

***Hampden-Wilbraham Partners for Youth***  
**United for Safe, Healthy, and Drug-Free Communities**

Thursday, August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Thornton W. Burgess Middle School, Room E-6-- 85 Wilbraham Rd Hampden, MA 01036

Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Alex Manseau, MRHS Alum, Teri Brand, HWRSD Nurse Leader, Kathy Fuss, Wilbraham Jr. Women's Club, Gail Gramarossa, Public Health Consultant, Chelsey Hahn, Communications Coordinator/Youth Liaison, Dan Menard, HWRSD SRO, Gina Kahn, Director HWP4Y and HWRSD Safe Schools/Healthy Students, Jen Moulton, United Way/Vista, and Ruth DiCristoforo, Coalition Coordinator

- I. **Welcome and Introductions** were facilitated by Ruth. **Support Cards** were filled out by members listing coalition-related activities they were involved with over the past month.
  
- II. **Action Plan: Data Point of the Month** – Gina and Gail discussed highlighting a local condition each month, including a discussion on risk and protective factors around this condition found in our community. This presentation will be incorporated into future meetings.
  
- III. **Updates**
  - A. **Fall Programs and Events**
    1. **September 15<sup>th</sup> Partners in Prevention Leadership Forum (2<sup>nd</sup> Annual)** – Gina spoke about the upcoming Forum which will provide a great opportunity for invited Community leaders to learn about the Drug-free Communities Public Health approach to Coalition Prevention and Misuse Reduction work in the local community. The program has over 70 people attending from across all twelve sectors of the community including Students, Parents, Schools, Youth-Serving Organizations, Health Care Professionals, Law Enforcement, Civic/Volunteer Organizations, Religious/Fraternal Organizations, Media, Business, Government, and Other Organizations involved with Reducing Substance Use.
    2. **HWRSD Open House Coalition Table** (See Handouts for dates) – Ruth discussed the Open House dates and how the Coalition will have resources to give out at all seven nights.
    3. **10/2 Chris Waddell Program/Wilbraham Park and Recreation** – Gina spoke about the upcoming student assembly and community program.
    4. **10/6 Minnechaug Homecoming Coalition Awareness Night!** – Ruth spoke about the Coalition's plans to attend this event, bringing awareness about the Coalition website, as well as some key Positive Community Norms messaging planned for announcements during breaks in the game. Each person will receive a rubber bracelet stating "We are Chaug!" on one side and "HWP4Y.org" on the other side.
    5. **Secret Lives of Teens with Jon Mattleman** – Ruth discussed this upcoming Parenting Communication program to be held on November 14<sup>th</sup> with parenting expert Jon Mattleman. Respondents to last year's program evaluation consistently asked for a program about communication – How to actually talk to your teen about difficult subjects. More information will be coming out by email for member participation in the Community Expo prior to the 7 p.m. program, as well as opportunities to support the door prizes and to volunteer at the event. Stay Tuned!
    6. **DFC Site Evaluation Visit** (date pending) – Gina discussed that our project officer has requested a site visit but no date has been established to date. More information will be provided once available to us!
    7. **"Night Out" HPD** – Officer Bill Jacques spoke about the upcoming event scheduled from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Thornton W. Burgess School. There will be lots of fun for the whole family with a Bounce House, Rescue vehicles and a Helicopter, Popcorn and other activities. There will also be a Coalition table at the event monitored by SRO Dan Menard.
    8. **Other Community Events...All**

## B. n-Going Activities

1. **Logo update** – Chelsey showed the first round of designs to the group. More to come....
2. **Parents' Perspectives Survey/Focus Groups** – Gail will conduct an upcoming Parent Focus group, 1.5 hours, at MRHS IRC to facilitate a discussion amongst participants about the successes and challenges raising today's youth in our community. Ruth will work on participation for this event to be held on Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. at MRHS IRC.
3. **Website** – Ruth explained the need to shorten our website name to HWP4Y from Hamdpen-Wilbraham Partners for Youth for marketing reasons. The new name is a great length to brand onto products such as buttons, USBs, Pens, Stickers, signs, etc.
4. **Fall E-Newsletter** – Chelsey is working on formatting the Fall E-Newsletter. Ruth will work on the content.
5. **2017 YRBS Snapshot** – Gina explained this product is a 4-page booklet summarizing key points of information about the survey, and a link to activities and resources provided by the Coalition that may be of interest to the Community!

## C. Capacity Development

1. **Coalition Training**-- Mid-Year CADCA trip to Atlanta, GA was attended in July by Gina, Ruth, Chelsey, three rising senior students (Isabella Ferraro, Sebastian Karpinski, and Ashley Cato), and Cindy Milne. The program was full of prevention-based workshops and information, networking, and a real sense of being part of the DFC community across the U.S.A.
2. **Youth Outreach**—Chelsey plans to expand the youth-focus to the middle schools, in partnership with the Principals. Ongoing outreach to ATI has been very positive. Isabella Ferraro is the incoming President of the Club for this year.
3. **Sector Outreach**-- New Member Packets were developed by Ruth to include pertinent coalition and community information that a new member will be given at their first meeting.

## D. Upcoming Planning

1. **Social Norms Campaign** – Ruth and Chelsey will be working on expanding the Positive Community Norms messaging being created for the Minnechaug Homecoming Game Announcements to overflow into other areas of the community. H-W does a lot of things that are keeping youth safe, healthy, and drug-free and everyone needs to know about it! In many areas Social Math will be introduced to explain the data.
2. **Member Survey** - This was tabled to be included in the upcoming Coalition Self-Assessment facilitated with Gail's Public Health/DFC expertise.
3. **Hidden In Plain Sight Initiative/Partnerships** – This exhibit is still on the radar but further discussion will be postponed until some initial research is conducted by Ruth.
4. **DFC Coalition Structure:** By-laws, Steering Committee, Work-groups, etc. – Gail explained now that the Coalition is past the mid-point in a 5-year grant,( currently at the end of year 3 on September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017) it is time for the Coalition to evolve its structure further into a decision-making body (Steering Committee) that will be responsible to establish rules of operation (By-Laws) and oversee Work Groups that can sustain Youth Substance Use Prevention and Misuse Reduction work beyond the funding of the grant.
5. **SBIRT/YMHFA** – Teri explained SBIRT is a new universal school screening for students that will likely be done in one Middle School grade, and one High School grade. YMHFA (Youth Mental Health First Aid) training is available to groups of interested adults in the community. Please contact Teri for more information at: [tbrand@hwrso.org](mailto:tbrand@hwrso.org).

**IV. Coalition Business Requiring Action**

- A. Year Three Report/ Budget Completion – Gina reported all deadlines have been met for year three reporting.
- B. September Meeting Schedule – The next meeting will be at 1 p.m. Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 at the Thornton W. Burgess School 85 Wilbraham Road Hampden. Hope to see you there!



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