

The January meeting for AYHSC was held on January 15th, 2015 from 5-6:30pm at the Whittemore Robbins House.

### **In Attendance:**

**Adults:** Ivy Laplante, Colleen Leger, Steve Porciello, Kathy Hirsch, Mary Decourcey, Andi Amata-Kynvi, Anna Watson, Cindy Bouvier, Hannah Fast, Kevin Flood, Karen Dillon

**Students:** Olivia Sorenson, Lukas Gianocostas

### **I. Welcome**

**Introductions** -Teen Advisor and community members all introduced themselves and their role

### **II. Old Business**

**December meeting minutes:** Approve minutes from December. Colleen moved to approve Kathy Hirsch seconded all approved minutes from our December meeting.

**Club 85 Inclusion:** Karen Dillon reported that The Students in Club 84 at the High School will now be mentored by Karen and a part of the Coalition. Currently there are about 12 active members who are working on a Community Tobacco Mapping Project. Other goals are participation in Kick Butts day at AHS on March 16th, a Skin Cancer Awareness Day and the Relay for Life in June.

**Student Coalition Orientation Meeting in December:** In December Karen and Ivy met with 6 youth advisors after school at AHS to talk about future initiatives, Coalition goals and to provide them with more information about the Coalition. The meeting was a great success and another will take place in Feb. Most of the Youth at the meeting signed a Coalition involvement agreement.

**Project Purple Basketball Game:**The undefeated AHS boys basketball team and the Girls team will be playing against Wakefield at AHS on Jan 23rd. Olivia Sorenson talked about what a great opportunity these games presented to recognize Project Purple. Olivia received approval from the Athletic Director at AHS and the principal to have a Project Purple game. We spent time at this meeting planning what our participation would look like. Mary DeCoursey's daughter is the Captain of the Girls team and she volunteered to order Purple game shirts for the girls for that day. Mary also offered to have the girls team decorate the gym. Kathy Hirsch said she would be at the game as would Steve Porciello. Kevin Flood offered to connect with John the Boy's coach about getting purple shirts. We decided to hang posters at AHS and Ottoson. Students Olivia Sorenson and Renee Hamblin hung posters at AHS.

**AYHSC Presentation:** Ivy gave a presentation AYHSC past present and future. Funding is through 2019. Funding requires that we follow the strategic prevention framework ensuring every voice is heard and all issues are represented. We would love to increase coalition membership and diversity. Ivy talked about the major highlights from our past coalition efforts and highlights from 2013-2014.

Our present action plan involves increasing community collaboration, reducing places where youth congregate to drink, reducing availability of marijuana by restricting placement of dispensaries and home cultivation, and to increase pills collected and new opportunities for unwanted prescription drug disposal.

### **Regarding Opioid use in the community:**

Andey spoke about her experience as a hospice nurse and following protocols to dispose of opioids and other RX drugs.

At the Arlington police station the drugs are incinerated. Drug incineration is reported locally by the Police Department and they contract with clean harbors who incinerate the medications.

Colleen asked Andey if there was anyway to collect meds from the hospice workers.

Stephen mentioned that if a citizen calls the police dept. an officer will come pick up the meds from the hospice home. A change in practice would have the be related to the family by Hospice Staff.

**BAGLY Summit Update:** Anna asked if youth involved in the CHNA grant and Coalition have the opportunity to pursue their own initiatives on the Coalition? Ivy stated that students are welcome to come us with their own initiatives as long as the focus is on substance abuse prevention and reducing self harm. Anna talked about the lgbt youth in town and some of their concerns. BAGLY met on November 12 at Robbins Library with the leader of Boston BAGLY, Jessica Flaherty. Anna read a statement from the home school QSA and BAGLY asking for support and advocacy.

The youth involved in the Boston Area BAGLY are traveling to Wellesley to join one of the few area support groups. Colleen suggested that perhaps AYCC might be able to offer support and facilities for a support group. Karen spoke about encouraging them to attend the youth summit in March in Cambridge where they can network and meet other youth.

### III. New Business

**Discussion of Tobacco use at AHS.** The odor of tobacco and sometimes marijuana is frequently smelled by the bathroom near the caf. Smoke alarms were installed and now are smashed. In-house suspensions or detentions for propped open doors. Bathroom monitors worked well in the past but the budget no longer allows this.

Lukas suggested keeping bathrooms updated and clean might deter vandalism and smoking.

**Colleen suggested a specific marijuana use assessment.** Ivy mentioned that data indicates girls are more often using alcohol and boys are more often using marijuana.

Ivy inquired if we should establish a STAT to report YRBS results

**Cindy B reported that a new advisory program being implemented at AHS for next year.** Rob Hale is running advisory. Stephen P. described his health education program offered to current Freshman at AHS. The next one is in a few weeks.

Ivy spoke about the DFC training in December and what she learned about the science of addiction. The idea of having an assigned book about addiction as part of the English curriculum in addition to advisory.

Kathy talked about reaching out to kids in science class and providing hard facts and scientific data. AHS health and safety day usually in October. Andrea Razzi coordinates it. Ivy will contact.

Kathy talked about Shrek the Musical at AHS as an outreach opportunity.

Karen will send out an online doodle poll to determine good meeting time moving forward.

### **Meeting Adjournment**

Next Coalition Meeting - February 5th 2015 at 5:30pm - Whittemore Robbins House