

Healthy Communities-Healthy Kids Coalition
Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2010

Attendance

1. Tanja Moriarty, Chair HC-HK Coalition
2. Divinna Schmitt, Parent, Killingworth resident
3. Trooper Jim Connelly, CT State Police, Resident Trooper, Town of Haddam
4. John Westerholm, Minister, Valley Bible Evangelical Free Church
5. Seth P. Nuzum, Youth Minister, Valley Bible Evangelical Free Church
6. Carol Flanagan Dupuis, Community Member
7. Linda Kaufmann, RSD 17 School Nurse Supervisor
8. Eileen Lawrence, Pediatrician
9. Ernest Nagler, Mentor Program, RSD 17
10. Catherine Iino, First Selectman, Town of Killingworth
11. Kathryn Glendon, HKYFS, Prevention Coordinator
12. Trooper Jeff Mazzetta, CT. State Police
13. Susan Dean, Board of Education liaison
14. Mike DeVecchio, Killingworth Lions Club

1. **Welcome/Introductions:** All members present introduced themselves and stated the community sector they represent.

2. **Minutes approval from December 2009**

Seth Nuzum motioned, Trooper Jim Connelly second. All in favor.

3. **Announcements**

Kate Glendon reported that Youth & Family Services and the HC-HK coalition now have a Facebook page. Kate invited all to join to view all events. All scheduled activities will also be on the Facebook page and can be discussed there between members. Also, Kate informed the coalition that YFS website is updated more often so if a meeting is cancelled it will be posted on the website. Tanja asked if it was difficult to join the Facebook page and Kate explained it was very simple to just click on "join group".

Tanja asked Kate about the United Way Community Impact Mini Grant. Kate reported that there are currently 5 mini grant applicants and passed a copy of the grant application out to the coalition and said anyone is welcome to apply. The mini-grants are to help provide asset-building activities and substance free alternative activities.

The Drug Take Back event is April 24, 2010 and HC-HK has been approved by the DEA and the Department of Environmental Protection. The event takes place from 10:00 – 2:00pm at the H-K High School. (*Please note that the event has been moved to Regional 17 Central Office*) Kate passed out a signup sheet and asked that anyone who wanted to volunteer to please do so. The volunteer duties would include passing out surveys to people and directing traffic. Kate explained that people who want to dispose of their expired or unused prescription medication would not even have to get out of their cars. The prescriptions/medications would be handed to a pharmacy intern who will then give it to a pharmacist for proper disposal. This event is being held two days after Earth Day and will help to keep drugs out of the water which also affects the Long Island Sound.

Kate announced the Names can Really Hurt program is being postponed until the fall. The coalition would like to wait for the H-K High Schools accreditation to be complete. The Names can Really Hurt program needs the participation of approximately 33 teachers. There are two, three hours training sessions for this program and that is difficult for the teachers to fit in their schedule at this time. No date has been set at this time. The coalition continues to look for someone to co-chair with Tanja Moriarty. Kate asked if any of the members knew of anyone that would like to co-chair to please contact her.

Trooper Jim Connelly reported that there has been a resolution to the matter of police overtime and working with non-profits. Trooper Connelly explained that a memo needs to be written to the Lieutenant or Sergeant about events for the underage drinking grant that police presence is needed and it should get approved. The police overtime

letter that the coalition was going to send to State Police headquarters was not needed at this time for police overtime. Trooper Connelly announced he was approved for the D.A.R.E. program. Trooper Connelly also, informed the coalition that with requests for events under the underage drinking grant, the troopers also need to provide a reason why they feel it is important for them to be present. Tanja asked Trooper Connelly if it would be fair to ask that the importance was that the troopers know the kids.

Kate Glendon gave a brief update of texting to the coalition. If you were born in 1990 or after you are considered a texting generation. Kate had handouts with a quiz for the coalition with to see how many texting abbreviation codes they knew. She informed the coalition that there is an item that can be installed in your car called Izup. This item shuts off the texting feature in your teen's phone when the car reaches 5 miles per hour. Kate also said speakers will be going into the High School and have students sign a contract that promises they will not text while driving. Kate reviewed the quizzes on texting and gave the results to the members of the coalition.

4. Reports

Outreach committee

Trooper Ward reported that the Outreach committee is working on getting more businesses involved in the community. Also they are working on a brochure to hand-out to the business they visit, which explains the Healthy Communities-Healthy Kids Coalition and how they can become involved. In addition they are currently looking for a co-chair from the Killingworth Community.

Publicity Committee

Seth Nuzum reported that the publicity committee is in the process of putting a video together for the Drug Take Back event. Seth spoke with the media people at the high school and is awaiting a reply. They are considering using students to put the video together. The publicity committee is also preparing an updated brochure for HC-HK for the members to give out to people in the Haddam & Killingworth communities. Tanja invited anyone who would like to join that there would be a short meeting after the HC-HK meeting today. She informed the coalition that she is working on the press releases for the video for the Drug Take Back event.

Education Committee

Carol Dupuis will be attending a parent orientation at HKMS for 4th grade parents to talk about never saying "not my child". She will also tell parents about the HC-HK

coalition and other services that are available to families that may have a concern about their child.

- **Strategic Prevention Framework/State Incentive Grant (SPF/SIG)**
Cheryl and Kate attended the CADCA conference in Washington, D.C. in February where they had poster presentation for on then Together We Can coalition. The poster included the underage drinking billboard ad, and approximately 1800 people viewed the poster. Kate reported that they were there during the Washington's biggest snow storm. The trip was short but they were able to do the poster presentation. Cheryl was currently presenting on Together We Can coalition at the East Haddam coalition meeting. TWC is mailing out postcards at the end of this month on social hosting and the tip line.
- **Students against Destructive Decisions (SADD HKHS)**
Kate reported for Catherine McGuire who could not attend meeting. Kate handed out flyers from the CT. Narcotics Task Force for a presentation on the Current Drug Trends in CT. The flyer is also on YFS website for more information. The presentation takes place on Tuesday, March 23, 2010 at 6:30pm at HKMS. Also, at HKMS there will be a No Name calling week. This will be held the last week of March.
- **Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Students (GLASS)**
No Report
- **Youth in Action (YIA)**
Kate reported for YIA. The group raised over \$200.00 for Haiti earthquake relief. The students also had a bake sale at Roberts in Madison to raise money for a trip to New York City to work in a soup kitchen. The students raised over \$100.00. YIA is also going to be working at the Drug Take Back event in April and are planning a town clean up day.
- **Great Initiatives Volunteering Everywhere (G.I.V.E.)**
No Report
- **Middlesex County Substance Abuse Action Council (MCSAAC)**
No Report
- **Killingworth Women's Organization (KWO)**
No report
- **Haddam-Killingworth Lions Club**
No report

- **School Resource Officer (SRO)**
- No report

- **Habitat for Humanity**
- No report

- **Haddam–Killingworth Recreation Department**
- No Report

- **Youth & Family Services of Haddam-Killingworth, Inc.**
- See announcements.

- **School (s) Update**
- Linda Kaufman reported that she has not seen the seasonal flu in the school system.

- **Community Updates**
- Trooper Connelly reported about the program that he gives at HKHS is called Police Academy. He has been doing this program for three semesters now. Every week is a different topic and there are 15 – 20 seniors who attend. Some of the topics that are discussed are DUI, computer instructors, and people from the s.w.a.t. team will also speak at one of the classes.

Pastor Westerholm reported that he saw a poster at a store with an attempt to raise money for Project Graduation. The fundraiser was a wine tasting event. Carol added that we should have events that involve children without alcohol. Pastor Westerholm said this sends a message to kids. He said that the 2 biggest lines in the flyer were “wine tasting & project graduation.” Kate said that for fundraising events the coalition should decide about what to do as a group. Tanja said that as a coalition going forward we should have these discussions to decide when we have fundraisers are we keeping them alcohol free. Tanja said it is a reality that adults drink and adults are attracted to fundraisers where alcohol is served but there are issues of moderation and designated drivers and this is something to keep in mind when deciding on a fundraiser that the coalition hosts. Kate suggested doing a fact sheet of safe party hosting that could be given to hosts of fundraising events that serve alcohol.

Susan Dean who is new to the school board asked the coalition what services are available for people in the community with drug addictions. Kate informed Susan of the Drug Free Communities grant that YFS has received that works with prevention and strategies and also of Catherine McGuire who is a student assistant counselor for HKMS and HKHS. Kate also told Susan of the counselors that YFS has and the counselors at the schools. Divinna Schmitt said that the YFS

website has information on what the agency and coalition does to help with drug abuse.

Next Meeting and adjournment

Meeting officially adjourned: 9:01 am

Next meeting – Wednesday, April 21, 2010
HKHS lower Media Center at 8:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann O'Mara