



COALITION FOR HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

MEETING MINUTES

Date: Wednesday, March 14, 2018

Time: 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Location: 620 Cranbury Road Suite 105, East Brunswick

| Attendee | Affiliation | Sector |
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| Kim Repsha | Garden State Community Bank | Business |
| Valerie Wright | Wellspring Center for Prevention | Other/Sub. Use Prevention Agency |
| Jennifer Kurdyla | Middlesex County Center for Empowerment | Civic/Volunteer |
| Zach Taylor | Healthier Middlesex/St. Peter's University Hospital | Healthcare |
| Susan Silverstein | Volunteer | Volunteer |
| Melisa Damcevskaja | Wellspring Center for Prevention | Coalition Staff |
| Teresa Douglas | Piscataway Municipal Alliance | Civic/Volunteer |
| Alicia Carman | Piscataway Municipal Alliance | Civic/Volunteer |
| Jenna Bonstein | Wellspring Center for Prevention | Coalition Staff |
| Gina-Marie Miraglia | Wellspring Center for Prevention | Coalition Staff |

AGENDA ITEMS

| Topic | Discussion/Report | Action |
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| Welcome/Introductions | Mara opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. Members and guests around the table introduced themselves and shared what they do in the community and/or why they are at this table. | |
| Updates | Young Women's Conference – Mara reported that it went very well. Support from the coalition was amazing. Thank you to all who helped and participated, Gina is currently working on the evaluations. Evaluations were good, students reporting leaving with knowledge and skills that they did not have before attending. | For more information about the Be Smart About Medicine Awards dinner, contact Jenna at jenna.bonstein@wellspringprevention.org |

Be Smart About Medicine Dinner – The Be Smart About Medicine poster contest is a contested for middle school youth in Middlesex County where they submit artwork or writings about the dangers of misusing and abusing over-the-counter and prescription medicine. There are 3 winners per each grade. In place of the coalition’s April meeting, the Be Smart About Medicine Awards dinner will be held on **April 11, 2018 at 5:30pm at the CAB Building, 125 Paterson Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901.** Two youth will be recognized for their work at the dinner.

Kick Butts Day – Kick Butts Day will take place on 3/21. The SUDS group at Dunellen High School will provide a cross-age training to students in second grade about smoking. A Jeopardy game will also be played with the Perth Amboy Youth Alliance on the topic of e-cigarettes and vaping.

Marijuana Forum – a marijuana forum hearing will be taking place on Tuesday March 27 in Elizabeth with a follow-up hearing in Atlantic City on Tuesday, April 24. Governor Murphy included \$60 million for the 2018 budget for marijuana revenue. Flyer with information will be attached with minutes.

Tobacco Forum 2018 – A tobacco prevention forum will be held on **Thursday, March 29th at 10am at the National Conference Center in East Windsor, NJ.** There will be speakers and information about licensing for vape shops, Tobacco 21, and increasing the registration fee for

For any information or suggestions about where to find data for under-18, or if you wish to contribute to the workgroup, contact Melisa at melisa.damcevska@wellspringprevention.org

For any suggestions on a new billboard location, please contact Jenna at jenna.bonstein@wellspringprevention.org

For more information or ideas about syringe access, contact Gina at ginam@wellspringprevention.org

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| | <p>tobacco licensing (currently it is \$50/year for a tobacco license in NJ).</p> <p>Data Workgroup Update – The coalition is currently collecting and analyzing data for the updated 2018 needs assessment. Juvenile information and substance use data for under 18 is needed to reassess the logic models and upcoming goals of the coalition.</p> <p>Billboard Update – The opioid billboard is still in Woodbridge.</p> <p>Narcan Trainings – A Narcan training will be held in Dunellen (date TBA) and at the Monroe Township Library on 4/9.</p> <p>Syringe Access Site – Gina reported making progress for the syringe access site. The program is largely grant-funded and NJ provides funding for one nurse and up to 10,000 syringes. Additional funding is required for more supplies, and the nurse on staff is responsible for testing, disease and pregnancy. Depending on the laws and qualifications of staff will determine what kind of testing can be done onsite (finger stick for HIV/HepB vs. stricter guidelines for full panel testing). Woodbridge has shown interest in housing the access site with their recovery center.</p> <p>NJPN Conference – NJPN’s annual Addiction Conference is taking place on May 18th in Atlantic City. If interested in attending, please go to https://conferenceregistration.njpn.org/ to register. If you are a part of a municipal alliance, the cost is free. Otherwise, you may apply for a</p> | <p>For more ideas or suggestions for National Prevention Week, please contact Mara</p> |
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| | <p>scholarship. The cost to attend is \$100 without a scholarship.</p> <p>Hidden in Plain Sight – Hidden in Plain Sight is a parent program that shows parents where adolescents who may be using or abusing substances may hide them in their rooms in plain sight. One will be held in Dunellen on 5/8, in Piscataway on 5/31 at 6:30pm, at the Edison YMCA at 6:30pm on 4/12.</p> <p>Task Force Breakouts – Prevention Week is May 14-May 19 <i>May 14 – Promotion of Mental Health and Wellness</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Yoga sessions at school, colleges, libraries - Give out ribbons, give out mental health assessments for people to take, give out giveaways, empowering quotes <p><i>May 15 – Prevention of Underage Drinking and Alcohol Misuse</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Focus on teaching students and communities about the Good Samaritan Law - Bring youth to the table for ideas - Brainstorm and talk about alternatives to a party - Put facts/empowering quotes on corsages for prom season - Put quotes/facts on bathroom stall doors in schools and have students find the answer by looking up the Coalition’s hashtag <p><i>May 16 – Prevention of Prescription and Opioid Misuse</i> <i>May 17 – Prevention of Illicit Drug Use and Youth Marijuana</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use school/community billboards to spread messages all over towns (YMCA, | |
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| | <p>community/rec center, library)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Host after-school programs - Pass out table tents to local restaurants and diners with information <p><i>May 18 – Prevention of Suicide</i> <i>May 19 – Prevention of Youth Tobacco Use</i></p> | |
| Announcements | <p>National Take Back Day – National Take Back Day is on Saturday, April 28th. 912,305 pounds of medicine were collected on the October 17th date. Coalition members are encouraged to attend their local take back days to show support and hopefully expand to more towns who do not have drop boxes for medication. Drop boxes are more difficult to implement in smaller towns with a smaller police force because there must be an officer on staff monitoring the drop box at all times.</p> <p>Prevention of Opioid Misuse by Women Across the Lifespan – Wellspring has launched a new initiative to improve the lives of girls and women by preventing the misuse of opioids across the lifespan. Information about the grant and how to get involved will be included with the minutes.</p> <p>St. Peter’s University Hospital – St. Peter’s is offering two community education programs → Community Perspectives on the Opioid Epidemic: What You Need to Know. The first will be held on March 21, 2018 at the Sister Marie de Pazzi Conference Center with registration beginning at 6pm. A second program is being held on April 24, 2018 on The Opioid Crisis: Getting on the Road to Recovery.</p> | <p>For more information about the women and opioid grant or get to be involved, contact Helen or Jenna at helen.varvi@wellspringprevention.org or jenna.bonstein@wellspringprevention.org</p> |



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| | <p>Piscataway Municipal Alliance – The Piscataway Municipal Alliance will be hosting a 15 Minute Child Break program for parents at the Piscataway Town Hall on 3/22 at 6:30pm.</p> | |
| <p>Next Meeting/Adjourn</p> | <p>Next meeting will be the Be Smart About Medicine Dinner on April 11, 2018 at 5:30pm at the CAB Building (RWJ) at 125 Paterson Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901</p> | |