

Tuscarawas County Anti-Drug Coalition Meeting
Friday, February 5, 2016
ADAMHS Board Meeting Room

In Attendance:

Jodi Salvo, PFCS
Marcia Stuart, Community Hospice
Dick Gooding, GN&L
Kerry Metzger, Commissioner
Bill Harding, Citizen
Connie Linbacher, Citizen
Lt. Mark Glennon, OSHP
Jaynie Norman, Citizen
Pastor Dode Overton, Faith Based
Dave Schaffer, ADAHMS Board
Star Jones, PFCS
Preston Spragling, PFCS
Rich VanArsdalen, Jail Chaplain
Mark Hunicutt, NewPointe
Cheryl Ramos, NP City Council & BCC
Kim Rykse, PFCS
Christine Jones, New Life Counseling

J. Salvo opened the meeting at noon and welcomed attendees and introductions were made with 19 people present.

Youth Led Prevention-Youth Sector Rep, Kim Rykse shared that area high schools in Tusc and Carroll celebrated National Drug & Alcohol Facts Week (NDAFW) last week, January 26-30. Representatives went to the middle schools and talked to the 7th & 8th grade classes. They used a variety of tools such as skits, "Jeopardy", etc. Pre-test and posttest surveys were given to test learning. NDAFW was very well received by this age group and school staff. Participating schools included: Tusky Valley, Claymont, Dover, New Philadelphia and Carrollton. Funds were used to purchases & distribute "Shatter the Myth" booklets.

She said school YLP are in need of funds to support youth efforts, operating expenses and to send students to Y2Y summer conference. Fundraisers and donations are being sought by each school to help defer the cost for things needed in the program—t-shirts, ribbons, advertising, camp, etc. There is a "project letter" that can be used or sent out to civic groups and businesses.

Students from each school will be attending Nordonian retreat Feb. 26-28. YLP students that are on Ohio Youth Led Prevention Network will be hosting a Teen Mental Health Awareness Event Feb. 23 at Kent Tusc. and she encouraged ADC to support YLP youth.

Youth Advisory students and school staff from the five districts continue to meet monthly at Union Hospital.

Salvo reported, members of ADC met on Feb. 20th to discuss youth survey results presented at January ADC meeting. After discussion and review of data she encouraged ADC members to have a discussion and consider prioritizing reducing underage alcohol use by focusing efforts on educating adults. Survey results revealed that of the 23% of 9th-12th graders report being current drinkers that 33% of those reported receiving their alcohol from their parents. Discussed placing efforts on the "Parents Who

Host” and “Talk They Hear You” campaigns. Dode Overton discussed sharing resources to Ministerial Association and community churches to consider a study from Operation Parents to educate parents and assist them in discussing ATOD issues with their children from a faith based perspective. Discussed other ways to access parents via schools and workplace. ADC discussions included: helping parents and adults better understand that drinking and driving is not the only concern with underage drinking. Focus on increase understanding of brain development, science and alcohol addiction. Discussed using youth survey information when educating and messaging and also to educate adults on social host laws and consequences. ADC will move forward in preventing youth alcohol use by focusing efforts on educating adults and parents of the harms and consequences of providing youth alcohol and the concerns and risks of underage alcohol consumption.

County Commissioner Kerry Metzger read a Resolution in Opposition to HB68 to increase alcohol content in beer that the County Commissioners signed on February 4th. HB 68 would increase alcohol content in beer from 12% to 21%. Conversation among ADC members regarding increasing potency of substances (alcohol/drug) becomes problematic with youth brains and addiction. HB 68 would provide a major concern regarding binge drinking as one 21% beer could constitute binge drinking with the consumption of one beer for some females. This has been trying to pass in some form since 2011. .

Legislative Update- Sen. David Burke (R., Marysville), an admitted medical marijuana skeptic, and Sen. Kenny Yuko (D., Richmond Heights), a medical pot advocate, are presiding over four town hall meetings throughout Ohio and will report back to lawmakers as they consider write medical marijuana legalization into the state constitution. The Senate town hall tour follows the House creation of a bipartisan task force that will hold seven hearings, all at the Statehouse in Columbus, into the pros and cons of medical marijuana. It’s unclear whether the House process will end in a report or the introduction of proposed legislation and how that might mesh with what comes out of the Senate. Responsible Ohio has two of its key members sitting on the House task force in hopes of at least salvaging medical marijuana. The Senate town hall meetings will be presided over by State senators, while most of the House task force consists of non-legislators representing the medical community, marijuana advocates, addiction programs, law enforcement, business, and labor. The House task force has a deadline of March 31. Members of the ADC discussed that whatever the State decides federally it will still be illegal.

February 15th is the Prom Showcase & Dress Resale Event at Dover Alliance Church. This event runs from 3:00-6:00 pm. Need people to man a booth. Also discussed the literature needed and when best to do the Safe Prom Tips. Future events to hit is March Gambling Prevention Month, April is Alcohol Awareness Month and April/May—Parents Who Host Social Host Campaign.

There are both Federal and State grants available, especially for the rural areas. Jodi is working on them.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15. Next meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 4th at ADAMHS Board 12:00-1:00.