

Hampden-Wilbraham Partners for Youth

March 23rd, 2018 (1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.)

Wilbraham Senior Center Post Office Square Wilbraham, MA

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Diane Craig, Hampden County United Way; Brad Sperry and Joe Kielczewski, Wilbraham-Hampden Rotary Club; Jared Proulx, Crossroads; Tom Brennan, Bethlehem Church; Debbie Kelder, YMCA (Scantic); Kathy Fuss, Wilbraham Jr. Women's Club; Cindy Milner, Pathways for Parents; Chief David Bourcier, Wilbraham Fire Department; Mike Roy, Hampden-Wilbraham Regional Schools; Ruth DiCristoforo, Coalition Coordinator; Catherine Brooks, CES/Evaluation Consultant; and Gina Kahn, Coalition and HWRSD Safe Schools/Healthy Students Director

I. Welcome - Coalition Coordinator Ruth DiCristoforo welcomed the participants, expressed appreciation to Debbie Kelder From the YMCA and the Wilbraham Senior Center for their hospitality, and reminded the group to use their name tent-cards to record any relevant activities that they may have engaged in since their last meeting that could be considered within the scope of Coalition priorities. These are utilized both to document community resource matching, as required by the DFC grant, and to describe the many protective factors that are represented in our Coalition network.

Group members made their introductions and also provided information on upcoming events.

II. Ruth announced the next Community Education program as coming up on May 1st – *Talking to Kids about Alcohol* program with Dr. Rob Robinson. Members were given the flyer and announcement to help spread the word, and also invited to participate in the Community Resource expo, donate a door prize and/or volunteer for this important event. This information was also distributed via the Coalition group email.

III. Logo Review – Ruth presented the Coalition with the Logo recommendations from the Logo Review Committee. The group voted to accept the Logo, with a revision to the highlighting of the Coalition Name, so it stands out more on the Logo. The Logo Review committee was charged to finalize the Logo with the graphic designer.

IV. Youth Liaison/Communications Coordinator - Gina Kahn reviewed the process that the screening sub-committee had completed in the search for a new Communications Coordinator/Youth Liaison (handout: job description), and the recommendation to hire Tracy Bauduccio. Cindy Milner and Mike Roy shared their impressions of Ms. Bauduccio and the basis for the recommendation. It was agreed that Gina Kahn would proceed with making the offer of employment on behalf of the Coalition, and the process would be completed in accordance with HWRSD personnel/HR procedures as our fiscal agent. It is hoped that Ms. Bauduccio will be on board in early April and will attend the April meeting.

V. Youth Sector – Ruth facilitated a discussion about the best way to recognize our graduation Senior students. The Coalition recommended either honoring the students at the upcoming program, on 5/1, or inviting them to the June Coalition meeting. Ruth was charged with contacting the students to check their schedules, along with the other Student volunteers from ATI, who have volunteered their time.

Ruth stated how several sectors are very engaged with working with Youth, (HWRSD, Faith Organizations, Youth-Serving Agency (YMCA), Other Organizations working on Substance Abuse (UWPV), Government (Hampden County District Attorney Office – Youth Advisory Board) and many people have expressed an interest in developing this sector. Ruth stated how the next steps will be to have a Youth-focused meeting, soon after Tracy is on-board, and continue the discussion with all interested parties! Also, CADCA was mentioned as a training ground for students, as they have a Student Leadership track. However, the first step is identifying the group of interested students, and adults.

VI. CADCA – Mid-Year Conference (July 15- July 19th) Orlando, FL. Ruth and Gina discussed the interest, and finances, of sending a team to the Mid-Year CADCA conference in Orlando, specifically the possibility of sending students. Although it was agreed that the annual conference in DC would be a fantastic opportunity for student participation, it was also noted that since we were not able to send a team in February we did have resources budgeted for the summer conference and would proceed with that as a Year Four activity. An application form will be developed for students. Adult members of the Coalition who are interested in attending should let Ruth or Gina know as soon as possible so that we might take advantage of early bird registration. More information can be obtained by following the conference link:

<https://www.cadca.org/events/myti2018>

VII. Narcan Community Education Workshop – Ruth talked about the idea of a Narcan Education Training, at a future Coalition meeting, as well as supporting this work, done by Carolyn Meuse, RN, Mercy Hospital, in our community. The group discussed some of the challenges and stigma that is associated currently with the distribution of Narcan and the related training. Tapestry has been able to bypass these issues, but other individuals have found themselves to be red-flagged when going through their insurance and accessing co-pay to receive this training/ resources. Jared pointed out the importance of this training, and the value of our coalition supporting this educational effort. Diane pointed out that CVS is NARCAN friendly. There were a number of different ways that the coalition would like to be involved, and YMCA might be interested in hosting this educational program.

Kathy Fuss suggested that when the educational program takes place, Mike Maserati from CVS should be invited to come to talk about availability through CVS. Senator Lesser would also be able to help with possibly establishing a more local location to get NARCAN.

Ruth was charged with reconnecting with Carolyn to convey the support of the Coalition for her training, and to look for ways the Coalition can support her training in the community. Ruth was asked to discuss the stigma of obtaining Narcan, and to ask Carolyn if Narcan is distributed at her training, or to ask Carolyn about other ways people can obtain Narcan without being red-flagged.

VIII. Updates

A. Coalition Restructuring – Ruth reported all Coalition Involvement Agreements (CIAs) have been updated. Gina stated that we now have a full list of agreements, and will be continuing to recruit partners.

B. 2018 Youth Risk Behavior Survey – Gina reported the survey, administered in grades 7-12, will take place in early April. Gina hopes to report back with preliminary results at the May meeting.

C. Coalition Invitation – Ruth reported the Rotary Club of Wilbraham Hampden has invited the Coalition to speak, at their March 28th meeting. Gina looks forward to this opportunity to tell Rotarians about the Coalition, and continue to find partnership with this local organization.

Ruth reminded members how the Coalition is available to go throughout the Community to talk to organizations about our work, and encouraged members to think about ways to get the name, and mission, of the Coalition better known in our area.

D. Scheduled Youth Mental Health First Aid Trainings – Ruth announced the upcoming YMHFA trainings: March 24th – (8 a.m. – 4 p.m.) Thornton W. Burgess School and May 12th and May 19th - (12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.) MRHS 621 Main St. Wilbraham. Sign-ups are to rdicristoforo@hwrdsd.org. Gina reminded everyone that to schedule a Training, you only need to have 5 people registered!

VI. Upcoming Meeting Schedule – WHO would like to Host a meeting? Ruth, Members

A. Friday, April 27th 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. **Bethlehem Church** 123 Allen St, Hampden, MA

B. Friday, May 18th 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

C. Friday, June 15th 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

VII. Prior to adjournment, members filled out their Coalition Feedback Surveys.

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United for Safe, Healthy, and Drug-free Communities
HWP4Y.org

Minutes prepared by Ruth DiCristoforo and Gina Kahn
4/17/2018