

LAWRENCE ALCOHOL AND DRUG ALLIANCE
MINUTES
September 25, 2018
8:30 A.M.
Manager's Conference Room

Present: Lisa Snyder, Project Graduation
Lt. Joe Amodio, Police Representative
Susan Stahley, Community Representative
Ann DeGennaro, Superintendent of Schools Representative
Nancy Bergen, Recreation Superintendent
Naeem Aktar, Community Representative
Carol Chamberlain, Chairperson
Malissa Arnold, Program Coordinator, Mercer Council on Alcoholism and Drug
Addiction
Chip Meara, County Coordinator, Mercer County Alliance

Absent: Susan Varga, Community Representative
Kelly Nitti, Community Representative
Dr. David Maffei, Council Liaison
Jeff Radice, Recreation Department

1. Review of Minutes

The minutes from the February 27, 2018 meeting, April 27 meeting and notes from the March 27, 2018 and June 26, 2018 meeting were reviewed and approved.

2. Lawrence High School - Social Norms Survey Results – Ann DeGennaro

Ann DeGennaro provided a summary of the results of the social norm survey which was conducted at the end of the 2017-2018 school year. The survey was funded by the Lawrence Township Education Foundation. Student from all grades, 9-12 participated in the survey. A total of 870 permission slips were submitted with a total of 740 surveys being completed. Questions were included on the topics of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs as well as mental health. There was a good breakdown of participants by grade with each grade level representing approximately 25% of the students participating in the survey.

Results showed most students are not participating in vaping and smoking activities. Overall results showed there are students who are sad, unhappy. Mental health concerns were apparent in the results.

Ann will now use 3 -5 of the positive statistics from the survey results and share them throughout the school, throughout the year. The goal is to infiltrate the school with positive statistics with the hashtag for the year being #Be theMajority. The focus of activities this year will be to find cool, alternative, different activities for students and to let students know where to go for help when they are unhappy.

The next step for Ann will be to educate the faculty and to get the staff to talk about the social norms to the students. There will also be a focus on students doing positive, good things. Results and findings will be shared with parents at Back to School events.

Ann will also be conducting a monthly “Ask Miss D” program on YouTube. Parents and students will be able to ask her questions. The video will be available for anyone to review.

3. Grant Activity Reports

PETS/CIA – Ann DeGennaro reported Lawrence High School has changed the school policy on vaping. Anyone caught vaping in school may be tested for drugs. In addition, anyone caught vaping at school will be required to spend four Thursday afternoons with Miss D. There has been a decrease in vaping observed at the school to date this year. The school resource officer and school security guards are monitoring the restrooms regularly. Ann DeGennaro will share the vaping policy with the Alliance members.

Ann DeGennaro reported she is planning to enhance the Haunted High event and have a Fall Fest for the students. She is working on the approval with the school administration for this event.

Campfire – No report

Project Graduation – The meeting dates have been set for the monthly parent planning meetings for Project Graduation. The meetings are held on the first Monday of the month at 7:00 pm. The meetings are in the LHS library. Dates for the Mr. LHS, the senior breakfast and for Project Graduation are to be determined in upcoming months.

Community Awareness – The LADA had a table at National Night Out and shared information on the dangers of vaping. The event was well attended by Lawrence residents. Thank you to Susan Stahley who volunteered at the event.

Sticker Shock – Teens on Fire from Camp Fire New Jersey assisted in Sticker Shock activities over the summer. Teens visited Libbey’s Liquors and Amalfi’s to place stickers on multipacks. Over 900 stickers were used to promote the message that it is illegal to sell or provide liquor to anyone under the age of 21 years.

Parents Who Host – No activity over the summer months.

Rider University – Susan Stahley provided the following updates.

TIPS training was completed by Malissa Arnold and Susan Stahley.

A resource fair for resident life was conducted in August. Ten vendors shared information with resident life staff.

OctSOBERfest will be held on October 16 at Rider. The event will be held outside on the campus mall. The event will be a carnival-like event with information for students on healthy, sober living.

Susan Stahley will be presenting at a program entitled “Girls to Women, Myth to Reality”. The program will be held at Robert Wood Johnson Wellness Center.

Thursday, October 11th, Rider University will be celebrating National Coming Out Day on campus. Please contact Susan Stahley for more information about the activities to take place that day. Every Tuesday, Susan Stahley is available at the Daly Dining Hall for students to speak with about healthy living. Each week Susan provides a new topic to share with students.

Safe Rides has returned to Rider's campus. Rider University has contracted with Lyft to provide students safe rides back to campus. This program is being coordinated with the Rider Public Safety Office. Students will be able to receive two free rides back to campus each semester.

Coordinator Report – Carol Chamberlain reminded the group that first quarter reports are due October 1. Reports are to include any funds expended along with receipts as well as cash match information and in-kind match information for activities conducted from July 1 – September 30. Anyone who needs report forms can contact Carol.

3. Upcoming Events

Nancy Bergen announced that Community Day will be held on Sunday, October 7 at Village Park. The event will be from 12:00 noon until 4:00 p.m. Anyone wanting to have a table at Community Day may contact Nancy Bergen.

4. Other Business

Congratulations- Congratulations to Susan Stahley who has been awarded the Mercer County Volunteer of the Year award from the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Addiction. A well-deserved honor. Susan will be receiving her award at the Governor's Council meeting later this morning.

Mercer Council on Alcoholism and Drug Addiction/Prevention Coalition of Mercer County - Malissa Arnold reported Narcan training was recently offered at MCADA. The Prevention Coalition will be offering Narcan training regularly. These trainings are free to the public.

In addition, a training session for coaches and school staff on the dangers of opioid use by athletes was presented in August. This training continues to be available to schools by the Prevention Coalition of Mercer County.

The Prevention Coalition is also promoting a Chess Fest at the Trenton YMCA which is open at all students in Mercer County. This will be held on October 20. A flyer about this program will be available.

Malissa reported the Prevention Coalition is trying to have the PRIDE survey completed in schools throughout the county. Since Lawrence schools recently completed the social norms survey, the PRIDE survey will be not conducted in Lawrence public schools. Carol Chamberlain suggested Malissa contact Notre Dame and the Lawrenceville School.

Lawrence Police

Joe Amodio reported there are now school resource officers at Lawrence High School, Lawrence Middle School and the Lawrence Intermediate School. In addition, the high school continues to have security guards on site. The officers are monitoring the bathrooms between classes to check for use of vaping materials as well as having a general presence in the buildings.

6. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for October 23, 2018 at 9:00 am.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Chamberlain
Chairperson