



Fairfield CARES Community Coalition
Draft Meeting Minutes – June 10, 2020

The Fairfield CARES Community Coalition held a meeting at 8:30 am via [Zoom e-meeting](#).

Present: Cristin McCarthy Vahey, Reini Knorr, Bernadette Coppola, Andrea Flynn, Wendy Bentivegna, Gabrielle Diaz, Dana Bossio, Jennifer Hrbek (Positive Directions), Coreen Ahmad (Wakeman Boys and Girls Club), Michael Patota (Child Family Guidance Center), Pam Walker, Jenn Jacobsen, Lori Mediate

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 8:30 am

Approval of minutes: Wendy made a motion to approve the May 20th meeting minutes, seconded by Pam. Motion passed unanimously, with updates.

Chair Update - Cristin McCarthy Vahey

Mike Cummings agreed to be the co-chair for the Fairfield CARES Community Coalition and he will be talking to Cristin about co-chairing the committee and how it will be structured.

Treasurer's Report - Bernadette Coppola

- The LPC grant check arrived and the funds were paid to the following: \$1900 to each High School PTA, \$2600 Community Outreach Program Angst Program, \$1000 Coalition Administration for Zoom registration, T-shirts, brochures and Facebook/Instagram advertising.
- The SOR grant has the \$5000 spent previously.
- The Positive Directions \$830 was spent for the middle school campaign and \$200 for the evaluators. \$1735 in programing support to be spent by June 30th.

CSC Grant Coordinator Update - Jennifer Hrbek

Jenn Jacobson will be leaving Fairfield CARES and Positive Directions. She is going onto a new position TTASK to provide technical assistance. There is an open position at Positive Directions to be filed for one more DMHAS grant cycle. The grant is ready and set in place for the next year, for a seamless transition plan. Jenn will be dearly missed and still involved in Fairfield CARES.

Programing Committee Update - Reini Knorr

Link for Events: https://www.facebook.com/FairfieldCARES/events/?ref-page_internal

- 6/9 at 5:30pm Angst, Zoom meeting was a success. For a limited time the video link is available to view for a week and the last viewing day is June 16th to be sent to distribution groups.

- 5/21 at 5:30pm webinar Presentation on Anxiety with Eli Lebowitz was a success and slides will be available to view.
- 5/27 at 7pm webinar Resilient Families – A Parenting and Self Care with Katy Rosenthal and Haley Terrell with an uplifting hour with a guided mindfulness exercise. It is posted to the website watch anytime.
- 6/24 Discussion on Race with Fairfield Social Services with Julie Demarco and Mara Gottlieb, PHD, is the founder of Talking Changes
- The survey shows the programing delivered is aligned with the responses.
- Allison Cantor from Fairfield Wade 2018 alumni, is advocating for a senate bill 19 to better equip universities for campus sexual violence impacting students.

Resource Committee Update - Wendy Bentivegna

- Programing and Resources to set up meetings with PTAs. Goal to meet with the 3 middle schools and two elementary schools (Riverfield, Stratfield or North Stratfield) with new incoming presidents. Looking to have a coffee in a small group to see what support the PTAs need for the fall.
- LPC (Local Prevention Council) provides \$7000 yearly. 2019-2020 year completed and report due July 31st. The completed application for 2020-2021 is due July 31st. DMHAS has changed the scope to vaping educational and preventative. Please provide input ASAP.
- The CSC grant will end in a year. The committee will focus on areas drug-free communities grants and capacity building for the future.

Youth Committee Update – Jenn Jacobson

Katy and Jenn planned a meeting for June to review survey results and the middle school campaign. Looking to reschedule for later in the month. Leadership is listening and open to the voices of the youth and taking action being apart in decision making. There will be a draft of the middle school campaign to review.

The Hub Update – Cristin for Giovanna Mozzo

Janice is coving while Giovanna is out. There is access to tremendous resources.

New Business

- Young people are speaking up about systemic racism and policing. The opportunity to have a conversation with social services on June 24th, is a great start for wellness support and prevention.
- Wakeman provided the Screenagers the next chapter to view and shared over the next week.
- Child Guidance is available to speak about the services they provide.
- Fairfield CARES Covid screen with tips and resources, along with the Talk It Out line

Adjournment: Jenn made a motion to adjourn seconded by Wendy, passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:35 am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Andrea Flynn