

Minutes - October 21, 2016 Rice Farms Wilbraham 1 PM to 2:30PM

Hampden-Wilbraham Safe and Healthy Students Coalition Monthly Meeting



Members in attendance: Teri Brand, Ruth DiCristoforo, Kathy Fuss, Gail Gramarossa, Rachel Hapgood, Marcy Julian, Gina Kahn, Elveer Kovarik, Marianna Litovich, Daniel Menard, Molly Caltabiano, Al Ganem.

I. **Madras Event Summary** – Ruth

The October 12th program was well-attended, just under 200 people. Out of 171 collected evaluations, the information provided by the program was rated as *Excellent* (108), *Very Good* (47), *Average* (9), *Poor* (6), and *did not respond* (1). Overall, knowledge on this topic now compared to before the program was rated as *A Lot More*(117), *Somewhat More* (46), *Stayed the Same* (5), and *did not respond* (3). Most (155) participants would recommend this program to a friend, a few (10) participants would not, and (4) participants were unsure about they would recommend the program, and (2) participants did not answer.

A detailed summary of the event was given to members, which included the following: Summary of Program Evaluations, Summary of Registrations, Community Partner (In-Kind) Summary, News Articles, and a Take Home Resource Folder that was given to all participants. If you did not attend the meeting and would like a copy of this information, please contact us at rdicristoforo@hwrdsd.org .

II. **Coalition Name Activity** – Gina

Members participated in an activity to help identify a list of final names for the coalition. A favorable rating was given to the following names: *Hampden-Wilbraham Safe and Healthy Students Coalition*, (Existing Name), *Hampden-Wilbraham Safe and Healthy Youth Coalition*, *Hampden-Wilbraham Partners in Prevention*, and *Hampden-Wilbraham Prevention Coalition*. In addition, two more suggestions evolved and gained strong favor from the group discussion: *Hampden-Wilbraham Partners for Youth* and *Hampden-Wilbraham Partners*.

One very definite outcome was the suggestion of a tag-line that would follow our name, no matter what the name turns out to be: "United for a Drug Free Community".

Members will be given one final opportunity to cast their vote by Email. Stay tuned!

III. **"Strategic Plan" Focus Point-- Recreational Marijuana – Gail**

Members were presented with information, and handouts, about the current Marijuana Legalization debate. A discussion was held to better understand what is meant by Coalition Advocacy vs. Lobbying. As a coalition, in receipt of Federal funds, members are not allowed to lobby on behalf of the coalition on any political issue.

IV. **Upcoming/On-Going activities– Gina**

Upcoming CADCA Training Schedule - *This training is open to Coalition members* for one week, two weeks, or three weeks in one of these two locations (To Be Decided): Tampa, FL (March 13 – 16, May 22-25, August 21- 24) or Baltimore, MD (April 3 -6, June 19-22, September 18-21). As part of the new coordinator training, Ruth will be attending all three weeks and the Coalition is looking for one person to attend each training week with her! Please contact Gina for more information: gkahn@hwrzd.org.

Request from Wilbraham Recreation Department (September '17) – The Coalition was asked to attend a meeting to discuss their plans for a speaker, Chris Wadell, next fall. Mr. Wadell will hold a school assembly and parent program about *Resilience: Overcoming Life's Obstacles* from the perspective of surviving a life-changing skiing accident, as a young man, who went on to do amazing things in his life.

New Collaborations: AIC and WNEU – Meaghan Armstrong, a WNEU Pharmacy student participated in our Dr. Madras program with a community table, and is interested in working with HWRSD and HWSHSC on projects that teach students/community about Over the Counter Medication safety. Dayna Campbell, AIC Professor, has invited Gina to make an overview presentation of the Coalition to her Capstone in Public Health Students. Students are writing proposals this semester for spring community health research projects. The hope is for matching an interested students to a HWSHSC project!

Snapshot

Catherine Brooks, Program Evaluator/Survey Research Specialist Collaborative for Educational Services, continues her work updating the SnapShot brochure with the current 2016 YBRS data.

YMHFA – The next training is to be held Saturday, 10/22/16. Members were encouraged to bring the YMHFA flyer into their organizations and let Gina know of anyone who is interested in an attending an upcoming course. The coalition is able to run a YMHFA program with a minimum of five participants.

Housekeeping - Gina

DESE requirements--*Substance Abuse Prevention Education Plan*—A public review with a comment period is required, as part of the grant.

Sector Support Cards- Participants documented their Coalition-related activities.

Next Meeting: Friday, November 18th 1:00p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Wilbraham Public Library