

September 04, 2014

Franklin Regional Hospital

### **Franklin Mayor's Drug Task Force Leadership Retreat**

**Present:** Angela Lynch, Melissa Rizzo, Jason Vezina, Sara Tracy, Mayor Merrifield, City Manager Dragon, Chief Goldstein, Bob Lucas, Joe Giunta.

**Welcome:** Group was welcomed and thanked for coming.

**Site Visit Recap:** It was reiterated how positive the site visit was, and thanked our leadership team for taking the time out of their workday to join us and show their support on that day. Having them there really impressed our guests (our DFC Project Officer, Cydne Kimbrough, and Branch Chief CSAP Division of Community Programs, Costella Green). Also having the two FYI students there at lunch was very appreciated by our guests. Two primary items that we were told to be sure we are mindful of in the future are that we make sure we publically (such as on our website) put contracts up for bid and to frame our work with the FYI group in the best manner possible. We were told many times that we set the bar by being great examples of what the DFC wants to see at a site visit. We were also told many times that we are a great example of what should be seen in communities.

**End of Fiscal Year Budget Discussion:** Elizabeth led the group in reviewing the current budget report, the group looked at the money left over in some of the areas, discussed contracts that are scheduled to be paid during this budget year (which ends September 30, 2014), and the group then looked at a list of possible opportunities to spend money. This list includes event, activity and office materials as well as training opportunities and drug under cover details.

The group decided to purchase cameras for FYI to use to document activities and to help with future Environment Scans, to look into purchasing more home drug testing kits that also test for synthetics, Facilitator Training in Boston for Angela Lynch and Melissa Rizzo. It was also decided to purchase the Samantha the Skunk kit that Dover Youth to Youth offers, Glow-in-the-Dark bracelets for events such as Odell Park after Dark, a professional table cloth with our logo printed on the front, possible materials for Red Ribbon Week and for FYI to use, and spend some additional office supply funds to support coalition meetings in the Bessie Rowell meeting space. We also decided to look at paying for some Action Plan items such as travel to CADCA's training in February in Washington (Leadership members who are interested in attending this training are urged to let us know as soon as they are able; Sara Tracy and Joe Giunta expressed interest).

Bob Lucas brought up that we should research parenting classes that are either around the area, or that we could implement in the future to talk with parents/grandparents/child primary caretakers about communicating with kids about the risks of substance use and abuse. Elizabeth noted that a form of this was done in the past but it hadn't sustained. Bob and Jason agreed to do some research on the topic.

The group discussed ideas on how to be easily recognizable at our events/activities. Ideas are: lanyards, polo shirts, name tags, badges. The group decided that badges similar to those that city employees currently have may be the best choice.

Chief Goldstein requested \$4,800 instead of \$4,500 for Under Cover Details. It was decided by consensus that this can be done. Melissa asked if there was an opportunity for us to get more anecdotal information about the Under Cover Details done, such as what the officer had done and seen during this time. Chief said that yes, a report could be sent to us.

Sara expressed the idea of getting water bottles again. Consensus was achieved for the water bottles. Elizabeth brought up Chem Free after Prom and donating to their raffle. Consensus was also granted to donate to the Chem Free raffle.

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Melissa brought up her idea to get a German Shepard costume and to create our own educational performance series (skits) called "Max Facts" for kids. The Mayor noted that we could ask Jule Finley if she'd be interested in helping us come up with a storyboard. Planning \$1,500 for a German Shepard costume and for the creation of "Max Facts" achieved consensus. **Handouts: 1)** Current Budget report **2)** Budget Spending Opportunities List

**Year 5 Timeline Created at Leadership Retreat:** Elizabeth informed the group about a change in one of the timeline items that involved Deb Naro from CADY. The date of this activity will need to be moved from October 09, 2014 to November 06, 2014.

The group discussed grant writing for our upcoming grant application. It is important to have someone writing the grant that knows our coalition and its efforts well. Last time the grant application was written, we had a lot of help from group members and Katy Shea helped put it all together. We feel Katy Shea would be a good choice since she helped with the first grant and knows what is going on. It was asked previously if she may be interested in helping with this and the preliminary answer has been "yes." Mayor Ken Merrifield asked the group if we had begun to consider funding sources. Elizabeth replied that at this point we don't know yet. We would have to begin by talking with Katy to get an approximate number. Melissa noted that we could get all of the foundation pieces for the grant application completed and have someone else help put it together and help us tie loose ends together. The group agreed that we can do a lot of the grant application ourselves rather than pay for all of it to be done by an outside party.

**Handout:** DFC Application Timeline

**Elks Drug Quiz Show:** Joe Giunta described the Elks Drug Quiz Show program, which they are currently reviewing, and that this program is from New York and is becoming National. This program will be simple to use and will come with the needed pieces. It would be great for FYI and it would also be nice if we could get schools from neighboring areas, such as Tilton, to also participate. Joe will bring the participation form and more information to the next Leadership Meeting, so to plan for it on the agenda. The group agreed that this would be good to try to bring into the community/schools.

Jason Vezina asked the group if we would be getting regular FYI updates during the year. It was replied that yes we would, getting tracking information and updates is a part of their contract and Melissa and Angela will likely be involved with the groups on a fairly frequent basis.

**YRBS Lunch n' Learn:** The upcoming Lunch n' Learn opportunity, taking place on October 10<sup>th</sup> from noon-1:30pm, will be presenting on, and discussing, local Youth Risk Behavior Survey results as well as what the data means and discussing how we may be able to push the numbers in our favor. Elizabeth brought up that it is important and powerful to personally invite some people as well as using our flyers and email to invite people to join us on that day. Melissa asked about food and whether we would be providing lunch. Elizabeth tells us that because this event is open to the community, it qualifies as allowing \$2 per person. Angela Lynch will need to try to get a strong RSVP list to help us plan for how much we will need.

### **Upcoming Events:**

- **September 10<sup>th</sup>- FMS Open House & "Alex's Story" viewing:** At this event we will have a table, and during the Open House we will be talking with parents and families, encouraging them to stay after the Open House to watch a short video ("Alex's Story") and after the video we will have a question-and-answer session with some of our volunteers as key professionals to answer questions (Peter DalPra from

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the Phoenix House, Police Chief Goldstein, LRGH Community Educator Melissa Rizzo and our coordinator Angela Lynch). Jason and Bob Lucas volunteered to help with this event.

- **September 11<sup>th</sup>- FHS Open House:** At this event we will have a table, be able to give a quick blurb at the beginning. Principal Towne offered to play "Alex's Story" in a separate classroom or on loop in the cafeteria. Melissa asked which we thought would be best. Jason Vezina expressed that having it on loop in the cafeteria would be good because people will be coming in and out of that area. Melissa mentioned making sure to let people know in the beginning, with our quick "blurb" that the video will be playing on loop in the room and that it is a short video and to be sure to get there 30 minutes ahead of time to have enough time to set everything up and be sure it works. Melissa said that she would let Principal Towne know of our preference. It was decided that playing it on loop in the cafeteria would be best because we would not have enough volunteers at the event that night (due to our Coalition Meeting also being that evening) to be able to be with our table and in a separate room with the video. Jason volunteered to help with this event.
- **September 11<sup>th</sup>- Coalition Meeting:** Our coalition meeting is at the same time as the FHS Open House, so some leadership members will not be able to attend the coalition meeting. This month at our meeting we are pleased to be having two guest speakers, Fire Chief LaChapelle and Dr. Racicot from LRGHealthcare talking with us about a recent Heroin/Opiate Symposium and what this could mean for local Emergency Services. In addition to our guest speakers' presentation, we will have our Mayor's Minute, Coalition Updates, and we will discuss upcoming activities and events.
- **September 18<sup>th</sup>- Substance Use/Abuse talk at the TRIP Center:**
- **September 27<sup>th</sup>- Rx Take Back Day:** Joe Giunta said he will likely be able to volunteer at this event, Chief Goldstein also said that he will be there. Chief Goldstein showed the group a photo of students in medication bottle costumes. Melissa expressed interest in this idea of possibly having FYI students be there in a similar costume. Elizabeth noted that we should probably focus on "Max Facts" for now, but that CADY has a big pill display that we may be able to borrow for the event.
- **October 4<sup>th</sup>- Fire Department Open House:** Melissa noted that the pill bottle display could also be great for the Fire Department Open House. It was described that we would have a table at the event and that it is important to include information on synthetics, our Medication Disposal Box, having our magnets there for people to take and emphasizing the importance of talking with your kids continuously and beginning the conversation sooner rather than later. Melissa brought up that it would be neat to make a display to educate people about synthetics. Elizabeth mentioned that we could talk to Claire about making this. Joe volunteered for this event.
- **October 10<sup>th</sup>- Lunch n' Learn:** Elizabeth said she will be at this event. Pizza is a possibility regarding the food.
- **October 15<sup>th</sup>- Lights on After School Harvest Carnival:** At this event we will be having a table. Melissa noted that this could be a great opportunity to use our Bean Bag Toss game.
- **October 25<sup>th</sup>- Odell Park After Dark:** We will again have a table at this event and hand out our glow-in-the-dark bracelets that have our name imprinted on them.

Jason asked the group if we knew whether our website link was on our Facebook page. Angela responded that the link to the City Website is there, but she will check to see if it is a direct link to the Franklin Mayor's Drug Task Force page.

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Joe Giunta expressed that he is still having trouble using our tracking forms because they are slightly intimidating. Melissa responded that anecdotal information is especially important. Angela expressed that he shouldn't worry and to just fill it out to the best of his abilities and to ask her questions if he needs and that she would review it before passing it along, giving time to ask him questions to clear things up if needed.

**Chief Goldstein:** Gave us an update on legislative progress regarding synthetics because he is on a committee in lieu of legislation about synthetics. He tells us that things are moving very quickly. One more meeting is coming up and there should be a bill written up around that time. A problem that is happening is that the compounds in synthetics are changing rapidly, and this makes it hard for labs to keep up. Another issue is that some people are using this issue with synthetics as another argument to legalize "natural" marijuana. Chief also told us that now there is documentation of a young man taking one hit of synthetic marijuana and going into a coma, and he died. Jason mentioned that this story should be found and posted on our Facebook page. Chief recommended searching for it on Youtube, a place where he had seen it.

**Hill, NH:** Told the group that our recent attempt to reach out to the Jennie D. Blake school in Hill did not pan out. We were told that the school isn't ready for us yet. An idea that Angela and Elizabeth had was to drop off some information about us along with a personal letter with a brief explanation of who we are and inviting the principal and other school members to our coalition meetings and our upcoming events (such as the October Lunch n' Learn). Melissa and Elizabeth expressed that we should also include examples of what we're doing such as our FMS flyer for the "Alex's Story" video viewing. Melissa brought up the idea to contact Mike Hoyt to join in on a meeting with the Hill principal, if a meeting is made. She also noted that the school nurse may also be a great contact. Bob noted that the connection of us to Hill isn't only through the schools, but also that our communities are so close in many other ways.

**Meeting Adjourned at 6:45 p.m.**