

Healthy Communities-Healthy Kids Coalition
Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2010

Attendance

1. Tanja Moriarty, Chair HC-HK Coalition
2. Eileen Lawrence, Interim Co-Chair HC-HK Coalition
3. Cheryl Chandler, Executive Director, YFSHK
4. Seth Nuzum, Valley Bible Evangelical Free Church
5. John Westerholm, Minister, Valley Bible Evangelical Free Church
6. Susan Dean, RSD 17 Board of Education
7. Catherine Iino, First Selectman, Town of Killingworth
8. Kathryn Glendon, YFSHK, Prevention Coordinator
9. Trooper Jim Connelly, CT State Police
10. Trooper Matthew Ward, CT State Police
11. Trooper Jeff Mazzetta, CT State Police
12. Bob Duval, Selectman, Town of Haddam
13. Dave Matthews, Media Specialist HKHS
14. Catherine McGuire, Student Assistant Counselor
15. Carol Dupuis, Community member
16. Linda Kaufman, RSD 17 Nurse
17. Ernest Nagler, RSD 17 Mentor Program
18. Betsy Chadwick, MCSAAC
19. Sheila Ward, HKHS Teaching and Learning Specialist
20. Ann O'Mara, YFSHK

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

2. **Minutes were not accepted**

3. **Human Bingo** was played by coalition members. Matt Ward won followed by Seth Nuzum in second place and Eileen Lawrence in third place.

4. **Drug Take Back**

Carol Dupuis reported to the coalition that the Drug Take Back event was efficiently operated and thanked Kathryn for helping to get the project off the ground. Thirty-three cars dropped off medications at the event. A fifty-five gallon drum was filled with prescription and over the counter drugs, and a five gallon container was filled with controlled substances. Kathryn reported that the oldest prescription was dated from 1983. Carol said two of the licensed pharmacists assisting at the Drug Take Back event were former HK graduates. She also thanked Scott Stoppa who is a Drug Control Agent for the Department of Consumer Protection and Trooper Jim Connelly for their efforts at the event. Carol and Kathryn would like to do the event again along with shredding. Cheryl mentioned that YFS received calls from other communities interested in having a Drug Take Back event. She also told the coalition that Kate submitted an article summarizing the event to the Krier and Bulletin. Carol suggested something go to HKHS for the principal's letter, and said she would also like to give information to the VNA and the Ambulance Association.

5. **Resource Survey/Strategic Planning Meeting**

Tanja reported that the Resource Survey is currently online, and Kate said they are conducting the survey to strengthen the coalition and encouraged members to take it. The survey will help find out what talents and skills members have in the coalition and might be willing to share with the community. Kate said that she would be having a meeting with Ken Dym on Strategic Planning after today's meeting and invited members to attend. Ken said he will be distributing Strategic Planning cheat sheets. This is a guide on what the organization plans to do over the next four to five years. This will help the coalition build a practical strategic plan.

6. **Social Norms campaign**

Kate would like at least 10 people to sign up for the training on June 9th from 12:00 to 1:30pm at the HKHS lower media center. The campaign aims to correct the misperception teens have about their peers in terms of underage drinking. Cheryl and Kate met with Superintendent Mala and he is allowing them to hold a training on Social Norms for the school faculty and staff at the end of August or early September. Sacred Heart University and Fitch High School have implemented a Social Norm Campaign. Kate suggested the website Mostofus.org for more information on social norms. Kate encouraged members to come to the training. Cheryl said the Superintendent was very supportive of this campaign, and she also encouraged members to attend the training.

7. Info Line Information

Betsy Chadwick of MCSAAC stated that MCSAAC, LPC's, YFS Directors and LPC chairs met. MCSAAC is trying to become a better depository for data. Every two years DHMAS focuses on collecting data on local, regional and state levels and compares it to national results. When this collection is complete all data will be sent to the Youth Service Bureaus. Kate passed out an Info Sheet, where coalition members can request information or help with training, grants, data, events, workshops, etc. from MCSAAC.

8. Logic Model

Cheryl presented a PowerPoint presentation on a underage drinking logic model and community needs assessment. The presentation was created at the Coalition Academy Training Conference. This Training is required by the Drug Free Communities Support Program (DFC). She reported that there are three trainings for DFC, which are located in Colorado. Cheryl handed out copies of a logic model which showed some examples for root causes of underage drinking in the community. Cheryl explained to the coalition that there were three questions in creating a logic model: Problem Statement, But Why? And But Why Here? First Selectwoman Cathy Iino asked what the root causes are of why kids would do alcohol or drugs. Kate informed the coalition that there will be a webinar on May 24th from 3:00pm – 4:30pm. The webinar will go over logic model, needs assessment and capacity building. Kate said she would be passing around a signup sheet to any members who would like to listen to the webinar.

9. Reports

Trooper Jim Connelly reported that the Mock Car Crash will take place at HKHS on May 25th at 9:00am. Trooper Jeff Mazetta said that as of the end of the school year, nineteen troopers will not be serving as School Resource Officers per the state to save \$1.2 million dollars. The Troopers will be put back on the road. Trooper Mazetta said that the Troopers are trying to get more of an answer about why the program is being cancelled. Cheryl asked Trooper Mazetta what concerned residents can do about this cancellation. Possibly write letters in support of keeping the SRO program. Susan Dean said that the school board is very upset by this decision. The SRO program was cut at the last minute at the legislative meeting in Hartford with no warning to Superintendents. Susan added that the prevention aspect is vital. She informed the coalition that Gary Mala is putting out a list of legislators to contact for the members on the Board of Education. Representative Mike Lawlor will be meeting with Susan and would like to get towns that utilize this program together to see if grant applications or funding is an option. Carol Dupuis asked Susan if she would please give the coalition the contact list when she gets it. Cheryl stated that there is power in numbers and that members should be contacting other coalitions. Betsy said MCSAAC should also be writing a letter.

10. Sub-Committees

Outreach Committee

Cheryl said the next meeting will be June 2 at Daybreak Café at 9:30am. The HC-HK brochure is in progress by the Publicity Committee, and it will be shown to businesses in the community in the fall. The committee is planning a meet and greet where the community can come learn about the coalition for the fall as well.

Publicity Committee

Seth said he created flyers for the Drug Take Back and he is working on a brochure for the HC-HK Coalition. Tanja is working on special interest stories. June 9 at 1:30 is the next meeting at YFS office. The committee asked the coalition if it was ok to tape the meetings and have them put on Ch 18. Coalition agreed to have meetings taped.

Education Committee

Kate said the committee will pick one 40 developmental asset each month to highlight and publish in the Haddam Bulletin and Killingworth Krier. We will also be having a family movie night at the Higganum Farmers Market in September. Carol discussed having a drug prevention program for athletes. The committee will focus on increasing awareness on the 40 developmental assets.

Reports Continued

- **Strategic Prevention Framework/State Incentive Grant (SPF/SIG)**
Cheryl reported that the Underage Drinking Grant will be ending on June 30, 2010. SPF/SIG evaluation report was taped at Comcast and is being edited. The broadcast will be on public access.
- **Students against Destructive Decisions (SADD HKHS)**
No Report
- **Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Students (GLASS)**
No Report
- **Youth in Action (YIA)**
No Report
- **Great Initiatives Volunteering Everywhere (G.I.V.E.)**
Students have been working in the Killingworth Community Garden.
- **Middlesex County Substance Abuse Action Council (MCSAAC)**
See above
- **Killingworth Women's Organization (KWO)**
No report
- **Haddam-Killingworth Lions Club**
No Report
- **School Resource Officer (SRO)**
See Above

- **Habitat for Humanity**

The past weekend the students worked at two sites in Middletown. This coming weekend they are holding a bake sale at Killingworth Ace Hardware to raise money for Habitat for Humanity Haiti Relief.

- **Haddam–Killingworth Recreation Department**

No Report

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

Cheryl Chandler announced that Youth & Family Services of H-K, Inc. will once again hold the Summer Program. The Summer Program is for kids entering 7th through 9th grade. A local church, Higganum Congregational Church, received a grant and chose YFS of HK to fund 10 full scholarships for kids to attend the program. Anyone that would like to register please call the YFS office.

- **School (s) Update**

Ernest Nagler of RSD 17 Mentor Program reported that Eric Larson and Elisa Pitoniak visited China under the sister school program on April vacation and gave a presentation. Ernie said that the town of Bolton has a program called “From Town Hall to the Great Wall,” and 55 teachers and students traveled to China through a community effort. Ernie invited members of HC-HK to explore this event.

Kate announced that the Search Survey was given to the HKHS students. Cheryl said that the results will be sent to YFS in August. The survey is given every two years and this will be the third time that YFS has administered the survey.

- **Community Updates**

Seth Nuzum reported that 45 kids from Valley Bible held a sleep out in cardboard boxes, collected two pickup trucks full of food for the food bank and cleaned parks in Portland and the Eddie Shelter in Middletown. The kids also didn't eat for thirty hours. They raised \$3500.00 to go to Relief in Haiti. The Hartford Courant and River East wrote articles on these events.

Tanja Moriarty announced that the Haddam town budget meeting would be this evening at 7:00 pm.

Carol Dupuis informed the coalition that the Student Assistant Counselor (drug & alcohol) position was eliminated at the end of the school year. Catherine McGuire who holds that position currently sees 60 kids between HKMS and HKHS. School staff has been informed they will have to pick up the slack. Dave Matthews commented that Catherine is extremely dedicated and that the school staff do not have the time or training to do that job. Cheryl added that YFS of HK have counselors but they are not trained in the alcohol and drug counseling and often work in conjunction with Catherine to help clients.

Next Meeting and adjournment

Meeting officially adjourned: 9:12 am

Next meeting – Wednesday, June 16, 2010

Daybreak Café in Higganum at 8:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann O'Mara