

Franklin Mayor's Drug Task Force

Meeting Minutes

March 8, 2012

5-7pm; Franklin Regional Hospital Conference Room A/B

Attendee	Sector Represented
Jason Vezina	Parent
Melissa Stone	Parent
City Manager Elizabeth Dragon	City of Franklin
Joe Giunta	Fraternal Organization (State of NH Elks Association)
Chief David Goldstein	Governmental Agency with Expertise in the Field of Substance Abuse (Franklin Police Department)
Meaghan Corning	Franklin HS Student, FYI President
Jessica Turgeon	Franklin HS Student, FYI Secretary
Mike Gogan	FYI Public Relations Coordinator
Melissa Rizzo	Healthcare Professional (LRGH)
Bob Lucas	Franklin School Board
Lynn Haskell	Youth-Serving Organization (Merrimack County Youth Diversion)
Amanda Snyder	Other organization involved in reducing substance abuse (Phoenix House)
Shannon Libby	Parent
Henry Lipman	Lakes Region General Hospital
Traci Fowler	DFC Coalition Project Coordinator

Agenda Items:

- **Welcome and Introductions**
 - Meeting sign-in with 'Sector Represented'
- **Franklin Youth Initiative (FYI) Updates**
 - Washington, DC slideshow
 - Help Needed/Upcoming Projects
- **Legislative Updates**
 - HB 1251
 - HB 1526
 - SB 286
- **Task Force Member Development**
 - New Futures Community Leadership Initiative – *how was it??*
 - Upcoming professional development opportunities
- **Local Data Collection Check-in**
 - Key Informant Interviews
 - Focus Groups (parent, youth)
- **April 2012 National Rx Take Back Day**
 - Community Collaboration?
 - Volunteers Needed
 - Permanent Take Back Box to be "kicked-off" around same time?

Legislative Updates

- HB 1251- Expanding Liquor Sales
 - GOOD News! NH House soundly defeated this bill, which would have expanded liquor sales to convenience and grocery stores.
- HB 1526 – Marijuana Decriminalization
 - This bill passed the House with an extremely close vote of 161/162. Speaker O’Brien declined to vote. We are hopeful that if the Governor vetoes this bill as he has previously promised, there will NOT be a majority to overrule the veto. The next step for this bill is to head to the Senate.
- SB 286 – Authorizing Controlled Prescription Drug Monitoring Program
 - We have formed an ‘Ad-Hoc’ work group around this important bill comprised of members of the LRGH community (including CEO Tom Clairmont), our Police Chief and Task Force Members.
 - This bill was strategically proposed in the Senate and we believe it will pass through the Senate with a possible amendment. It will then move on to the House where it faces a more difficult road.
 - Once we find out the date for the House hearing, we will alert Task Force members. It will be important for community members’ (parents, youth, school staff) perspectives to be heard on this issue.
 - Our Ad Hoc work group will try to arrange meetings with House Committee members *before* the hearing so that we can be sure to have our voices heard.
 - Community Members preparing testimony should take note to address how NOT having an Rx Monitoring Program has impacted their communities, and how they feel about the issue of privacy as it relates to this bill.
- **Action Alert! Lobbying vs. Advocacy and the careful line the Task Force must walk when sending out mass Action Alerts:** We are not allowed to use federal funds to “lobby” on any issue, which means taking a stance on a certain topic and/or urging our stakeholders to vote a certain way. We can send out Action Alerts as long as we don’t *specifically* state an opinion on how people should vote on an issue, or urge them to take a *specific* action with their legislators (i.e. Vote “NO”). Traci admitted pushing the envelope too much with our March Action Alert, and realized that we have to be more careful! Moving forward, the group decided that it IS still important to send out Legislative Alerts, however, we will be sure to only present information to educate our stakeholders on an issue with information on how to reach their legislator, and we will NOT specifically urge them one way or the other. If we ever do want to reach out to specifically urge stakeholders to take a certain stance, we can work with our affiliated groups, such as FYI or the Elks Association to do so.

Franklin Youth Initiative (FYI) Updates

- **Washington, DC slideshow** (*see Power Point slideshow*): Shannon Libby and FYI Members, Jessica Turgeon and Meaghan Corning, presented photos and information about their recent trip to Washington, DC! Jessica, Meaghan and FYI member, Brianna Tuttle, participated in CADCA’s Youth Leadership Initiative. This is an annual comprehensive training for youth leaders working with community substance abuse coalitions. The FYI members did a tremendous job, and learned a lot about the Strategic Prevention Framework and how it relates to the work the Task Force is doing.
- **Help Needed/Upcoming Projects:**
 - The most current item FYI needs help with is finding another Teacher Advisor! Unfortunately, due to personal circumstances, Shannon Libby took another job and is no longer working at FHS. Thankfully, she will still continue to be part of the Task Force, but can no longer act as the Teacher Advisor. As per our collaboration with FHS, the Teacher Advisor must be an SAU 18 employee. Traci will work with the SAU to coordinate advertising for this position. Task Force Members are encouraged help to spread the word.

- FYI Members are very interested in researching a school policy that would allow drug testing for school athletes. During their CADCA Training, FYI members spoke with other schools and communities that had a similar policy, and it was working well to hold students accountable. Task Force members are also interested in pursuing this, and will begin by doing some research on current school policy. In order to protect FYI students from potential bullying and/or negative feedback, the Task Force will take on this issue and will include it in our Strategic Plan. Thus, FYI will not be formally connected to this initiative moving forward.

Local Data Collection Check-in

- **Key Informant Interviews**
 - Katy Shea has been conducting these interviews, and so far, things are going well and she is pleased with the results. To date, KI interviews have been conducted with: VNA, Westside Healthcare. KI Interviews to complete: Dentist – Katy has emailed a local dentist and is in the process of scheduling, ER Doc - trying to schedule, Pharmacist – Have reached out to the Lessards, but have not been able to schedule. Katy is planning to do approach the local CVS Pharmacy for an interview, LADAC – No luck connecting so far *BUT* Task Force Member, Amanda Snyder, just completed her LADAC certification and is more than happy to participate in an interview. Traci will pass Amanda’s contact info along to Katy.
- **Focus Groups (parent, youth)**
 - Parent Focus Group scheduled for March 13, 6pm at Franklin Hospital, conference room A/B. So far, we have 3 parents confirmed, and might have 1 additional participant. Parents will receive a Hannafords gift card for their participation.
 - Youth Focus Group: we have had some difficulty scheduling this due to the loss of our FYI Teacher Advisor. Traci is working with the SAU to get approval to continue meeting with the students until a new Advisor is secured.

Task Force Member Development

- **New Futures Community Leadership Initiative – how was it??** Task Force Members Melissa Rizzo, Melissa Stone, Jason Vezina, Bob Lucas and Joe Giunta participated in New Futures Community Leadership Initiative, which is a leadership and advocacy training for substance abuse coalitions/professionals. These members spent the day in Concord and their training culminated with a tour of the State House and Legislative Office Building (LOB). They enjoyed the training and felt that it was a good learning experience. Joe Giunta mentioned that he is trying to get some of the Elks Leadership to participate in the training b/c it was very valuable to learn the details about HOW to advocate for change.
- **Upcoming professional development opportunities:** Traci passed around several upcoming trainings – through NHTIAD and BDAS – that Task Force members are encouraged to participate in. Training fees can be covered by the DFC Grant.

April 2012 National Rx Take Back Day : April 28th, 10am-2pm

- **Community Collaboration?** Traci will connect with LRGH (via Melissa) and the Franklin Fire Dept. to see if/how we can collaborate for April’s Take Back. It would be great to get the word out to homebound seniors as we did during October’s event.
- **Volunteers Needed:** Task Force Members will be needed to help distribute PR material to local healthcare facilities, to help compile resource bags for community members (to be handed out during the Take Back event), and to participate during the Take Back Day. Volunteer sign up and PR material will be distributed during April’s meeting.
- **Permanent Take Back Box to be “kicked-off” around same time?** Chief thinks the April timeframe should work out, although a follow-up meeting is needed to make sure we have everything ready to “kick off” our Take Back Box.

Other Updates

- There is now a **K3** brand of synthetic marijuana!? City Manager Dragon mentioned the need for us to *expand* our K2 ordinance to include the additional chemicals that manufacturers are now using.
- Bob Lucas attended the Chem-Free spaghetti fundraiser dinner at the Tilt'n Diner, and he said the food was great and there was a strong turnout of community members.

April Meeting:

April 12th, 5-7pm @ Franklin Regional Hospital

Contact Traci Fowler with any questions/comments: tfowler@franklinnh.org

A meeting agenda will be emailed prior to the meeting!