



Hampden-Wilbraham Partners for Youth
85 Wilbraham Road Hampden, MA 01036
United for Safe, Healthy, and Drug-free Communities

Bethlehem Church 123 Allen Street Hampden

Attending: Ashley Cato (Youth), Sebastian Karpinski (Youth), Isabella Ferraro (Youth), Glenda Guterra (Parent), Sue Bunnell (Local Gov't.), Sheryl Caruana (School Committee), Teri Brand (Health Sector Rep), Lori Cooney (Faith Org.), Carolyn Meuse (Local org working to reduce Substance use), Tracey Plantier (Civic/Volunteer Org), Billy Jacques (Law Enforcement), Kathy Fuss (Civic/Volunteer Org), Peter Babineau (Local org working to reduce Substance use), Tom Brennan (Faith Org.), Lori McCool (Public/Health Local Gov't.), Brad Sperry (Fraternal Org.), Sean Kennedy (School Committee), Gina Kahn, (Director HWP4Y/HWRSD Safe Schools and Healthy Students, Ruth DiCristoforo (HWP4Y Coordinator), and Tracy Bauduccio (HWP4Y Youth Liaison/Communications Coordinator)

1. A working lunch was graciously provided by Bethlehem Church. Ruth opened the meeting asking members to fill out their Support cards, identifying ways the work of the Coalition intersected with professional or personal activities since the last meeting. Members introduced themselves and gave a brief update about their work/sector.
 2. A Slideshow titled, *A Snapshot: Our Community Coalition*, was shown to the group that Ruth compiled, spotlighting the work of the coalition throughout the community.
 3. Gina provided the Coalition Business update. The Coalition will soon be in Year 5 of a 5 year DFC grant, beginning September 30, 2018. The year 6 – 10 application will be very competitive, with an expectation of an increased in-kind match, of 1.5 to start in year 6 that will reach a 2.0 match by year 10. Gina asked the Coalition to think about the best organization to be the fiscal agent for the Coalition. Is there a better agency for year 6 – 10 than HWRSD? The other options are for the Coalition to become its own non-profit or become self-sustaining without DFC Funding. This will be part of the on-going discussion going forward, while preparing for the reapplication of the DFC grant.
- Five Coalition members were identified to attend CADCA in July: Ruth DiCristoforo, Coordinator, Tracy Bauduccio, Youth Liaison, Dan Menard, HWRSD SRO Wilbraham Police, Billy Jacques, Hampden Police and Serenity Greenwood, HWRSD Principal. The group agreed to allocate funds to this training.
4. There was a Youth Spotlight to celebrate graduating seniors: Ashley Cato, Isabella Ferraro, and Sebastian Karpinski for their efforts and work on the Coalition and throughout the community. In addition to attending CADCA Training, during the summer of 2017 in Atlanta, GA Ashley and Sebastian have exemplified leadership throughout the year on the Hampden County District Attorney Youth Advisory Board and Isabella, serving as President, on the MRHS Above the Influence club.
 5. Greg Grass, the Coalition DFC Project Officer facilitated an open discussion with the group. Earlier in the day, Greg began his site visit, attending a full Sector Meeting, to learn more of the local conditions and how the Coalition works together for safe, healthy, and drug-free youth. Greg stressed how sustainability of Coalition work happens when there is strong 12-sector involvement, a strong infrastructure for the work, measurable gains, and a cross-section of the seven environmental strategies that impact local change. Greg stated how DFC communities can and do change community culture in a positive way over time. Greg will issue a report of his findings to the Coalition.

5. The meeting was closed with a reminder to members to fill out their meeting feedback survey. There will not be a meeting in July and the next Meeting will be the annual business meeting, on August 17th, 2018.



In collaboration with schools, community partners, and parents, the Hampden-Wilbraham Partners for Youth strives to implement a coordinated, comprehensive, and sustainable plan of evidence-based activities and services to prevent and reduce youth substance abuse and promote healthy childhood development.