

Franklin Mayor's Drug Task Force
Leadership Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 5, 2015
5:00pm – 7:00pm

Present:

Elizabeth Dragon	City Manager, City of Franklin	Bob Lucas	Civic/Volunteer Group: Choose Franklin
Mayor Ken Merrifield	City of Franklin	Jason Vezina Sr.	Parent
Joe Giunta	Religious/Fraternal Organization: Franklin Elks	Angela Lynch	Coalition Coordinator
Traci Fowler	Other Organization Involved in Reducing Substance Abuse: Lakes Region Partnership for Public Health		

Welcome & Introductions

Angela thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and began by passing around some thank you cards for Leadership members to sign.

Comedy Show Fundraiser

Leadership members reviewed the fundraiser event; strengths and opportunities. Joey Novick was a favorite out of the comedians, as the group perceived from talking to those who attended the event that we've spoken to. Some feedback of the event included a few attendees who were not a fan of some of the "dirtier" jokes and the couple of jokes made that involved those with a substance use disorder which the group agreed was something that we had communicated that we did not want included in the evening's content. We recognize that some miscommunication with the last minute comedian additions occurred.

Leadership Binders

Our team members now each have a binder that has all coalition documents inside as well as recent data reports for easy referral and review, and for members to easily bring to future meetings which will greatly reduce printing as well. The group took a moment to familiarize themselves with their binders.

A newer document is the coalition calendar. A general calendar to give ideas on when the coalition tends to work on certain things, noting community events that we generally partner with, etc. to ease coalition activity planning.

Coalition meetings:

1. Noting that we need to make sure to keep threads going; make sure to get people to report back when they volunteer to help in some way with an initiative. At the next coalition meeting, check-in and discuss "what next?" regarding the initiative.
2. Being sure to build in ample time for the group to share.

3. Utilize the “parking lot” more during discussions.

Leadership Team Membership

Leadership Committee appointments are coming up sooner than we may think; in the beginning of January 2016. Angela tasked the members to think about their own membership and their interest in staying on as a member and to also think about nominations for additional Leadership members that they feel would be important to bring to the table, especially members who would represent a different sector from those already at the table to bring an even different perspective to the table. The group discussed the need for a business sector, an “other youth serving organization” representative as well as a parent to fill Jason’s shoes as he is moving in the near future and also other potential sector representatives. For the business sector, the group agreed that we want to build the relationship with Watts again, as it was valuable to have a representative from Watts all last year, before the individual left his position at Watts. The group discussed what we can do to support a business/workplace and the group discussed how the coalition is definitely supportive of helping to create substance-free workplaces. Traci added that there are evidence-based strategies for in the workplace as well. The group talked about the need for a better plan for workplaces who end up having someone test positive for drug use, such as sending the person to a program and allowing them to come back to the job after they’ve completed a program or something like that. Rather than sending people in this vicious cycle of losing their job, being left without supports and often ending up in the welfare system. The group felt that the current process for these circumstances is destructive and upsetting.

We believe a lot of people don’t understand or see what we’re doing and this is a barrier to gaining involvement. The group discussed the feeling that people want immediate action and immediate change/proof of change and this isn’t something that happens in the work of prevention.

The group also discussed needing to find some representatives for the media sector in general, as this area has been a struggle for the coalition so far.

Tracy talked a bit about SBIRT (stands for Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment) and how for areas that are utilizing this, it is working (it is evidence-based) around the country. HealthFirst and then Westside (she believes) and someone else (Newfound Practice?) will be implementing SBIRT. Traci wondered if anyone else around the area would be interested in implementing this. The group decided that we need to tell people about SBIRT, explain that it works (educate them) and encourage people to talk to their doctors, etc. about this and ask if/why they aren’t practicing this and encourage them to implement this.

Action Plan

The group looked at a newly formatted “Community Version” of our Action Plan. This community version would be for the general coalition/community member to review and to better understand what it is our coalition has laid out to work on and achieve. Leadership members and coalition members recently agreed that the full version of the action plan had so much information that it was at times overwhelming but more importantly, it was very hard for people to understand the content and how they fit into getting some of the action items done.

The group agreed that an even simpler version is needed. Something more specific with specific actionable strategies that we are looking for assistance with, including some examples. Angela noted that she will work on this type of version.

Sustainability Plan

The group looked at the newly formatted Sustainability plan which includes the estimated amounts that we would need in money to sustain the individual pieces mapped out in the plan. The group looked at the sustainability plan item costs to sustain and noted anything they felt needing changed such as the space for Coalition Coordinator cost which was still blank. Angela asked if the group felt if we should look at whether this position is something they'd want to sustain either in its entirety, looking at the current budgeted amount or if it'd be reduced, etc. The group decided to put in the current budgeted amount and they would in the future revisit that number and decide. Jason added that the goal of sustainability, some things that we are currently helping with or supportive of, such as bike patrols, we hopefully won't need by the time our grant ends.

Traci explained that those who are living this world, either through s family member or themselves, who are involved with treatment, recovery, etc., if we could get them in the door and really help them understand what prevention is and why it is so important, we could get some more really motivated and passionate people to partner with and on board with our work as well. We should look at partnering more with those other areas and those other angles surrounding and connected to prevention. Traci explained that she sees things being more sustainable in working with everyone more/as best we can and holding onto prevention through it; bringing it with us and keeping it as a focus along with the other pieces of the puzzle.

Those pieces that are for youth, people will likely be interested and willing to sponsor and/or help sustain these activities.

Angela asked for members to look at this document and think about ways they envision honing our sustainability plan in, helping to make sure it is attainable and realistic, etc.

2015 Community Survey

Since there wasn't much time left, Angela asked the group to take this document home to review; to familiarize themselves with it and let her know if there are any word/grammar edits needed.

Member Spotlight

Angela made an "ask" for Member Spotlight nominations in person or via email. Angela will be sending out a Survey Monkey asking for nominations before the next coalition meeting. Elizabeth noted that the last Member Spotlight we decided to do never was completed due

to some sort of communication trouble with the nominee and to be sure that this gets completed.

Safe Surroundings

Angela described the training/presentation utilizing a mock teenage bedroom for parents and anyone who works with or cares for children and especially teenagers. This training highlights a “mock” teen bedroom that has over 80 hidden indicators/warning signs of teenage risky behaviors. These are warning signs for risky behaviors such as; drug use, underage drinking and self-harm. Participants at a training such as this would learn about hidden signs that your teenager might be using alcohol or other drugs, hidden signs that your teenager might be self-harming, the latest drug and alcohol trends as well as slang terms and also how to talk to your teen about these tough topics.

At this point, Angela needs to figure out cost and potential days to schedule. We are looking to work with school administration to help us coordinate the date, time and location of this learning opportunity.

Upcoming Events & Activities

- **Nov. Coalition MTG:** Thursday, November 12th. New Futures will be coming to do a brief training on advocacy for coalition members during the first half of the meeting.
- **NHMA Panel:** Thursday, November 19th

OTHER- Team Updates/Comments

- **NHMA Conference:** Traci and Elizabeth discussed the planning of the NHMA Conference panel session. They will be formulating some discussion questions for panelists. Panelists will discuss what they are seeing in their communities and the creative ways in which they are addressing the problem(s). Then to open it up to the audience and see what they have to say. Traci will be moderating, helping to keep it on track. This year we will have representation from Manchester, Portsmouth, Dover, Laconia and Franklin on the panel. The following day at the conference, there will be another session by the state (NH “Drug Czar” Jack Wozmak).
- **Naloxone Training Events:** Traci explained that the regional public health is putting on some Naloxone training and distribution events. One such learning opportunity is coming up in Laconia.

Next meeting dates-

Coalition Meeting: Thursday, November 12th

Leadership Meeting: Thursday, December 3rd

Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm

Submitted by Angela Lynch