

COALITION FOR HEALTHY COMMUNITIES
MEETING MINUTES

Date: Wednesday, September 12, 2018

Time: 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Location: Harmony Family Success Center, 255 Livingston Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Attendee	Affiliation	Sector
Yvette Murry	YRM Consulting Group	Business
Mara Carlin	Wellspring Center for Prevention	Staff
Jennifer Kurdyla	Middlesex County Center for Empowerment	Other prevention
Lori Hayes	Harmony Family Success Center	Youth-serving organization
Jenna Bonstein	Wellspring Center for Prevention	Staff
James O’Neill	RWJ Barnabas Behavioral Health – Institute for Prevention and Recovery (STAR)	Healthcare
Gina Miraglia	Wellspring Center for Prevention	Staff
Heather Ward	Wellspring Center for Prevention	Staff
Rosela Roman	Mobile Family Success Center	Civic/Volunteer
Melisa Damcevaska	Wellspring Center for Prevention	Staff
Tina Polla	Puerto Rican Action Board	Youth-serving organization
Hugh Wallace	Wellspring Center for Prevention	Staff
ShaRonda Amon	Wellspring Center for Prevention	Staff
Khodesha Butler	Puerto Rican Action Board	Youth
Anne L. Dillon	Middlesex County Office of Human Services	Local government
Kim Repsha	Garden State Community Bank	Business
Gabrielle Pall	East Brunswick Municipal Alliance	Civic/Volunteer
Amy Papi	East Brunswick Municipal Alliance	Civic/Volunteer
Jodie Intili	Middlesex County Office of Human Services	Local government
Roulla Castanos-Beaton	Middlesex County Office of Human Services – Middlesex County Municipal Alliance	Local government
Teresa Douglas	Piscataway Municipal Alliance	Local government
Yonatan Gershon	Middlesex County Office of Human Services	Local government
Stuti Buddhavad	St. Peter’s University Hospital	Healthcare
Kathy Iannuzzo	St. Peter’s University Hospital	Healthcare

Tanisha Riley	Rutgers University – HOPE	College
Twyla Paige	Middlesex County Office of Health Services	Local government
Jay Okesola	RWJ Safety Ambassador Program	Healthcare
Joseph Bae	Center for Communication and Health Issues, Rutgers University	College
Diana Starace	Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital	Healthcare

Topic	Discussion/Report	Action
Welcomes/Introductions	Mara opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. Coalition meeting locations will now be rotated to different locations around the county. The September meeting was held at Harmony Family Success Center in New Brunswick.	
Updates	<p>Community Surveys – Community Surveys should be distributed at community events (tables, health fairs, etc.) They are very important in collecting data for the coalition directly from the community.</p> <p>Coalition Survey – We will be sending out a monthly survey for coalition members to respond to with their updates in order to keep track of what activities and events members are doing each month. The purpose is to keep track of coalition activities if members are unable to attend a meeting and recognize the work members are doing in the community. The survey will either be through Survey Monkey or Google Forms – the format will be tested for coalition members to give feedback.</p> <p>Middlesex County Mental Health and Addiction Recovery Conference – The Middlesex County Mental Health and Addiction Recovery Conference will be held on Thursday, September 27th. The conference is at capacity but there is a waiting list available.</p> <p>Knock Out Opioid Abuse Day – Knock Out Opioid Abuse Day will be on October 6th, 2018. The purpose of the event is to spread awareness about opioid abuse. Jenna</p>	<p>Please bring coalition community surveys to events around the county. Any Middlesex County resident over the age of 18 can fill it out.</p> <p>For more information, to get resources, or to volunteer,</p>

	<p>picked up materials (flyers, doorknockers, information) from the Partnership for a Drug-Free NJ. Several schools, businesses and libraries around the county will be participating.</p> <p>Tree of Hope – This year’s Tree of Hope awardee is St. Peter’s University Hospital, the Opioid Task Force. The ceremony will be held on Wednesday, October 10th at 4:30pm at St. Peter’s University Hospital Sister Marie de Pazzi Conference Center.</p> <p>St. Peter’s Opioid Conference – Following the Tree of Hope Ceremony, St. Peter’s will be hosting their opioid conference on Wednesday, October 10th at 6p at the Marie de Pazzi Conference Center.</p> <p>Opioid and Athlete Kick-Off Event – The Opioid and Athlete Kick-Off Event “Driven to Win: The Link Between Athletes and Opioids” will be held on Wednesday, October 24th, 2018 at the Rutgers University Inn and Conference Center (178 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ 08901) from 6-9pm. A save the date flyer is attached. The official flyer will be sent out shortly.</p> <p>Red Ribbon Week – Red Ribbon Week will be the week of October 23rd – 31st. Several high schools in the county have already confirmed events and lunch and learns in the cafeteria.</p> <p>Marijuana Legalization local update – The 2018 Legislative Event will focus on the implementation of municipal ordinances of how to stop the sale of marijuana in municipalities if marijuana is legalized recreationally. The <i>tentative date</i> is November 13th at the Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy – the date is subject to change.</p> <p>Student Survey 2018/19 –</p>	<p>please reach out to Jenna</p>
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	<p>The PRIDE Student Survey will be administered in county schools for the 2018/19 school year. As of now, 10 towns have confirmed participation.</p> <p>Resources – Jenna picked up resources for Knock Out Opioid Day for coalition members who wish to participate/help. Melisa generated a new Drug Facts Sheet for parents to be handed out at events/fairs, etc. A copy of the fact sheet will be attached with the minutes.</p>	
Announcements/New Business	<p>The Middlesex County Recovery Community Center will open its doors on Tuesday, October 16th at 25 Elizabeth Street, 2nd floor, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 from 3-7pm.</p> <p>Middlesex County Focus Group – Lori Dillon conducted a focus group for the county. The focus group revolved around establishing funding priorities to address the county’s addiction needs, create a plan for the planning and delivery of addiction services to county residences and identifying where the gaps in funding and planning lay. The focus was prevention, how we can improve prevention sciences and where are the gaps in prevention.</p>	Flyer will be attached with minutes
Next Meeting/Adjourn	<p>The Tree of Hope Ceremony at Sister Marie de Pazzi Conference Center, St. Peter’s University Hospital will take place in lieu of the October coalition meeting from 4:30pm – 6pm.</p>	