



**Eaton County Substance Abuse
Advisory Group
January 13, 2009
9:30 a.m. – Noon p.m.
Eaton Intermediate School District
Meeting Minutes**

Present:

Nancy Bernthal, Eaton ISD
Polly Brainerd, Eaton ISD
Gail Duncan, Community Member
Dur Efaw, Barry/Eaton
Curtis Bristol, Charlotte Police Department
Deb Frost, Eaton Substance Abuse Program
Sara Lurie, Eaton ISD
Gary Owen, Eaton ISD
Christine Richardson, Grand Ledge YES Center and Restorative Justice
Heather Sanders, Barry-Eaton District Health Department
Ronda Rucker, Early Childhood Connections
Deb Somervill, Eaton Counseling Center
Gary Vittoz, Vittoz Computer Consulting
Loretta Williams, Eaton County United Way
Jeanne Pearl-Wright, County Commissioner

Jeanne called the meeting to order at 9:38 a.m. and facilitated introductions. Agenda for the meeting was reviewed, Nancy requested to add SPF SIG to New Business and Polly proposed we add 5 minutes to agendas for community announcements from now on. Curtis Bristol made a motion to approve the agenda with additions, Loretta Williams seconded the motion. **Motion Carried.** Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed. Gail Duncan made motion to approve minutes as written and Dur Efaw seconded the motion. **Motion Carried.**

OLD BUSINESS

FACEBOOK Discussion

ECSAAG has the beginning of a FACEBOOK site, Gary Vittoz indicates that it can be great in directing people to the website. However, he recommends that there be a team of people who manage the site in order to respond to inquiries and cautions that it can potentially eat up a lot of time. Sara shared with group that staff has been discussing this issue in depth at the last State Substance

Abuse Conference there was a session conducted by an expert in using social networking and other internet based services for targeting prevention efforts. We have contacted her and she is willing to do a Webinar on this topic. Sara wondered if we wanted to take a step back and fully study this issue by sponsoring the webinar and opening up to the community to participate. She would charge \$75 per person. Gary indicated that this would be very beneficial in bringing people up to speed. Sara will have Chris Richardson forward the ECSAAG Facebook page information. Loretta suggested that we put a link on our website that allows people to add it.

Life of an Athlete and Next Steps

Four of our Eaton County School Districts (Eaton Rapids, Maple Valley, Charlotte, Grand Ledge and Olivet) have expressed interest in further exploration of implementation of Life of an Athlete approach; however they are at various stages of readiness. The December 19th with Van Buren County Prevention Staff who have been working on implementation in the surrounding athletic conference over the past two years. E.J. McAndrew and Tracy Johnson were cancelled due to weather and will be rescheduled. Any coalition members interested in attending this meeting can contact Sara at 517-541-8711 or slurie@eaton.k12.mi.us

Gambling Prevention Action Plan

Sara called attention to the Mid-South approved action plan in the packet. Nancy Bernthal will be implementing the action plan for ECSAAG.

NEW BUSINESS

Choices Evaluation Results

Gary Owen handed out the CHOICES Evaluation report and provided a brief overview of the report. Last year was the first year that the program was offered. 41 parents participated in the parenting component. While pre-post surveys did not show huge gains by parents, the satisfaction surveys showed parents come in apprehensive and report finding it helpful by the end. Both Gary and Deb feel that both parents and youth minimize upon intake and by end of the class they are more open about problems. It is a brief intervention of 5 sessions and not a treatment program. The curriculum focuses on building protective factors. Jeanne asked about what happened when parents dropped out. Deb indicated some of those who did not complete were self-referred or had severe economic issues that made it difficult for them to attend.

Alcopops and Energy Drinks with Alcohol

Polly presented an educational PowerPoint on this topic. We discussed the marketing of these drinks towards youth and young women in particular. She noted that energy drinks and other caffeinated drinks in general are getting out of control, with kids starting to use high quantities of caffeine at early ages. It is also not a big leap for kids to take from consuming energy drinks to energy drinks with alcohol.

Sara reviewed the Resolution to properly classify alcopops as a mixed spirit drink This would limit the venues that the drinks could be sold in and would raise the tax applied to the drinks. This is proven to discourage youth use.

Dur Efav recommended that we forward the resolutions to our elected officials. Deb Frost asked that we add the proper citation to line 3 of the resolution. Deb Somervill made a motion that we endorse this resolution. Curtis Bristol seconded the motion. **Motion Carried**

Sara reviewed the Resolution to end the sale of energy drinks mixed with alcohol in Michigan. Loretta made a motion that we endorse the resolution to end the sale of energy drinks premixed with alcohol. Deb Frost seconded the motion. **Motion Carried**

SPF SIG

ECSAAG can submit a proposal for SPF-SIG funding, focused on engaging youth in alcohol prevention activities. Discussed potential proposals for the SPF SIG funds. Ronda made motion that we pursue the SPF-SIG funding using a similar manner as the STOP Act Grant proposal submitted last spring, but not awarded. This proposed that we bring together youth groups in Eaton County for a youth advocacy training experience that would involve their putting together an underage drinking prevention project that ECSAAG would fund. Also discussed the possibility of engaging youth in our internet based initiatives discussed previously in the meeting.

Community Initiative Updates

Grand Ledge CMCA-Chris Richardson will update us next month

ERASE-Sara showed the Power Point created for local Eaton Rapids Churches prepared by Anne Barna using their local PNA data. This is a joint project with Asset Building in the Community.

Charlotte and Potterville-Second meeting with Charlotte stakeholders was held to continue to review their Prevention Needs Assessment data. Good diversity of participation. Potterville is also looking to organize a community group, members are being identified.

Say Yes To No-Sara shared information on the statewide read of David Walsh's Book called No, Why Kids of All Ages need to Hear It and Ways Parents Can Say It sponsored by the Michigan Elementary and Middle School Principals Association. It involves distributing the books and engaging parents in community conversations about the book. Eaton ISD will be sponsoring several, in March and April. Olivet School District is hosting Dr. Walsh on February 16th 6-8 p.m. that is free and open to the public at Olivet High School.

Early Childhood Risk and Protective Factor Conference

The Parenting Education and Family Support External Advisory Committee of ECIC, in association with the National BUILD initiative and the Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP), is hosting a convening on February 5th from 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The session will focus on the Protective Factors approach to strengthening families with evidence based programs and services. EISD is a host site for this event. We will forward registration information.

Mid-South

Mid-South received additional SPF-SIG funding that they are allocating throughout the region. Clinton, Eaton and Ingham will receive allocations for the first time of \$31,000. All other counties will receive increases of \$6,000 to their current allocation.

Advocacy Issues

Meeting Adjourned to Sub Committees at 11:30 a.m. Next meeting is scheduled for, 9:30 a.m. at Eaton ISD.