



September 25, 2019 Meeting Minutes
10:00-11:30 a.m. Anderson Hospital, Maryville, IL

Jessica, Chair, began the meeting with a welcome to all and asked for brief introductions from participants. There were 45 people in attendance.

Current Business:

- Tom Gibbons provided an update on the 501(c) 3. The workgroup continues to work through the paperwork. If you are interested and available to assist with this process, please let a member of the Executive Committee know at partnershipdrugfreecommunities@gmail.org
- Karen, Jessica and Elizabeth met with Riverbender to discuss updates to the website. Updates coming soon. Amy asked partners to use and potentially highlight the website.

Workgroups:

- **Education and Prevention** workgroup is currently working on an e-cigarette/vaping education campaign. A small group began working over the summer and has combined their efforts to begin to work with schools. Over 20 people and organizations are anticipated to attend a meeting on September 26 at Edwardsville High School. The workgroup is working on Alternative Pain Management presentations for the Partnership in October and beyond depending on the interest of the group. The meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month, 10:30-noon at the Chestnut Health Systems Maryville location. Please join the workgroup if you are interested in education and prevention.
- **Recovery and Treatment** workgroup is working on policies for addressing marijuana legalization and work places. The meetings are the first Wednesday of each month, noon-1:30 at the Chestnut Health Systems Maryville location. Please bring your lunch and join the workgroup if you are interested in recovery and treatment.
- **Law Enforcement** workgroup had a presentation from the DEA on Meth and the impact the current form of Meth has on people because it is different than what has been seen in the past. Mail transactions are bringing the Ice form of Meth to the area. Vaping and the additives which mimic THC were discussed. The next meeting is scheduled for October 16 and the Madison County Administration Building. Chris Hale reported 530 cases of vaping related illnesses from January 1, 2019 to September 19, 2019. The reported ages of people with vaping related illnesses were 15-42 with the average age of 22. There is no single product identified related to the illnesses or deaths.

Guest speaker:

- The Treatment and Recovery workgroup put together a panel of people and organizations to discuss recovery. Chelsea moderated the panel:
 - Harelyn Williams-Recovery Doula Specialist at Chestnut Health Systems
 - Paralea Russell, Al-Anon Family Groups
 - Jason Farley, Recovery Specialist at Alton Memorial Hospital and Board Member for Amare



- Jennifer Nagel, Recovery and Employment Specialist at Chestnut Health Systems and Director/Outreach Coordinator with The Porch Light Collective
- Ty Bechel, Lead Certified Peer Recovery Specialist at Alton Memorial Hospital and Executive Director of Amare
- Key points from the panel;
 - Self-directed path to recovery is important. Each person's journey is different.
 - Trauma and substance use are linked.
 - Undiagnosed, underdiagnosed and over treated mental health issues may lead to substance misuse.
 - Stress impacts substance use and coping skills are needed to help with stress.
 - Need stigma busting campaign and improved understanding of recovery.
 - Making connections with others is tremendously important for people living in recovery.
 - Substance use disorder is a society and community issue.
 - Housing options are needed for people currently in drug court.
 - A variety of pathways to recovery including medication assisted treatment. All paths to recovery fit.
 - Family, friends and providers need to meet people with compassion and understanding where ever they are on their recovery journey.

Announcements:

- Centerstone Spotlight Series with Ryan Hampton on October 29, 5-7 PM; flyer attached.
- ALATEEN meetings held on the first Thursday at First Christian Church in Edwardsville; flyer attached.
- Mental Health First Aid is available; a Youth Mental Health First Aid on October 15 and 17 (must attend both) at McKendree University; flyer attached.
- TRUE YOU Recovery on September 27 at CenterPointe Hospital; flyer attached for more information.
- Celebrate Recovery meetings throughout the Madison County area; flyer attached.

Reminders

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, October 23, 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. at Anderson Hospital in Maryville, IL.

November and December meetings will be combined and held on Thursday, December 5, 10:00-11:30 at Anderson Hospital in Maryville, IL.

If there are any additions or corrections, please let me know. Denise Strehlow at denise.strehlow@bjc.org or 314-580-3767.