



**Eaton County Substance Abuse
Advisory Group
January 8, 2008
9:30 – Noon
Eaton Intermediate School District
Meeting Minutes**

Present:

Martha Adams, UAW/General Motors
Nancy Bernthal, Eaton ISD
Gail Duncan, Eaton County United Way
Dur Efaw, Barry-Eaton District Health Department
Amy Etzel, Eaton County Juvenile Court
Deb Frost, Eaton Substance Abuse Program
Tim Gill, Michigan State Police
Bill Kennedy, Eaton County Family Court
Sara Lurie, Eaton ISD
Gary Owen, Eaton ISD
Ellen Rinck, City of Grand Ledge
Ronda Rucker, Early Childhood Connections
Jeanne Wright, Eaton County Commissioner

Jeanne called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m. and facilitated introductions. Welcome to Martha Adams from General Motors and Tim Gill from Michigan State Police.

Nancy requested addition in new business on tobacco smoke-free environments and Sara requested addition of Health Provider Letter in New business action item. Deb Frost moved to approve the agenda as amended. Ronda Rucker seconded. **Motion Carried.**

Meeting minutes, Deb Frost page two addition of the word *not* before *easy to find* regarding website development. Ellen Rinck corrected page 3 should read 10 instead of 20 surveyed. Insert word youth instead of use in page 3. Ronda Rucker made motion to accept minutes with changes. Deb Frost seconded the motion. **Motion Carried.**

Old Business

Choices

Gary Owen reported that the pilot of Choices Program is completed. Two youth and two parents completed the program. Both Gary and Deb felt that the Staying Connected With Your Teen curriculum connected well with the Youth Alternate Routes Curriculum. Gary also reported that he met with Jeff Sauter, Neil O'Brien, Dawn Royston and Ron Sutton. They are supportive of using the Choices Program as a diversion program for juvenile court. Gary also reported that he has been meeting with local school district

administrators and has had inquiries regarding tobacco and programs to refer youth to who have been caught smoking at school. Choices is looking at incorporating a youth tobacco cessation workshop monthly facilitated by Deb. Deb added that the youth gave very favorable review of the program and she will be meeting with them and parents for their exit sessions this week. Will be making some recommendations for ongoing family counseling if needed.

Jeanne added the Choices Program is in part funded by Juvenile Justice Millage funds and this will be going before the voters for renewal on the November ballot.

Alcohol Compliance

All Eaton County alcohol compliance checks were completed by September. Several hearings before the Michigan Liquor Control Commission have been completed. Gary emphasized that Decoys did a great job in hearings, reporting professionally and thoroughly. Nancy and Gary will be visiting vendors who sold to offer additional vendor education.

Town Hall meetings

Sara reported that Eaton Rapids Alliance for Substance Abuse Elimination (ERASE) has received funding from SAMSHA to hold a Town Hall Meeting focused on Underage Drinking in late March. Grand Ledge CMCA also received an award, but has not formally accepted it yet.

Survey Input:

Nancy presented a draft of our coalition survey for review and asked for input on questions. The group identified the following changes:

Add a question that indicates if they are a regular attendee

Add a question for those who don't generally attend if they are planning on reconnecting.

Send out immediately, then send out reminders.

Overview of Acronyms and ECSAAG Funding Sources

As part of our development of orientation materials for new members and per Chairperson Jeanne Wrights suggestion, Sara handed out a list of Acronyms commonly used at meetings and asked for additions. She will finalize the list and have it laminated and available at meetings. Bill Kennedy indicated that he has some others to add and will send it via e-mail. Sara also provided a handout on the various sources of funds that support ECSAAG, how these are braided with other funding sources in the county and the kinds of activities and programs that are supported with these funds. Eventually all orientation materials will be available in a section on the website for use by new members.

Meth and other drug forum

The Meth Committee met with Tony Saucedo to discuss how we can best serve our county with changes in meth funding at the state and the changing face of meth distribution. Tony suggested that we explore the need for law enforcement training. Also seeing increases in prescription med abuse. Seeing the one-pot method as most common form of production. This method has less environmental impact. Bill Kennedy indicated that there is a session at the MADCP conference in Lansing next month on the MAP

System and prescription drug abuse. Scholarships are available for this conference (call him for information).

Meth Committee is now trying to gauge if ECSAAG supports this deviation from the Implementation plan and if there are others who are interested in helping to plan these events. Gary and Nancy will be discussing this with the Police Chiefs to see if they support this effort.

Nancy suggested that we look at Methamphetamine and Prescription drug use separately and take time to learn more about prescription drug abuse first. Ronda made a motion to empower the Meth Committee to continue to explore options for our meth goals in the county. Ellen Rinck seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

Smoke Free Environments

Two restaurants went smoke free, Cutino's in Grand Ledge and Sharon's in Charlotte. Nancy requested permission to send a letter congratulating them for this effort.

Deb Frost made a motion that we write a letter recognizing them for their smoke free efforts. This was amended by Dur to recognize restaurants and other establishments for their efforts. Martha seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Nancy will craft the letter and send it out. She will provide copy at the next meeting.

Dur suggested that we follow-up with smoke free restaurants and find out if they have had customers thanking them and to promote this with other bar and restaurant owners. Tim suggested that we send copies of letter to local newspapers. Ronda and Deb requested that we add link to smoke free restaurants to the ECSAAG website. Deb commented that she recently visited the ECSAAG Website and was able to use link to write a letter to editor to Lansing State Journal in support of LSJ editorial regarding use of Tobacco Settlement funds. She suggested that we provide more opportunities to do this.

Mid-South Updates

Nancy called our attention to Mid-South rating of our coalition in our packets. MSSAC rates our coalition as excellent.

Prevention Survey

Sara reported that all of our Eaton County School District Superintendents have agreed to take the MiPHY survey this year. This is an important step in assuring that we will have a county report. 2008 will be the last year that the PNA survey is available and it will be offered in the Fall.

Prevention Advocacy

Nancy reported that the Senate Bill in support of Smoke Free Restaurants is in governmental operations committee. We can call or contact Patti Birkholz and Mike Bishop asking them to either send the bill to the floor or to assign it to the Health Committee.

It is also suggested that individuals write Governor Grantholm on her website and thank her for supporting the Healthy Michigan Fund.

Health Provider Letter and screening material

Sara circulated a draft letter and materials from NIAAA on incorporating Alcohol Screening in Physician practices. She is seeking permission to mail this letter, screening material, Drink Less Live More brochure and a Choices brochure from the coalition to approximately 100 physician practices in Eaton County.

Deb made a motion that we send out a Physician letter on ECSAAG Letterhead and screening packet to approximately 100 physicians in the county.

Ronda made a motion we adjourn, Deb Frost seconded it **Motion Carried.**

Next scheduled meeting will be on Tuesday, February 12th 9:30-Noon at Eaton Intermediate School District.