

**Eaton County Substance Abuse  
Advisory Group  
January 9, 2007  
10:00 – Noon  
Eaton Intermediate School District  
Meeting Minutes**

**Present:**

Cherie Anderson, Grand Ledge High School  
Anne Barna, Barry Eaton Co. Health Dept.  
Nancy Bernthal, Eaton ISD  
Mike Blanksma, Eaton Substance Abuse Program  
William Callahan, Charlotte Police Department  
Ruth Cornett, Michigan Department of Corrections  
Gail Duncan, Eaton County United Way  
Joel Hoepfner, Mid-South Substance Abuse Commission  
Ellen Rinck, City of Grand Ledge Title V Office  
Ronda Rucker, Early Childhood Connections  
Jeanne Wright, Eaton County Commissioner

The meeting started at 10:00 a.m., chaired by Jeanne Wright. Introductions were done around the table. Nancy Bernthal announced that Sara is at a DFC Grant Meeting in Washington D.C. and Polly is in court for the TIP program.

**Agenda and Minutes**

The agenda was approved. Ronda Rucker made the motion and Mike B. seconded. **Motion Carried.**

Minutes were reviewed. One change identified in December minutes, Sean's name. Ruth made the motion to approve the minutes, with the name change. Cherie seconded the motion. **Motion Carried.**

**Old Business**

**Drug-Free Community Grant**

The changes in personnel that were proposed to the DFC powers that be approved the staff changes to the grant. Harriett Dean will be working on the alcohol checks in Eaton county.

**New Business**

**Goal 4- Tobacco**

Nancy presented the Tobacco workplan. It includes tobacco checks – a random sample done in collaboration with police departments, the ECSD and the PA's office. We will do approximately 20 checks this year, as the baseline checks were completed last year.

- Newspaper release has been sent to Community Newspapers regarding vendor checks.
- Letter of commendation from Mid-South Substance Abuse Commission received for collaboration on the checks.
- Vendor Education is part of the process. All vendors who sold to underage youth received vendor ed visits
- Nancy and Cherie stated observations about why clerks sell to minors. Issues of workload, math skills and peer pressure were discussed.
- Cherie stated her support of fining the employee, not the employer.

- Ruth asked if kids are getting fined for smoking cigarettes. Cherie responded that she does fine kids in Grand Ledge - \$50 and they are required to attend a quit smoking class.
- Jeanne suggested that we put an article in the newspaper to educate parents that possession is a misdemeanor.

Chief Bill Callahan moved that the workplan for Goal Four be approved. Ruth seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Ruth made a motion that an article on Tobacco and Alcohol Education be written and forwarded to the local paper. Anne seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

- Nancy reviewed the three goals of the MDCH Grant/Tobacco.
- Anne reviewed the community assessment process, part of the MDCH workplan, which will include various community entities – worksites, county commissioners, health department, municipalities, schools-to solicit their views on clean air.
- United Way – Capital Area Community Foundation grant – approximately \$5000 for smoking cessation. A quit workshop will be offered at Eaton ISD on February 21<sup>st</sup>.

### **Goal 8 – Marijuana –**

Nancy reported that the State Journal never responded to our request, after the article appeared in the paper about the Eaton Rapids citizen. An article will be written to the Journal, in response to this issue.

### **Mid-South**

Joel reported on the following dates of interest:

1/30 – Regional Epidemiology – Polly & Anne attending

2/5 – College Policies Workshop

March & April – P & A Regional results

### **Goal 3- Alcohol**

Anne Barna gave an excellent Data in Action report, featuring graphs and charts that helped us visualize alcohol use in our county. Questions and discussion was facilitated by Anne.

Ellen Rinck reported the “Drink less Live more” brochures sent to medical community – 1,000 brochures have been requested.

The alcohol subgroup is working on composite of what it costs society for alcohol use in our county.

### **Goal 5 – Meth**

Ruth reported that Letters of Commendation will be sent to the prosecutor, sheriff, and tri-county metro in efforts to reduce meth use. Eric, our chair will sign the letters and send. Joel made a motion to approve this action. Anne seconded. Motion carried

Tobacco Subgroup Meeting will follow the meeting.

Meeting Schedule – see agenda for dates, rooms may change, so check at front desk.

**Meeting was adjourned to Subcommittees at 11:17 a.m.**