

This AYHSC Monthly Meeting was held on November 2nd, 2017 at 5:30 pm at the Whittemore Robbins House.

Staff Present: Karen Dillon, Galen Ziaggi

Members Present: Carlene Newell, Sarah Augood, Jennifer Saulnier, Kerry Austin-Smith, Joe Curro, Ellie Egan, Pat Egan, Steve Porciello and Mike Leach

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Introductions, Accept Minutes of the October Meeting	<p>Student advisors and sector representatives all introduced themselves and shared their respective roles in the Arlington community.</p> <p>Carlene Newell moved to approve the October meeting minutes, Sarah Augood seconded. All present approved the October meeting minutes.</p>	Ivy will publish October minutes on town website.
Student Coalition Updates	SCAP: Students have met three times since school started and appointed officers for the 2017-2018 school year.	
Parent Coalition Updates	The Parent Advisory board met for the first time prior to our meeting and started a conversation about short and long term goals.	<p>Karen took minutes and distributed them to parents.</p> <p>Send out Steve P letter in early December.</p>
Outreach Committee Updates:	Sarah Augood tabled at the Active Bystanders and The Talk Parent Forums and collected the names of 25 people for our newsletter.	Karen added new contacts to outreach/newsletter lists.
Project Updates:		
SAP-C (Substance Abuse Prevention Collaborative) Grant Updates	SAPC Cluster is continuing to meet and currently developing a regional policy on alcohol compliance checks and fines. There will be a Youth Summit in January and our youth will attend.	<p>Ivy will continue to keep AYHSC informed of action steps.</p> <p>Karen will coordinate the youth effort.</p>
LifeSkills Training Update	We have implemented the Botvin LifeSkills Training curriculum at Ottoson after receiving a grant from the Symmes Foundation. 6th grade FACS students at Ottoson have been surveyed and that survey will be repeated at the conclusion of the school year to measure impact of the curriculum.	Ivy will provide periodic updates on the progress and report final findings in June 2018.

Marijuana Paper	Draft is complete. Seeking subcommittee to refine and write the paper.	
Vaping	There is an increased presence of youth vaping at AHS. Parents are concerned and youth are concerned about their peers. Potential letter to community: information about vaping (what it looks like, health effects) for parents	Karen and Ivy have distributed materials about vaping and are meeting with AHS Administration November 30th.
Designer Benzodiazepines	Dr Egan and Mike Leach talked about cases seen at Newton Wellesley hospital and other local medical facilities where youth are presenting unusual symptoms in response to reported Benzo use. Police believe that these are chemically altered or homemade pills and very harmful.	Karen will update social media outlets to spread the word among the parent population.
Special Presentation	<p>Mike Leach presented to the Coalition his presentation: "Characteristics of Youth in BSAS Continuum of Care. In his presentation he described some of the trends and profiles of youth treated for drug and/or alcohol abuse in the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services treatment facilities.</p> <p>Here are some highlights from his presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 70% are on Mass Health ● Adolescent cravings are more intense and quickly escalate to more powerful substances. ● Addiction is a pediatric disease. ● A vast number of students with addiction are not treatable. ● Mental health is a gray area in the way it overlaps with addiction. ● There are not many public support groups specific to adolescent substance use. ● Research validates the importance of early intervention among youth. ● 62% are male, 38% female ● 77% are white ● Primary drug is marijuana 52.7% ● Research validates the importance of early intervention with youth ● Majority of youth requiring treatment are from southeast MA. ● Services available ● 24,000 youth need treatment but don't receive it ● Marijuana drug of choice for youth 	Karen shared data with Ivy and will find out how to share some with parents.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Heroin drug of choice for young adults• Polysubstance use is the norm for youth	
Policy Updates	N/A	

Meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm.

The next Coalition meeting will be held on Thursday, December 14, 2017 at 5:30pm in the Whittemore Robbins House.