing to provide these services in the future need to first address all three of these barriers, including better accepting clients who need subsidized services. JDAI is not going away, nor do we want to return to some of the old negative practices of the past such as 50 kids in Harbor Fields daily. But the pendulum has now swung to the opposite extreme. We must find the medium area by coming up with proactive ways of addressing the “missing link” that will once again better hold kids accountable to getting the treatment they need to help themselves. A sign up sheet was passed around for an “Action Sub-committee” to begin working together towards solutions. Expecting teens, with universally limited brain development, to make better decisions on treatment than we ask of adults is a mindset for disaster in terms of missed crucial, sometimes life-saving, early interventions, and increased adult cases later down the road. Jake provided 3 anecdotal case stories of how all this directly, and very deeply, affected kids negatively.

A need for this county's Student Assistance Counselors to continue meeting regularly was also identified. Kathy Mc Fadden talked about those continuing efforts, perhaps even meeting before or after JTAC meetings. She also mentioned the SRI & ETTC Trauma meetings that are in place, and are attended by SACs.

Interventions/Updates

Stockton Day of Services 9/12 - Laurie participated in Stockton's Day of Service by conducting four separate presentations with the Stockton Police Department on heroin and opiates to a portion of the 450 students who showed up to participate. Many of the students expressed they had a family member or friend that was dealing with different substance abuse issue.

Stockton RISE ABOVE – This is a new club that was started this semester at Stockton by a previous service learning student that worked with the coalition. This club will focus on substance abuse education/prevention along with anti-bullying and violence prevention. The clubs constitution was approved by Stockton making it an official club. The club is planning on participating in the many different events out at Stockton that deal with the issues of substance abuse such as LollaNoBooza, and other campus events that engage the students in different activities .

Stockton dorm safes – Stockton students at this time have no way of locking up their valuables including any prescription drugs that they may be prescribed. One of the biggest problems is student may lock their dorm rooms, but roommate leaves door unlocked. We found a company Safedecisions that currently works with a number of different Colleges/Universities and other professional organizations with supplying safe solutions to locking up valuables. There is no cost to the school and the company Safedecisions overseas the cost and service of the in dorm safes. Laurie will be meeting with Stockton about placing safes in dorm rooms.

Youth Recovery Meeting – We are working on developing a youth recovery group to help support young people in recovery. The main objective is to get the youth to the meeting through marketing and transportation. Young adults who will be running the group are developing a flyer and helping with marketing. County van may be available for use of transportation. We are anticipating this group to start meeting in October. It was brought up that it is important to have a professional at the meeting to help close the meeting to avoid any issues of questions/problems not being dealt with properly.

We Check for 21 – Will be held on 10/14 at Stockton for liquor stores, bars and restaurants

TIPS Training – Will be held at Stockton on 12/14 for servers,

Parent Information card- Absegami High School reached out to Laurie about an info card they had for parents. Laurie was given permission from Cape May County PRIDE Sommittee to copy the card and add JTAC information.

2015 Board"Walk" for Recovery

The third Annual Board"Walk" for Recovery and Sober Beach Picnic will take place on Albany Ave. and the boardwalk on Saturday, September 26th. Registration will begin at 10am the walk will start at 11am and the Sober Beach Picnic will follow the walk at 12pm and conclude at 2pm. We will be providing a bagged lunch prepared by CODI and will have different activities on the beach like horse shoes, corn hole, volley ball and other similar activities. First 150 walkers to register will receive a free t-shirt. JTAC members were reminded to register online at jtacnj.org and to encourage other walkers to do the same.

SUAR Update

Stand Up and Rebel sponsored a leadership youth empowerment camp for Middle Schoolers and High Schoolers. The camp was held August at the Oakcrest Teen Center. We had over 20 kids participate on different weeks. Each week was a standalone, with the topic of discussion being a specific drug. Tobacco, Marijuana, Alcohol and other Drugs were covered. Leadership skills and teamwork activities were also taught and practiced.

Stand up and Rebel will have meetings at EHT, Buena and Oakcrest High School this year. In addition to the school groups we will continue our County group that meets once a month at the Mays Landing library. The overall goal of this group is to educate about drugs and equip youth to be leaders of prevention efforts in their schools and communities.

Cape Atlantic Bridge (CAB) Coalition

TIPs training – Will be held on 11/12 and 1/5 for packaged goods

Prescription drug magnet – will list drop box locations and other important information

Do No Harm drug symposium- Laurie and Kim have been working with the Partnership for a Drug Free NJ to set up this workshop for physicians. Hospitals have stated they do not need to offer the training due to having an online module or do not offer CME's to host the workshop. Laurie and Kim are still trying to work out details to offer the program at the Ocean City Library.

Drugged driving brochure- The coalition is working on developing a brochure about marijuana and driving to be distributed

Next CAB Meeting- 10/8 OC Library speaker Jose Cruze from Rutgers University will be speaking on tobacco outreach strategies for coalitions

Stockton Recovery Housing

Due to a recent law signed by Governor Christie Stockton University will need to provide housing for students in recovery. Laurie and Hope All Day are reaching out to Stockton to offer support.

Opiate Task Force

We will be having a kick off breakfast possibly at ACIT. We are aiming to have this event in late October early November. After that this will become a workgroup focusing on opiate addiction and raising awareness of the problems and providing solutions to our community.

Recovery Sports League

This was a suggestion Michael DiMarco made at a committee meeting. He would like to coordinate a sports league for people in recovery. Michael believes we would be able to use Hope All Day to host it. We could start leagues for volleyball, softball and other sports that do take a lot to setup. This is a way to keep people social and away from alcohol and substance abuse. Right now it's just a suggestion, but we will look further into it. Michael did volunteer to be the commissioner to oversee the league.

Upcoming Events/Announcements/Information

Kim distributed information about Tobacco-Free for a Healthy NJ. The grants are currently working to enact ordinances for smoke-free outdoor parks and recreation areas, Point of Sale Initiatives to reduce youth access to tobacco products and smoke-free multi-unit housing.

Unite to Face Addiction in Washington D.C. is on October 4th. Busses from Hope All Day will be transporting people for \$40 round trip. Busses will be leaving at 8am from Hope All Day in Egg Harbor City. You can register for the transportation at facingaddiction.org.

Recovery coach training is being offered in NJ for a discounted cost to attendees, Michael will send the information to Laurie to email.

Michael announced Behavioral Crossroads is opening sober living housing in Williamstown called "Blackhorse Acres". It will be transitional sober living for clients leaving treatment and will be available to the client for 30, 60 or 90 day periods.

Town Hall Meeting on Atlantic County's Heroin & Opioid Epidemic will be Tuesday, September 29th at 6pm at Atlantic Cape Community College. The panel will be made up of Jim McClain, Dr. Bob Zlotnick, Alan Oberman and Eric Scheffler. A flyer was handed out.

Naloxone trainings are taking place and if anyone is interested please contact John Brooks Recovery Center or Charlie Kerley with Atlantic County. Trainings may be ending soon so it's important to take advantage of these free trainings while they last.

Atlantic Prevention Resources may have a position open in the near future to work on Tobacco Free for a Healthy New Jersey grant. If you know of anyone that may be interested please contact Bob Zlotnick. or Kathy McFadden.

Atlantic Prevention Resources 7th Annual Bocce Tournament will be held on Saturday, October 10th beginning at 9am. This will be held at Four Season of Smithville Bocce courts. Flyers were handed out.

Hope All Day 4th Annual Walk4Hope and Rock fest will take place on Saturday October 17th from 10am until 9pm at Hope All Day.

The Hope Family program at Hope All Day is every Sunday 6:00-8:00pm.

CODI- re-entry program for parolees, in Atlantic City, for more information contact Kurt Ohlson.

Fran Mazza gave an update on the NJ Children's System of Care and what services they offer.

Next Meeting:

Monday, November 9, 2015 New Day Family Success Center, 622-624 New York Rd., Galloway NJ, 08201

Motion to adjourn –1st Charlie Kerley, 2nd Tracy Smith