



**Eaton County Substance Abuse  
Advisory Group  
December 14, 2010  
9:30 a.m. – Noon  
Eaton Intermediate School District  
Meeting Minutes**

**Present:**

Cherie Anderson, Grand Ledge Police Department  
Anne Barna, Barry Eaton District Health Department  
Polly Brainerd, Eaton ISD  
Gail Duncan, Community Member  
Dur Efaw, Barry Eaton District Health Department  
Deb Frost, Eaton Behavioral Health  
Joel Hoepfner, Mid South Substance Abuse Commission  
Tom Jones, Friends of Chrystal  
Bill Kennedy, Eaton Family/Juvenile Court  
Sara Lurie, Eaton ISD  
Jeremy Mulvaney, Eaton County Juvenile Court  
Gary Owen, Eaton ISD  
Rachel Postle, Charlotte Public Schools  
Ronda Rucker, Eaton Great Start  
Heather Sanders, Barry Eaton District Health Department  
Kim Thalison, Barry Eaton District Health Department  
Crystal Wawiernia, YES Center, Inc.  
Loretta Williams, Eaton County United Way  
Jeanne Wright, Eaton County Commission

**Introductions and Announcements**

Chairperson Loretta called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. and facilitated introductions.

**Approval of Agenda**

Deb Frost made a motion that the agenda be approved as written and Tom Jones seconded the motion. **Motion Carried**

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes were reviewed. Deb Frost identified a typo in the minutes using the word walk that should be talk. Tom Jones made motion to approve minutes with amendment and Deb Frost seconded the motion. **Motion Carried.**

## **New Business**

### **Choices Evaluation Summary**

Gary Owen presented on the Choices Evaluation. In 2009-2010 we saw an uptick in referrals. Choices is an early intervention program and last year we saw an increase in kids who came who were not appropriate for early intervention and needed to be referred to treatment. Eaton Rapids has increased their referrals over the past year with the In School Probation Program now running in that district. Choices have also seen an increase in attendance at the parenting program. They are now bringing parents/youth together for a session and this was very well received by the parents. Deb Frost reports that there has been a huge uptick in adolescent referrals in general, some going to Choices and the majority still going into treatment. She indicates that use seems to be starting at younger and younger ages, not just social peer pressure, they are using for stress relief. A number of them are school referrals. We will continue to examine changes that we need to make to serve this more middle school population. Also of concern, there are a number of younger kids who are not involved in activities, due to their choice. Rachel Postle is seeing a huge increase of marijuana use at Charlotte High School and this is driving their larger number of referrals to early intervention and treatment. Kids have been telling Deb Frost that they will be getting their medical marijuana card. Cherie Anderson suggested that we need to do a better job addressing tobacco use. Kim Thalison agreed and indicated her past review of data showed that when they pulled the youth that smoke cigarettes almost all of them also use alcohol and marijuana. Gary indicated that there is clearly a connection between all of these issues. Gary reported that 39 parents participated and 31 completed. Parents must attend 4 out of 5 sessions to be considered a completer. There was also further discussion of the potential of engaging parents in middle school, but most agree it is difficult to engage parents of this age group in parent education until there is a crisis. Cherie urges us to look at tobacco cessation options with schools.

### **Truancy Intervention Programs**

Polly presented the outcome summary for the truancy intervention program which shows great improvement in attendance and modest improvement in grade point average. Most are handled without court involvement. 62 petitions were filed, for those families that needed the extra motivation of potential court involvement. In addition to TIP the Link program that allows court involved youth to attend the program if suspended from school is a great asset. Bill Kennedy asked if DHS involved youth would be eligible, Polly will inquire with the LINK Advisory Committee. Jeanne shared that the Juvenile Justice Millage funding will be up for renewal in 2012 and she encouraged Polly to begin writing articles to remind the community of the successes of these programs.

### **Nurturing Program for Parents and Adolescents**

Offered for parents and teens who are involved in TIP and Court ages 12-17. 14 youth and 10 parents participated. Loretta reminded everyone that there is a new class starting in January.

### **Data in Action!**

Anne reports that Eaton County Youth are using marijuana earlier. Social norm related, youth consistently over estimate the amount of their peers that are using marijuana, so it may open some doors for social norming work in Eaton County. The schedule for future Data in Action! Reports is: January-Marijuana, Feb Adult and Youth Alcohol, March –tobacco, April- Prescription Drugs, May-Depression and suicide. Anne will also be working with Grand Ledge, and Charlotte in translating their MiPHY Data. Anne has also tried to make some connections with the state to get data on the number of caregivers and card holders in Eaton County. Data Committee is actively seeking participants, they don't need to be experts, just to participate and give reactions and opinions on what the data means. The next data committee meeting is January 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. We discussed combining the data committee with the communications committee since they are interrelated, currently with the retirement of Nancy Bernthal, and Jeanne Wright's departure, the Communications Committee consists of Loretta Williams and Sara Lurie.

### **Committee Membership**

Committees-Polly encouraged everyone to commit to participation in a committee. The options are Communications/ Data, Alcohol, Tobacco, Prescription Drugs, Suicide Prevention of Eaton County. Some of our committees have very small participation and could use some additional help.

### **MPA Conference on Medical Marijuana**

Gary attended this conference. Lt. Tim Gill from Michigan State Police was a main presenter as was Ken Stecher. Much confusion exists regarding medical marijuana since it was not legislated and subject to the usual oversight that happens via the legislative process. For example, what defines a plant? Regarding city and township ordinances, Jeanne reported that the commissioners are looking at the possibility to get everyone agreeing to the same set of rules and restrictions, one of them would be not having store fronts. County is looking at zoning ordinances, Anne had a conversation with Claudine Hannold, Eaton County Director of Economic Development, who is working on this and has also been working with Jeff Sauter.

Joel Hoepfner who was also at the conference, added that he would recommend that when available we view Ken Stechers powerpoint . Joel recommends passing moratoriums for now. Gary shared the law, 333.26424. 333.26427 contains the scope of the act for those interested in reading it. Gary also indicated that www. Drugs.com is a good question and answer website for law enforcement.

### **Updates**

#### **SPEC**

SPEC is planning a training for physicians in Eaton County on a Saturday, January 15<sup>th</sup> it is targeted toward .

### **Drug Initiative**

Eaton Rapids Medical Center hosted a drug drop off event in November. It was very successful, promoted by the hospital, funded by Eaton County resource recovery. Hayes Green Beach is also hosting an event as part of their health fair.

### **Recovery Month Events**

Recovery Coalition is meeting today at 6 p.m. to continue planning efforts for the 2011 Recovery Month events. Meetings are held at Recovery Net, contact Victor Braatz for more information at 543-2313.

### **Recovery Oriented System of Care**

Sara referred people to the ROSC Strategic Plan located in the packets. ROSC Advisory Group met in November to review the strategic plan and is meeting again on January 19<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. There is a new coordinator, named Christa. She is currently unable to attend ECSAAG meetings so Jack will continue to participate and report on ROSC.

### **Eaton Rapids ERASE**

Sara reported that ERASE is meeting tonight to continue review of MiPHY Data.

### **Grand Ledge**

Life Skills for Success is up and running for the middle school and they have many referrals. Several have now been identified with substance abuse issues. Leadership and Resiliency has more volunteer vs. mandatory participation this year. The Teen Solutions Class is running and has five parents participating.

### **Charlotte and Potterville**

Charlotte is meeting today to begin looking at MiPHY and recent tobacco compliance data. Gary is hoping that the group can work to influence a community norm that seems to look at teen alcohol and tobacco use a "no big deal". Potterville is still in a rebuilding mode.

### **Advocacy**

Sara indicated that MLCC recently held public hearings and a major topic of discussion was the Sunday morning sales that will go into effect. She thanked MAP and everyone else for their past and recent efforts in educating MLCC on the effects of alcohol energy drinks, prevention 's voices was instrumental in raising awareness that recently led to MLCC ban of alcohol energy drinks in Michigan.

### **Mid-South Updates**

Joel reported that the Mid-South Strategic Plan has been sent out in draft form and input is appreciated. It will be finalized, printed and disseminated very soon. Regional and County Data is completed and will be printed and disseminated soon.

**Next meeting will be held on January 11, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. at Eaton ISD.**

