



Franklin Mayor's Drug Task Force
 Task Force Meeting Minutes
 Thursday, November 12, 2015
 5:00pm – 7:00pm at Bessie Rowell Community Center

Present:

<i>Name:</i>	<i>Sector:</i>	<i>Name:</i>	<i>Sector:</i>
<i>Angela Lynch</i>	<i>Coalition Coordinator</i>	<i>Bill Doherty</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>
<i>Elizabeth Dragon</i>	<i>City Manager, City of Franklin</i>	<i>Michelle Betts</i>	<i>Religious/Fraternal Organization: GTA Family Resource Center</i>
<i>Melissa Lee</i>	<i>Healthcare</i>	<i>Tamara Feener</i>	<i>School Board, SAU 18</i>
<i>Chief Goldstein</i>	<i>State, Local or Tribal Governmental Agency with Expertise in the Field of Substance Abuse</i>	<i>Joe Giunta</i>	<i>Religious/Fraternal Organization: Franklin Elks</i>
<i>Mayor Ken Merrifield</i>	<i>City of Franklin</i>	<i>Werner D. Horn</i>	<i>State Representative</i>
<i>Glen Feener</i>	<i>City of Franklin, City Councilor</i>	<i>Karen Darling</i>	<i>Civic/Volunteer Group (Choose Franklin, Franklin Jr. Youth Group)</i>
<i>Bill Grimm</i>	<i>Healthcare</i>	<i>Barbara Olson</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>
<i>Scott Burns</i>	<i>School Board, SAU 18</i>	<i>Sandi Bleggi</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>
<i>Lucy Natkiel</i>	<i>Hill Resident</i>	<i>Nicole Johnston</i>	<i>Out Of State Visitor</i>
<i>Bob Lucas</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>	<i>Paul Blackford</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>
<i>Jacqueline Dawe</i>	<i>Healthcare</i>	<i>Darryl Lennon</i>	<i>Northfield</i>
<i>Martha Pirkle</i>	<i>Religious Sector, Franklin Resident</i>	<i>Daniel Plichta</i>	<i>Other Organization Involved in Reducing Substance Abuse: Recovery, HOPE for NH Recovery</i>
<i>Myla Everett</i>	<i>Civic/Volunteer Group (Franklin Area Lions Club, NH State Lions Youth Services, Lions Quest Program)</i>	<i>Marcia Feener</i>	<i>Franklin Resident, CCNTR</i>
<i>Andrea Costanzo</i>	<i>Franklin High School Teacher</i>	<i>Cheryle Pacapelli</i>	<i>New Futures</i>
<i>Kate Frey</i>	<i>New Futures</i>		

Angela Lynch welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. After brief introductions from everyone in the room she reviewed the meeting guidelines.

New Futures: Advocacy Training

Kate Frey and Cheryle Pacapelli presented a brief version of the New Futures community Advocacy Training followed by a Legislative Update. This training aims to educate community members on what it means to advocate, the importance of advocating and how to advocate.

See supplemental presentation and handout materials titled "November 2015 Meeting Supplemental Materials"

Mayor's Minute

Our two representatives to congress, on November 30th invited Mayor Ken and Elizabeth to a roundtable conversation regarding the heroin epidemic. There were many law enforcement and treatment and recovery representatives, but not a lot from prevention. The impression received was that many of the people in the room predominantly believed that the people we see dying from opioid or heroin overdoses are getting hooked from pain medications. There weren't many seeing the connection between other substance use or misuse and the graduation on to harder drugs like heroin. So he looked at data after this discussion. NH has some of the highest rates on addiction in this country. But we have below average, per capita, rates of pain management prescriptions. So it strikes him that something more is going on here. That recreational drug use is much more of a front-runner as far as root causes go, than many realize.

Dan Plichta noted that he feels that it is more 60/40 from his experience as a previous LADC, 60% from recreational drug use and 40% from pain medications. Although he noted that he has not worked in the field for about 10 years now. It is also hard to get these exact statistics because of the anonymity surrounding addiction.

Paul noted that with heroin, you only really need to take heroin once to become hooked versus what we know about some other drugs. Because after you take heroin once, it takes you. Joe added that if you follow the mindset of these congress people, they would likely lead you to believe that the only people that take pain medications, have prescriptions. And this is simply not true. Many who abuse these medications, don't have a prescription.

There are several pathways to use of a harder drug like heroin. Through recreational drug use, through prescription pain medications and you can't ignore the underlying problems that people are seeking to cope with. The mental health aspect of it all. It is a much more complicated issue than people realize.

Chief Goldstein added that the Prescription Monitoring Program is coming down. Also, coming up after heroin is in the spotlight, Meth use is "coming back" although it never really left...

Dan added to never forget: Addiction is an illness.

New Mission Statement!

Our Leadership Committee officially approved the new Coalition Mission Statement, which was worked on and re-written at September's Coalition meeting. The new Mission Statement is: *"Engaging the communities of Franklin and Hill in working together to promote positive, alcohol and drug-free lifestyles for youth and families."*

Coalition in Action!

Rx Disposal Box Check-in

Melissa led this follow-up discussion, which began at September's Coalition Meeting. We focused on ways to re-engage and raise awareness in the community around our permanent medication disposal box. They had created a list of ideas on ways to increase this awareness. Some ideas were to re-engaging the medical community and making sure we have our rack cards out there in the community. Members of September's workgroup listed community locations to bring rack cards to and they divvied up who will bring some to which location(s).

Other locations included senior centers, elderly housing locations, funeral directors, childcare centers as well as other popular community locations. Members of the group signed on to bring rack cards to locations on the list that have yet to be targeted as well as continuing to brainstorm a few more locations to target. Melissa also shared the regional "Take Back Box" flyer created by our regional public health organization.

Coalition Updates

- **Comedy Show Fundraiser:** This was a very fun fundraising event. A HUGE thank you to everyone who helped up set this up, sell tickets, and work the event itself. In total, we raised about \$1800, though this is before subtracting the amount owed to the grant writer and some other expenses that went into the fundraiser that our grant cannot pay for.
- **NHMA Conference:** Our coalition will be hosting a panel Thursday, November 19th at the New Hampshire Municipal Association Conference about Substance Misuse and how municipalities can support efforts to reduce these issues in a community. This is the second year we've been invited to host a session. This year it is a panel discussion with communities from across the state.
- **Franklin Youth Initiative (FYI):** Andrea, the Franklin High School FYI Advisor shared that her group recently celebrated Red Ribbon Week. One project was having the high school advisory classes engage in a "Logo Lampoon" competition where the kids work together to lampoon alcohol or tobacco ads, or to make ads that tell the truth about the effects of using these projects. The three finalist posters are posted and available to see.
- **Spaghetti Dinner and Live Music fundraiser** this Saturday, November 14th for the Art Car from 5:30 to 7pm at the Franklin Elks.
- **Chem Free After Prom** is having a Holiday Craft fair this Saturday, November 14th from 9 to 2 pm at Franklin High School, in the Cafeteria.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Submitted by Angela Lynch