

LAWRENCE ALCOHOL AND DRUG ALLIANCE
MINUTES
February 27, 2018
5:00 P.M.
Manager's Conference Room

Present: Lisa Snyder, Project Graduation
Lt. Joe Amodio, Police Representative
Susan Stahley, Community Representative
Nancy Bergen, Superintendent of Recreation
Kelly Nitti, Community Representative
Carol Chamberlain, Chairperson
Brynn Holbrook, Assistant Coordinator
Nava Bastola, Public Health Analyst– Heroin Response Strategy Initiative
Chip Meara, Mercer County Municipal Alliance Coordinator
Malissa Arnold, Program Coordinator, Mercer Council on Alcoholism and Drug Addiction (MCADA)

Absent: Susan Varga, Community Representative
Naeem Aktar, Community Representative
Dr. David Maffei, Mayor, Council Liaison
Ann DeGennaro, Superintendent of Schools Representative

1. Review of Minutes

The minutes from the November 28, 2018, May 23, 2017 and September 26, 2017 meetings were reviewed and approved.

2. Heroin Response Strategy Initiative

Nava Bastola discussed the Heroin Response Strategy Initiative which aims to reduce fatal and nonfatal opioid overdose. A primary component of this initiative is DEA's 360 Strategy which responds to the opioid crisis. The strategy has three components that fight drug cartels and opioid traffickers in particular communities. The first component coordinates law enforcement against opioid traffickers in communities. The second component of the strategy is Diversion Control enforcement actions to work against DEA registrants who are operating outside the law by working with pharmaceutical manufacturers, wholesalers, pharmacies, and practitioners. The final component of the strategy is community outreach. The strategy utilizes local partnerships to encourage communities to continue to prevent opioid issues in the future. Monmouth and Ocean counties have implemented the DEA's 360 Strategy. The Alliance discussed possible implementation of this strategy in Mercer county.

Bastola also reported on a second initiative of the Heroin Response Strategy Initiative. Operation Prevention gives free curriculum to address the negative consequences and risks associated with drugs with elementary, middle, and high school aged students.

3. Grant Activity Reports

Campfire – Kelly Nitti reported on upcoming Campfire start dates at local schools. Nitti discussed a recent partnership between Campfire and the Prosecutor’s Office, Police, City of Angels, Recovery Advocates, The Overdose Prevention Agency Corporation (TOPAC), and other community groups to organize opioid awareness assemblies and activities the week of February 19th. On February 24th, students and other volunteers assembled hygiene kits for kids in recovery and donated the kits to City of Angels and Recovery Advocates. Earlier in the week, students participated in an assembly which discussed the risks associated with drugs. Kelly and Ann are discussing planning a similar assembly and event in Lawrence.

Nitti discussed Campfire’s recent trip to the BRONC radio station where students were able to record six PSAs. One PSA will be aired each month. Prior to recording the PSAs, the students researched and created the PSAs.

Nitti reported that Campfire will do community volunteering at the Eggcellent Egg Hunt as well as other future community events.

Project Graduation – Lisa Snyder reported on upcoming events and fundraisers. Upcoming fundraisers include Signs of Support, Mr. LHS, and dinner fundraisers. Snyder reported on the upcoming breakfast the morning of prom and the after-graduation party. Snyder may have a parent chaperone trained for NARCAN administration for the after-graduation party.

Community Awareness – Carol Chamberlain reported that The College of New Jersey now has a Narcotics Anonymous meeting. Robert Wood Johnson is offering a free Mini Medical School with a focus on opioids.

Chamberlain reported on upcoming events, including the Sustainability Fair on March 17th at Rider University. The Alliance will have a booth with information on Project Medicine Drop and safe medicine disposal. The St. Lawrence Bike Rodeo is a family oriented event and will take place on May 12th.

Carol discussed STRIVE at the Hamilton YMCA, which is a wellness program for people who are out of treatment for drug use.

Sticker Shock – Susan Stahley reported that Sticker Shock was completed at Joe Canal’s and Franklin Tavern on February 3rd with 13 or more Rider students, including members of Rider’s Greek Life community. Brynn Holbrook reported that Sticker Shock was completed on December 7th at Joe Canal’s. Approximately 750 stickers were placed on alcohol packs to warn buyers of the legal ramifications for purchasing alcohol for minors.

Parents Who Host – Carol Chamberlain reported that the Route 1 Diner has a new Parents Who Host ad on their placemats.

Rider University – Susan Stahley reported on Risk Management at Fraternities and Sororities. Stahley discussed the Marijuana Forum at Rider University. The event was a success with over 115 people in attendance.

Rider has continued to explore the idea of becoming a smoke free campus.

Students have been given BAC cards, sponsored by Mercer county. Students who have their cards with them can get prizes.

Susan reported on many upcoming events. Safer Spring Break will be held on Tuesday, March 6th, and will bring awareness to safer, alcohol-free practices during Spring Break. On April 12th from 11:00-1:00, Rider will be hosting a Health Fair. LaLaNoBooza, a fun, substance-free event, will be held on May 1st from 8:00 pm to 12:00 midnight. The Alliance will be giving away beach balls.

Susan reported on a recently created food pantry for Rider students.

Recreation – Nancy Bergen discussed the Basketball Championship which will be on March 24th and 25th. Recreation swimming was discussed. Nancy plans to incorporate opioid awareness into future sporting events.

3. Coordinator Report

Brynn Holbrook reported on the Hopewell Valley Parenting Conference which occurred on January 20, 2018. Various issues were discussed, including Juuls, a new type of vape.

Brynn went over the second quarter grant report and discussed with Alliance members their remaining budgets.

4. Upcoming Events

On April 12th from 11:00-1:00, Rider will be hosting a Health Fair. LaLaNoBooza, a fun, substance-free event, will be held on May 1st from 8:00 pm to 12:00 midnight. The Alliance will be giving away beach balls.

The Sustainability Fair will be held on March 17th at Rider University. The Alliance will have a booth with information on Project Medicine Drop and safe medicine disposal.

The St. Lawrence Bike Rodeo is a family oriented event and will take place on May 12th.

6. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for March 27, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Chamberlain
Chairperson