



**Eaton County Substance Abuse
Advisory Group
May 20, 2008
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Eaton Intermediate School District
Meeting Minutes**

Present:

Cherie Anderson, Grand Ledge Police Department/GLHS
Victor Bratz, Eaton County Recovery Month Coalition
Marianne Ball, Eaton Rapids Medical Care Center
Anne Barna, Barry-Eaton District Health Department
Nancy Bernthal, Eaton ISD
Linda Bongiovanni, Hayes Green Beach Hospital
Polly Brainerd, Eaton ISD
Freida Burke, Hayes Green Beach Hospital
Ken Dail, Prevention Network
Gail Duncan, Eaton County United Way
Amy Etzel, Eaton County Family Court
Deb Frost, Eaton Substance Abuse Program
Joel Hoepfner, Mid-South Substance Abuse Commission
Bill Kennedy, SAFE-T Program
Cristin Larder, Barry-Eaton District Health Department
Lisa Lee, ERASE
Sara Lurie, Eaton ISD
Martha O'Dell, Olivet College
Eric Pessell, Barry-Eaton District Health Department
Ellen Rinck, City of Grand Ledge
Rhonda Rucker, Early Childhood Connections
Deb Somerville, Eaton County Counseling Center
Gary Vittoz, Vittoz Computer Consulting
Bruce Yelvington, Eaton County Sheriff's Department

Cherie Anderson called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. and facilitated introductions.

There were a couple of additions to the agenda. Polly Brainerd asked to add a brief request of the coalition. Ellen Rinck had an announcement from the Leadership and Resiliency Program. The minutes were reviewed. Anne Barna made a motion to approve the minutes. Gail Duncan seconded the motion. **Motion Carried**

OLD BUSINESS

Social Norming Workshop

Several coalition members attended the workshop on May 15th. Anne Barna shared that in the morning they heard about the “Most of Us” campaign. Social norming messages are used with youth as a method to decrease alcohol use. She said that the proponents of this campaign indicate that there is a difference in perception of fellow youth’s drinking behavior and the actual number of youth drinking. Youth, in particular, respond to social norming practices. The East Lansing Police Chief also spoke about how he’s applying social norming techniques with regard to the Cedar Village riots. Other coalition members agreed the workshop was worthwhile and see how we could adopt some of the principles into our efforts. You can look at video clips on www.mostofus.com. We discussed the potential for contracting with the campaign rather than re-create the message. The data committee will be looking into how our data can support social norming.

Recovery Month-Victor Bratz

Victor shared his brochures for Recovery Month activities. The Recovery Month coalition had a successful fundraiser on May 10th. It was a Mother’s Day pancake breakfast that raised \$650. The coalition is still looking for a key note speaker for the Rally for Recovery. Deb Frost had a recommendation. She’ll provide the information to Victor. Victor brought our attention to the mission statement of the coalition and the importance of erasing the social stigma of alcohol and drug dependence and reminding the community that treatment is available and it works! They will also have a booth available at the “Celebrate Charlotte” festival. He also shared information about the Capital Area Stand Down for Homeless Veterans on May 21st from 10 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Lots of services would be available to participants. Call Victor if you are interested in volunteering for any of the upcoming events.

Tobacco Compliance Efforts

Gail Duncan reported that she has nearly completed all of the vendor education visits. She did some with law enforcement. We exceeded our goal of reaching one-half of the vendors in Eaton County. Gail focused particularly on vendors that have a history of selling tobacco to minors. She’ll move on to compliance checks. Overall, the education visits were very positive and well received.

STOP-ACT Grant

Nancy reported that the STOP Act Grant was submitted recently. If awarded, the grant will extend our coalition efforts to involve engaging youth in underage drinking prevention activities.

The Changing Face of Drugs-Law Enforcement Training

Polly reported that the law enforcement training hosted by Charlotte Police Department on April 30th was a success. There were about 25 attendees. Officers and court representatives were presented with an update on the changing face of methamphetamine, an overview of common drug activity in the area, and a presentation on distinguishing between mental illness and substance abuse when confronted with a volatile individual. Representatives from Michigan State Police and Community Mental Health provided the presentations. Cherie Anderson and Bill Kennedy each provided some reflections on the

meeting. Special thanks to Chief Bill Callahan for hosting the training. We hope to collaborate with law enforcement on more trainings in the county.

New Business

Leadership and Resiliency Program Update

Ellen Rinck gave an update on a fundraiser for the Leadership and Resiliency program. Several participants in the in-school probation program are going camping June 6th. They are hoping to raise some money for the trip. She invited coalition members to contribute to the fundraiser if they were interested. Contact Ellen if you're still interested in contributing!

Methamphetamine/Prescription Drug Committee

Polly Brainerd shared the recommendation of the Methamphetamine Committee to expand their goals to include prescription drug abuse prevention. Meth activities are winding down and the issue of prescription drug misuse and abuse is on the rise. If this focus is approved, Polly will work with the committee to write some objectives and will present them to the full coalition in June. Eric made a motion to have the Meth committee expand their objectives to prescription drug abuse prevention. Bruce Yelvington seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

MSSAC Implementation Plan

Nancy reported that the goal meetings to gain input from the coalition on our objectives for the coming year are scheduled for June 2nd and 3rd. She requested that members attend these meetings to offer input even if they are not currently working on a committee. We would really appreciate opinions and ideas on the plan for 2008-09.

Olivet College

Martha O'Dell spoke about the kind of health education and prevention activities available at Olivet College. She has a background in nursing and counseling. She provides education to Resident Assistants (RAs) and informal counseling about ATOD issues to students. There are some dormitories that are smoke-free. The campus is not yet smoke-free. Newly admitted students get physical health and ATOD information at their orientation. All new students go through the handbook which outlines the expectations for healthy behavior and resources available. There are special classroom and dorm topics on issues such as substance abuse and suicide prevention. RAs and Theme Houses, Sorority, and Fraternity Houses are encouraged to provide programming to heighten awareness about these issues. There are several campus groups that take on issues related to physical and emotional health. Links for resources are provided on the campus website. Martha hopes to add more to the resources available. There was some discussion about whether Olivet College might be interested in partnering with Eaton County partners such as the Barry-Eaton Health Dept. or ECSAAG. Martha indicated that they've partnered in the past with community agencies and would be interested in doing so in the future. Eric Pessell encouraged Olivet College to consider designing a strategy for collaboration with Eaton County agencies. Coalition members would be happy to lend their expertise. We're hopeful to get an invitation to an administrative team meeting to share what we have available in the county to provide.

Data in Action Report

Anne Barna shared the very sharp Data In Action report for this year with the newly available data from the PNA, BRFSS, and District Court. This is a preliminary report and the final report will be available mid-summer. Anne explained that we have two years of data included in our report. We need to remember that in order to even begin to look at trends, we need at least three years of data with a consistent sample. Anne helped us to understand confidence intervals and how they impact our understanding of the data. We have the makings of a very good sample for the MiPHY in Eaton County. As far as we know, all five districts within the EISD are participating as well as Waverly. Anne Barna appreciates having the data to work with in Eaton County. She works in Barry County as well and they are not as fortunate as Eaton is in having participating school districts.

MSSAC Updates

We had our 6-month review with MSSAC. All went very well in the review. We are on track for meeting the milestones set forth in our implementation plan.

Smoke Free Michigan

Nancy Bernthal encouraged us to call or e-mail Rep. Dillon's office to encourage the House to pass the Senate's version of the smoke-free workplaces legislation. If the House doesn't pass the bill, it will likely stall out until after the elections.

Smoke-Free Dining Pamphlets

Nancy directed us to the draft of the pamphlet and asked us for feedback and corrections to the names and addresses of the dining places listed. The summer goal is to have a complete list of all smoke-free establishments in Eaton County published in a pamphlet. Marianne Ball from the Eaton Rapids Medical Center, Linda Bongiovanni and Freida Burke from Hayes Green Beach Hospital joined us today in honor of both hospitals going smoke-free recently.

Anne also introduced Cristin Larder from BEHD. She is working on a project to increase access to care for the uninsured.

SAFE-T Program

Cherie Anderson asked Bill to share some highlights from the most recent updates of the SAFE-T Program. He offers updates quarterly. We'll be including the updates in our meeting packets when they are available.

Upcoming Meetings

Nancy shared the upcoming meetings:

- **Data Committee will meet on June 2, Noon- 3 p.m. at EISD to work on our 2008-09 goals.**
- **Tobacco Committee will meet on June 3 from 9:00-10:00 a.m.**
- **Alcohol Committee will meet June 3 from 10:00-11:00 a.m.**
- **Marijuana Committee will meet June 3 from 11:00 – Noon**
- **ECSAAG will meet again June 10 from 9:30 a.m.-Noon**
- **There will either be a meeting for a vote on our 2008-09 MSSAC Implementation Plan or we'll take the vote electronically. Stay tuned.**

Cherie Anderson adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

We had a luncheon and spent some time acknowledging the efforts of each of the coalition members as well as some guests. Representatives from both local hospitals received commendation and appreciation for going smoke-free this year.

We also shared successes and challenges of this year.

Successes:

- Networking with organizations from all areas in Eaton County
- Longitudinal Data reports (several mentions)
- Group helped to network with other professionals typically we wouldn't network with
- Making data understandable and usable
- Expanding the prevention network to include more partners (several mentions)
- Meeting 75% of established milestones in our plan
- We've put together several wonderful educational opportunities, Frontline Worker and Law Enforcement trainings (several mentions)
- We are great at maintaining communication with coalition members
- ERASE's efforts in the Town Hall Meeting, planning, and implementation (several mentions)
- Expansion of Parents Who Host Lose the Most campaign in Grand Ledge and Eaton Rapids
- Information gathering and dissemination; contributing to public awareness and action

Challenges:

- Community participation, not just at meetings but in general. Consistent participation! (several mentions)
- Collecting data to complete the Data In Action to be used in time for Implementation Plan planning
- Increasing involvement with Olivet College
- Forming community groups in Charlotte and Potterville has gone slowly
- Turning data into action!
- It is difficult to be in the lead in collaborative efforts and impacting systems