

Hampden-Wilbraham Partners for Youth
United for Safe, Healthy, and Drug-Free Communities
Friday, June 23, 2017 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Minnechaug Regional High School Principal's Conference Room
621 Main Street Wilbraham, MA 01095
Meeting Minutes

Members present: Ruth DiCristoforo, Gail Gramarossa, Chelsey Hahn, Gina Kahn, Daniel Menard, Michael Roy, Diane Hawkins, Molly Cole, and Ralph Clark

Agenda

I. Welcome/ Introductions/ Support Cards

Members were welcomed, and introductions were made to everyone. Support cards were filled out, documenting coalition-related activities, throughout the community, by members since the last meeting.

II. New Business Requiring Coalition Action

A. Logo Contest – Best “Idea” Selection (hand-out)

Members were asked to review the logos submitted by students, and then vote for their favorite. Members were reminded that the “best” idea for a logo, should be one that represents the positive message of prevention, partnership, and/or youth, and does not contain any copyrighted messaging. Members evaluated 5 top entries, and then the group discussed their vote. The final best “idea”, was a combination of two entries! All contestants will be notified of the status of their entry. The top two entries will be brought to a graphic designer and a Coalition logo will be created, from their ideas. Exciting!

B. Year Two Carryover Approval/ Allocation Plan, June 1—September 30, was approved and will include use of funds for the following activities:

1. September 15, 2017, Second Annual “Partners in Prevention” Leadership Forum planning with CADCA consultation
2. Expansion of Communications Coordinator time (Youth Liaison .1 FTE position)
3. Youth participation at CADCA Mid-Year Conference July 23-27th
4. Support for Hampden Police Department “Night Out” Event , Chris Waddell

C. “Year Four” Planning

1. A Monthly Meeting schedule for August 2017 – June 2018 – Day, Time will be established and posted on the HWP4Y.org website and sent out by email. Discussion included staggering the times from the 1 p.m. regular time, to late afternoon or early evenings, offering babysitting, etc. However, most members seem to prefer the 3rd Friday of the month at 1 p.m. and were not sure changing the time would improve attendance. More effective outreach may involve going out to existing Community meetings throughout the area to meet and greet the people at their regular meeting.
2. Sustainability Plan (review/handout) – postponed for a future meeting
3. 2017-2018 Anchor Activities Including:
 - a) September 15th 2017 – Second Annual Partners in Prevention Forum Friendly’s Training Center Wilbraham ****SAVE THE DATE****
 - b) An *In Plain Sight* Exhibit was discussed as a Community Education program where objects in a typical youth bedroom are displayed *Right Before Your Eyes* and are shown to have potential connections to drug use. This is a program to inform adults about today’s concealed drug use. Decisions included organizing a planning committee, and Kim Lee offered potential support for this exhibit from CHD.

III. Coalition Updates & News

A. Coalition Visibility

1. Hampden-WilbrahamPartnersforYouth.org – is now LIVE! Members were given information about the website full of activities and resources, as well as a Community Partner page for members to highlight their organizational partnership with the Coalition.

2. Guest Writer Initiative– Wilbraham-Hampden Times – Who would like to write about Coalition related activities for the local paper? Members were encouraged to contact Ruth about reserving their spot in the rotation.
 3. Messaging Initiative – Wilbraham-Hampden Times Ad (hand-out), Lawn Signs, Community Bulletin Boards, HWRSD Athletic Tickets, Hampden Tax Bill, etc... - (This discussion was postponed due to time constraints)
- B. Parent’s Perspectives Survey – direct mail project – All H-W Families were mailed a postcard with link to the survey, including entry into an optional raffle for all submitted surveys!
- C. June 14th DFC Site Visit – overview given by Gina. The site visit included participation from many members who met with the project officer to talk about the work being done around prevention of opioid use in our area. THANK YOU to everyone who participated in this project.
- D. Upcoming
1. June 27th – 29th Youth Mental Health First Aide Trainer Training Being Attended by Coalition Member (Ruth DiCristoforo & Kim Lee)
 2. July 23rd – 27th Mid-Year CADCA Conference – Engineering Healthy Communities The Coalition will head to Atlanta with youth this year! Please see Gina for additional information about how to attend and why it’s a great idea!

IV. Coalition Partner News

- A. Updates and Information was shared from around the table.
- B. Summer Reading Recommendations:
1. Beautiful Boy by David Sheff
 2. The Power of Habit by Charles Duhigg
- C. Kindness Rocks is a Community project spearheaded by Molly Cole at Gazebo Park. All proceeds from this event go to the scholarship fund at MRHS.
- D. Evangel Assembly has an active Youth group, focused on “Here to Serve” in the local area. Reverend Ralph Clark has been leading kids at the church for 16 years.

V. Resources for Future Discussion

- A. President’s Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Epidemic (hand-out)
- B. Creating a Drug-free Community – one local strategy (W-H Times article)
- C. A Comprehensive Caring Response to the topic of Youth Suicide (Hand-Outs)

No Formal July Meeting
Sub-committees and Work-Groups will meet as needed
Updates via email, and... our website!

Hampden-WilbrahamPartnersForYouth.org