

Healthy Communities-Healthy Kids Coalition
Meeting Minutes
December 16, 2009

Attendance

1. Tanja Moriarty, Chair HC-HK Coalition
2. Hilary Kumnick, Parent/Resident
3. Cheryl Chandler, HKYFS Executive Director
4. Divinna Schmitt, Parent, Killingworth resident
5. Trooper Jim Connelly, CT State Police, Resident Trooper, Town of Haddam
6. John Westerholm, Minister, Valley Bible Evangelical Free Church
7. Seth P. Nuzum, Youth Minister, Valley Bible Evangelical Free Church
8. Carol Dupuis, Community Member
9. Anthony B. Rock, Living Rock Church
10. Linda Kaufmann, RSD 17 School Nurse Supervisor
11. Doug Sumner, Parent/Resident
12. Peggy Bushy, Community member
13. Catherine McGuire, Student Assistance Counselor, RSD 17
14. Dave Matthews, Director of Media HKHS
15. Eileen Lawrence, Peditrician
16. Susan Dean, Board of Education, RSD 17
17. Ernest Nagler, Mentor Program, RSD 17
18. Anthony B. Rock, Recovery Program, Living Rock Church
19. Betsey Chadwick, MCSAAC
20. Kathryn Glendon, HKYFS, Prevention Coordinator
21. Ann O'Mara, HKYFS, Administrative Assistant

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

2. Minutes approval from November 2009

Tanja Moriarty motioned, Doug Sumner second. All in favor.

3. Discussion

Cheryl introduced Kathryn Glendon the new Prevention Coordinator. Kathryn's position was made possible with the Drug Free Communities grant award. Kathryn is a graduate of Southern CT. State University and comes to Youth & Family Services of Haddam-Killingworth, Inc. with a Bachelor of Science in Public Health Promotion. Kathryn has experience with the Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of CT Association and worked with coalitions in New Haven county. Kathryn's first week with Youth & Family Services of Haddam-Killingworth, Inc. was very busy. She along with Cheryl, Mark Torello, Chair of YFS Board of Directors, and Scott Monroe, Treasure attended the Drug Free Communities Support Program in Washington, D.C.

4. Together We Can Presentation

Cheryl Chandler introduced the presentation informing the HC-HK Coalition that the Underage Drinking Grant funded the Together We Can Coalition. Along with Youth & Family Services of Haddam-Killingworth, Inc. included are Tri Town Youth Services, Gail Onofrio, Executive Director, Youth & Family Services of East Haddam, Toni McCabe, and Executive Director. Cheryl informed the coalition that a little over three years ago the three youth service bureaus decided to collaborate. Today's presentation will be an overview to let coalition members understand what the Together We Can coalition has accomplished. It was decided that by collaborating, more individuals would be reached. The Together We Can Coalition is funded by DHMAS. Cheryl told the coalition that the average age of first use of alcohol is eleven. The goal of the TWC is to increase the age of first use. TWC presentation was put on by Gail, who told HC-HK that she gave the Search Institute survey in January 2009 and all three youth service bureaus will be giving the Search Institute survey again this upcoming year. Cheryl told HC-HK that kids perceive that there is low law enforcement. Cheryl pointed out the drinking and driving is not the only problem that comes from underage drinking and points are shown in presentation. Compliance laws will be coming in spring. TWC directors along with an East Haddam Trooper are all trained in TIPs. Six liquor stores staff and owners have been trained. Training for restaurants will be done in 2010. The TWC Media campaign is to raise awareness. Gail Onofrio said her original idea is nurturing, how we nurture our children when they are young and how parents need to not allow their teens to drink and that is how the billboard came about. Also, a public service announcement was made. Cheryl reported that she and troopers from Troops F and Troop K attended three National Leadership Conferences to date. One conference was on controlled party dispersal. Trooper Connelly explained that controlled party dispersal basically as many as six troopers on patrol are looking for a large group of cars and knock on the door to see if there is underage drinking or also, he explained that the police would get calls on the tips line or citizens would call. The police were finding that kids scatter so therefore more manpower is needed so kids don't get hurt while running from the party.

Tips lines are set up in East Haddam, Haddam-Killingworth and Essex. There were twenty six party patrols in 2008, seventy infractions for minors and three infractions for adults. Cheryl said that educating parents and the general public is better than telling kids drinking is bad. Hilary Kumnick asked if the tips line was a single line. Trooper Connelly said that it sends a text message to a trooper. He also explained that Haddam and Haddam Neck would call the Killingworth tips line.

Cheryl said that a postal patron post card mailing will be completed with the tips line on it. Frank Sparks asked if the tips line is always in service. Trooper Connelly said yes and at least three troopers will respond. Cheryl reported that the grant ends in June 2010 but TWC will still operate. Toni McCabe said the party patrols will suffer without funding. Frank asked about certified trainers do they also have a curriculum that teaches on how to deal with intoxicated customers.

5. Mentor Program RSD 17

Ernest Nagler stated that he does three programs for RSD 17. The first is the mentor program and said that he is recruiting for adult mentors. The second program is a speakers program and he and Dave Matthews had Candy Moldenato, an 85 year old survivor of the holocaust, from the Society of Mini Engineers. Ernie informed the coalition that Chinese educators would once again be visiting RSD 17. Ernie would be interested in having HC-HK be involved in greeting the Chinese educators. They will be visiting for January 19, 2010 through January 29, 2010. Ernie said that Wesleyan invited them to visit for a day. Ernie can be contacted at the central office. Hilary added that maybe the coalition could host a breakfast on their second day.

Prescription Drug Disposal

Cheryl Chandler and Kathryn Glendon attended a prescription drug disposal presentation at the Drug Free Communities grantees conference in Washington, D.C. They informed the coalition that they will be receiving a manual on how the prescription drug disposal event is operated. The dates of this event are April 24, 2010 and a rain date of May 1, 2010. Carol Dupuis is spearheading this event.

6. Reports

- **Strategic Prevention Framework/State Incentive Grant (SPF/SIG)**
Cheryl Chandler is working with Dave Matthews for GLASS on bringing the program Names Can Really Hurt to RSD 17. This program addresses the school climate, bullying and relationships. Cheryl and Dave attended this program at Glastonbury High School. The panel consisted of students who were hurt and also perpetrators of hurting someone. HC-HK members will be looking for teachers to volunteer. Gail Onofrio said that Johan Feinberg does a program for middle school students for free.
- **Students against Destructive Decisions (SADD HKHS)**
No report

- **Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Students (GLASS)**
No Report (See SPF/SIG)
- **Youth in Action (YIA)**
No report
- **Great Initiatives Volunteering Everywhere (G.I.V.E.)**
No report
- **Middlesex County Substance Abuse Action Council (MCSAAC)**
Betsy Chadwick said that Erinn Knoll is teaching an all day conference at the middle school.
- **Killingworth Women's Organization (KWO)**
No report
- **Haddam-Killingworth Lions Club**
Hilary Kumnick reported that the Richie Havens concert was very successful and benefits Parmalee Farm. The Lions will be holding a tree sale and food drive for the holidays.
- **School Resource Officer (SRO)**
Trooper Connelly informed the coalition that troopers were notified that there will be no more overtime other than the DWI program. Directors from TWC would have to request a trooper and could get a trooper from anywhere in the state. The overtime rate is \$90.00 per hour and Sergeants overtime rate is \$110.00 per hour. Trooper Connelly said that resident troopers are in awe because this affects programs. Trooper Connelly said that he was concerned that his D.A.R.E. program may be cancelled. Seth Nuzum suggested that the coalition send letters out to State Representatives. Trooper Connelly said that the towns are now paying 70% so the state is trying to make up the 30%. Hilary said the Lions Club is able and willing to pay for troopers for events such as Kids Night Out and the state is not allowing it. Hilary said he believed that the state was trying to eliminate resident trooper programs. This scenario is happening all across the state. Tanja asked Trooper Connelly to be in contact with Youth & Family Services of Haddam-Killingworth, Inc. and HC-HK. Regional Action Council directors would like to lobby this. Cheryl asked Trooper Connelly if the school district is aware of this change, and Trooper Connelly said yes they were. He also informed the coalition that troopers are not allowed to be present at games.
- **Habitat for Humanity**
No report

- **Haddam–Killingworth Recreation Department**
Frank Sparks passed out the Recreation Department’s winter brochure. Frank reported that the Youth League had a little under 300 kids enroll. KAT swim team will be traveling to Boston for a meet. Enrollment is full.

- **Youth & Family Services of Haddam-Killingworth, Inc.**
Cheryl Chandler announced that YFS has its Holiday Giving program in progress. There are 33 children signed up to date to receive gifts. Several area churches are donating to the program. Also, H-K Middle school students are also donating for this holiday program. This program supports residents of the Higganum and Haddam areas. Helping Hands supports the Killingworth area.

- **School (s) Update**
Board members will be speaking with Superintendent Gary Mala about the state cut for Troopers. Also, state senators, legislatures and candidates need to be contacted about this matter repeatedly.

- **Community Updates**
Pastor John Westerholm reported that Valley Bible Evangelical Free Church had its Thanksgiving service and raised \$1075.00 for the community food bank.

Tony Rock of Living Rock Church announced that there will be a special recovery dinner coffee house for New Year’s Eve. Two bands will be performing. This event begins at 6:00 pm.

Next Meeting and adjournment

Meeting officially adjourned: 9:10 am

Next meeting – Wednesday, January 20, 2010
HKHS lower Media Center at 8:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann O’Mara