



**Fairfield CARES Community Coalition
Meeting Minutes – January 15, 2020**

The Fairfield CARES Community Coalition held a regular meeting at 8:30 am in the Board of Education, 2nd Floor Conference Room, 501 Kings Highway East, Fairfield, CT.

Present: Cristin McCarthy Vahey, Phil Dwyer, Andrea Flynn, Jenn Jacobsen, Reini Knorr, Wendy Bentivegna, Santina Jaronko, Lori Mediate, Karin Shaughnessy, Tim Morris, Steve Bogan, Susan Kotulsky

Call to Order: Cristin called the meeting to order 8:33 am

Approval of minutes: Jenn Jacobson made a motion to approve the December 18, 2019 meeting minutes with amendments, seconded by Wendy. Motion passed unanimously

Chair Update - Cristin McCarthy Vahey

- Recruitment having conversation, update a new one page flyer in the next two weeks, and welcoming parent involvement. A clear message is needed for attracting new members that share the mission of Fairfield CARES. Local prevention council for youth substance abuse, suicide prevention, peer networks, programing and coalition building to share messages across schools, community and health department.
- Annual meeting March 30th, 2020 at the regional Fire Training School. Community stakeholders will be invited, share the message and more involvement in breakout sessions at the tables. A small group is needed to plan logistics, folder of materials, time is TBD with a social introduction, presentation and breakouts. Jenn suggested inviting youth or youth graduate participation. The small group will be Jenn, Reini, Santina and Cristin.

Treasurer's Report – Cristin McCarthy Vahey for Bernadette Coppola

- The LPC application numbers were adjusted, pending feedback.
- SOR grant has \$1600 to spend down.
- CSC grant with Positive Directions has Melissa Squeo from Carma Creative to update materials to print. The website address is to be used for the meeting schedule.

CSC Grant Coordinator Update - Jenn Jacobson

- Jenn is working on with the marketing partner to provide a body of work on updating materials to use funds by June 30th.
- The youth committee is working with Jen, Melissa and Katy to extending the #lifenotwasted campaign targeting middle school assets, strengths and community areas, and gender gaps.
- DMHAS site visit went well with positive feedback and additional information was provided.

- Positive Directors interviewing a youth peer advocate on January 22nd to represent the collation on a youth wide basis at the governor's prevention partnership. There is a stipend for 5 hours per week and they will hopefully start by the end of the month.
- Gathering data on police report information for grant reports on DUI numbers, Social host citations, and compliance checks along with pass rate. A five year lookback on the numbers are needed for the report in June.
- The prevention strategic framework (PSF) grant federally has come out and the CSC grant has not yet from DMHAS. Waiting to see what Positive Directions is applying for Fairfield

Programing Committee Update – Reini Knorr

- 1/15 Westport - Launching our Sons
- 2/4 QPR suicide prevention (SRS Grant) at the Fairfield Public Library for the Moms Demand Action.
- 2/19/20 - Volunteer Fair Fairfield Public Library
- 2/24 “Hidden In Plain Sight” at Fairfield Ludlowe High School LMC is an adult event to show what to look for in teens rooms and what to say when you find paraphernalia, drugs and alcohol.
- 3/14 11-4pm Wellness Fair by the Chamber of Commerce at Fairfield University Rec-Plex with a table for Fairfield CARES, Fairfield Health Department, Fairfield Police and a sign up genius for volunteers for 2 hour slots.
- 3/17 Steered Straight at Warde High School by the Newtown Connection was moved to 3/31 due to a calendar conflict
- 3/30 Annual Meeting, idea to invite the Interactive Theater Group to present a healthy choices piece.
- 4/28 Courage to Speak Foundation at the Board of Education Conference Room
- April TBD - Drug Take Back Day
- For Events and Programing, tracking demographics and age at events is required by the State for funding.

Resource Committee Update – Phil Dwyer

- Infusing the coalition with parents to strengthen prevention as specialists on issues including opioids, juuling and other issues. PTA list is provided, the committee will make contact with the PTAs to recruit a parent from the PTA to engage with Fairfield CARES.
- Two documents, one trifold page “Who is Fairfield CARES” and one brief concise talking points with the role of Fairfield CARES. Engaging parents and the needs of students along with resources and volunteer opportunities.
- LPC Grant and SOR Grant reporting and template put together by Phil with action items. The reports are required quarterly and demographic reports. Wendy will help with the demographic information for the LPC grant and review events. SOR grant period ended September 2019 and funds are to be spent and reporting submitted.
- Ideas on spending the \$1600 is to create a tri fold brochure and include opioids.
- SPF training is scheduled for the February meeting for the LPC grant and SPF Strategic Prevention Framework. SPF timeline would be included.
- SOR Grant from 2019 & Potential New Round of Funding
- RYASAP New Regional Health Behavioral Health Action Organization, The HUB is now the provider and there is a different contract, requirements and required training

- University partnerships Sacred Heart University vaping and the counseling center at Fairfield University are helpful for events going forward.
- CT Realtor's grant application for a Chris Herron presentation was accepted into the system, pending the status. Possible co-sponsor with the Universities to cover the costs if the full \$25,000 is not awarded. Fairfield CARES has purchased the movie and the central office is looking to upload it to the website for access..

Youth Committee Update - Jenn Jacobson for Kathy Rosenfeld

- Youth committee meeting was postponed one week because there was no school.
- Conferencing in on the Governor's prevention meeting today at 7pm.
- Sending two youth members to a statewide leadership conference in February.

The Hub Update – Cristin McCarthy Vahey

- (RYSAP)Regional meeting for the Local Prevention Council was January 6th and one person is required to attend. It is recommended to clean up the documentation, update forms to report and create brochures. There is positive feedback for meeting goals, messaging and capacity building is going well.
- Grants are focused on certain topics such as prevention and opioids. Vaping and meth are not currently covered in the grants. Vaping sensation and community outreach are priorities.

New Business

- Post meeting times and agenda on social media
- SPF training in February strategic prevention framework
- Add grant contract to Gmail or secure site for committee to access
- An invite will go out to the First Selectwoman to attend the March 2nd leadership meeting.
- News list 600 and Agendas 300, email list only maintained by the Town of Fairfield. Mailchimp was suggested to use for contact information.

Adjournment: Andrea Flynn motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:37 am, seconded by Reini Knorr, passed unanimously.