



**Fairfield Cares Community Coalition
Minutes from Coalition Meeting on
January 17, 2018
Bigelow Center for Senior Activities
8:30-9:30 a.m.**

Attendees: Cristin McCarthy Vahey, Amanda Romaniello, Tim Morris, Wendy Bentivegna, Pandora Johnson, Laura Karson, Arselia Campis, Jennifer Jacobson, Denique Weidema Lewis, Karin Shaughnessy, Philip Dwyer, Lisa Pribesh, Terry Giegengack, Josh Zabin, Reini Knorr, Cathy Harlett, Caryn Campbell, Dan Landry

Opened: The meeting was opened at 8:30

Minutes: the December meeting minutes were approved

CSC Update – Positive Directions is continuing with the focus on alcohol prevention

January 9th: The youth coalition meeting – parent survey presented

Stakeholder invite went out for February 1st meeting.

February 3rd Wellness Fair planned by youth committee. Will take place from 2:00 to 4:00 at the First Congregational Church. Target audience is grades 6-12.

Goal to present more alternative activities for youth

Community Update will be in February

Chair Update –

Final revisions to social media campaign were made

Goal – make youth involvement regular

We need a communication person for social media and website – Critical Need

Cristin McCarthy Vahey has talked to SHU for potential student involvement

We will schedule speakers for each meeting

We need to plan for the annual meeting – a special event

Update on STR grant – Opioid Mini Grant

State targeted script – “Change the Script”

Phil Dwyer distributed a copy of the project checklist

Cathy Hazlett reviewed the details noting that it is a working document

Progress reports are due March 1 and the end of April.

Priority 1 – set up Narcan training focus on at-risk community and providers

Also focus on education to community

Parent Survey – presented by Denique Weidema Lewis

Results suggest a disconnect between parents’ perception and reality of student participation in underage drinking at high school level

Suggestion – Middle School health teachers need to take an active role in starting the conversation with students and encouraging parents to have conversation with their children

Goal to have student survey for 2018-2019 school year

Last student survey was 2016

Eventually parent survey and student survey will take place in the same year

The value of these surveys to other communities was discussed – typically used to identify one or two specific areas to focus efforts for the year – strategic direction

Next step- present results to parents

Needs assessment distributed to group

Meeting adjourned at 10:05