

**Eaton County Substance Abuse  
Advisory Group  
March 13, 2007  
10:00 – Noon  
Eaton Intermediate School District  
Meeting Minutes**

**Present:**

Cherie Anderson, Grand Ledge Police Department  
Anne Barna, Barry Eaton Co. Health Dept.  
Nancy Bernthal, Eaton ISD  
Mike Blanksma, Eaton Substance Abuse Program  
Polly Brainerd, Eaton ISD  
Ruth Cornett, Michigan Department of Corrections  
Gail Duncan, Eaton County United Way  
Joel Hoepfner, Mid-South Substance Abuse Commission  
Bill Kennedy, Eaton County  
Sara Lurie, Eaton ISD  
Martha O'Dell, Olivet College  
Eric Pessell, Barry-Eaton District Health Department  
Sheriff Raines, Eaton County Sheriff  
Ellen Rinck, City of Grand Ledge Title V Office  
Joni Risner, Eaton County United Way  
Ronda Rucker, Early Childhood Connections  
Scott Struck, Eaton County Counseling Center  
Gary Vittoz, Vittoz Computer Consulting  
Kim Walton, Barry/Eaton Conservation Districts  
Jeanne Wright, Eaton County Commissioner

The meeting started at 10:10 a.m., chaired by Eric Pessell. Those present introduced themselves.

**Agenda and Minutes**

The agenda was reviewed and Nancy Bernthal asked for the addition of a marijuana article update. Kim Walton requested an addition to the updates and announcement section. Ruth Cornett made the motion to approve the agenda with the additions and Kim Walton seconded.

**Motion Carried.**

Minutes were reviewed. Anne Barna made the motion to approve the minutes. Ruth Cornett seconded the motion. **Motion Carried.**

**Old Business**

Alcohol and Methamphetamine Maps were updated per approved plan from February meeting and are posted on the wall for coalition viewing. Several copies have been made.

**New Business**

***Tobacco Data in Action! Report***

Anne reviewed the recent report she created with input from Data Sub-Committee. The following points were discussed:

- 21% of adults smoke in Eaton County, more men than women
- 50% of H.S. seniors have tried cigarettes
- Poorer Eaton County residents are more likely to smoke
- In Eaton County 1 of 7 deaths are due to heart disease, stroke and cancer and may be attributable to tobacco use or exposure.
- Discussion on whether younger workers now working in smoke free environments will lead to lower adult smoking rates.

- Discussion on student data (Olivet) and whether they are included in the adult Behavioral Risk Factor Survey samples for Eaton County. There is a need to keep collecting data on our college age adults and senior citizens to assist in problem identification and allow Mid-South to access additional funds for these populations.

### **ECSAAG Successes and Challenges**

Nancy Bernthal facilitated a discussion of ECSAAG successes to date (see attached list). There was not enough time allotted to fully discuss challenges, but we will continue to identify and discuss challenges in future meetings as we begin our implementation planning for next year.

### **ECSAAG Member Recognition**

Nancy presented each member in attendance with a certificate and commented on specific contributions they have made to the success of ECSAAG efforts.

### **Commendation of ECSAAG Supporters**

Eric Pessell noted that the Meth Sub-committee, with ECSAAG approval has issued three special letters of commendation for efforts to successfully reduce the manufacturing and availability of Methamphetamine in Eaton County. They are for Lt. Tim Gill from Tri-County Metro Narcotics, Jeff Sauter, Eaton County Prosecutor and Eaton County Sheriff, Mike Raines. Sheriff Raines is present today and will accept his award following the business meeting.

### **Marijuana Article**

Sara Lurie has put together an article on the mental health effects of marijuana use by youth based on the Open Letter to Parents reviewed at the February meeting. Anne Barna will add local data and tables to the articles. The article will be submitted to local newspapers.

### **Updates and Announcements**

#### **Mid-South updates**

- Joel Hoepfner indicated that he is working on a coalition progress report for the 10 county region that will be submitted to the Mid-South Board in March. It will be made available to all coalitions for review in April.
- Joel and Kim Thalison recently attended the States of Change Conference in Ohio that was focused on Tobacco Control Policies and moving counties, and states to smoke free policies.
- It is recommended that ECSAAG formally appoint a representative to the Regional Community Epidemiological Workgroup facilitated by Mid-South. Sara Lurie indicated that Anne Barna has been our representative and made a motion that she continue to fulfill this role. Motion was seconded. **Motion Carried.**
- Joel will also be e-mailing information on the Strategic Prevention Framework-State Incentive Grant (SPF-SIG) plans as he learns more from the state.

#### **Drug Free Community Grant Renewal**

Due to lack of time for discussion of the proposal, Sara will send in renewal and we will discuss it thoroughly at our next meeting.

#### **Montana Meth on HBO2**

Kim Walton indicated that this documentary will be airing this Sunday at 11am on HBO2. She requested that those who have the ability to tape this show do so, she is interested in receiving a copy if possible.

#### **Presentation of Award**

Eric Pessell presented a letter of commendation to Sheriff Mike Raines on behalf of ECSAAG.

**Meeting was adjourned for the luncheon at 11:35 a.m.**