



**CECIL COUNTY DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 11, 2013**

Meeting Location: Cecil College, North East Campus

In Attendance: Elaine Barclay, Nicola Barteau, Richard Bartel, John Bennett, Earl Bradford, Ken Collins, Dan Coulter, April Foster, William Gerczak, Louis Guertin, Shelly Gullledge, Theresa Hampton, Jackie Hartman, Kristin Irwin, Howard Isenberg, Steven Jones, Becky Kiersznowski, Tom Klenk, Rebecca Larson, Donna Lewis, Michael Massuli, Tonia McMillan, Nicole Meekins, Carrie Miller, Morgan Miller, Douglas Moore, Alicia O'Connor, Walter Rozanski, Richette Ragland, Jenny Shields, Linda Shroyer, Carmela Texiera, Jennifer Tuerke, Nancy Turner, Robin Waddell, Karl Webner

Call to Order: John Bennett called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Announcement: John Bennett acknowledged the recent death of former Superintendent of Schools, Jerry Kunkle, and remarked on Mr. Kunkle's tremendous contributions to Cecil County.

Review of Minutes: Minutes from the September 11, 2013 meeting were reviewed, and approved.

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

Family Law – Nicole Meekins

- Relayed a condensed version of Family Law 5-704.5. A new component of the law requires health care practitioners to report to the local Department of Social Services (DSS) those newborns affected by prenatal exposure to controlled substances and/or identified with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder. Upon receipt of a report, DSS is required to consult with the health care practitioner, interview the mother, visit the infant, and complete safety and risk assessments. If services are needed, the caseworker from DSS will develop a plan of safe care and make the appropriate referrals.
- Practitioners are required to submit a report for positive results within 48 hours. Our local DSS and the Health Department (Alcohol and Drug Recovery Center) have a collaborative agreement to send a substance abuse counselor to the mother and provide initial screening for substance abuse services.
- The new component of the duty to report child abuse and neglect law brings Maryland law into compliance with federal law.

Maryland Strategic Prevention Framework – Jackie Hartman and Ken Collins

- The MSPF continues to support law enforcement activities, including saturation controls and compliance checks.
- The MSPF continues to support a billboard campaign focused on reducing underage drinking. The most recent successful billboard developed by a student was posted on Route 40 between North East and Elkton.

- Prevention staff from the Maryland Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration developed a Public Service Announcement (PSA) intended to educate parents and other adults about the harm and risks associated with allowing alcohol to be served to minor in their homes (social hosting). The video was submitted to the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) and Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for inclusion in their Underage Drinking video campaign. Link to the Maryland video follows:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JRn5SG5ss9g&list=PL6F25AC126268A2B3&index=59>
Link to other state alcohol prevention videos is here:
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL6F25AC126268A2B3>

Mayor's Task Force – Ken Collins

- The Mayor's Drug Task Force was formed in September 2013. The Task Force is a collaboration focused on increasing community participation toward finding solutions. Elkton Mayor Joe Fisona is leading the initiative.
- The Task Force and the Mayors from all eight Cecil County towns agreed to promote and host screenings for "The Anonymous People" in each town. Screenings will begin in February 2014.

High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Designation – Ken Collins

- In November, Cecil County received a High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) designation. Based on the designation, Cecil County may be eligible to obtain additional funding for enforcement, intelligence and information-sharing initiatives, and drug use prevention and drug treatment projects.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE CAUSE (ANNOUNCEMENTS):

Steven Johns – Concerned Community Member

- Expressed views on the drug problem in Cecil County, and on the need to work together to educate our youth.
- Young people need positive role models, and that placing Recovery Coaches in the schools is one way to begin to help.

April Foster – Concerned Citizen

- Reported Dexter House had their first "Tree Lighting."
- Spoke about the need as a community to support those working on getting clean.
- Reported that she checked the Health Department web-site and identified 16 local resources to help individuals with substance abuse concerns. Reported she was able to identify sixty other regional resources.

Ken Collins – Cecil County Health Department

- Recognized Elaine Barclay and the Recovery Walk Committee for their tremendous efforts to implement the Cecil County 5K-Twelve Step Recovery Walk. Attendance at the walk continues to increase each year, and the September 2013 event was very successful.
- Congratulated Karl Webner for his selection as the Overdose Prevention Coordinator for Cecil County.
- Commented regarding recent drug take-back events held on October 26th. Every law enforcement agency in the County participated and record level of disposal was reported. For example, the North East Police Department reported receiving 3x more medication by weight this year over last year, and Elkton police reported a 100% increase. Community disposal of unused medications is an important component of our overdose prevention plan.

- County Executive Tari Moore recently submitted a request to Governor O’Malley for funding to support and expand public safety, prevention, early intervention/treatment, and recovery support initiatives. The letter included a request to continue the Neighborhood Youth Panel, deliver an early intervention program for first time offenders, expand residential treatment, develop a recovery high-school, and fund one forensic analyst dedicated to testing drugs collected by law enforcement agencies in Cecil County. Copy of the County Executive’s letter will be distributed by e-mail to all members of the DAAC e-mail list.

Linda Shroyer – Cecil County Health Department, Alcohol and Drug Recovery Center

- Spoke regarding efforts to implement “treatment on demand,” a quality improvement initiative which offers immediate access to service. Walk-in assessments are offered to all individuals seeking substance-related attention. Wait times for appointments have been eliminated.

Tom Klenk – Cecil County Adult Drug Treatment Court

- Commented on the graduation rate of Adult Drug Treatment Court. Drug Court participants are individuals with a lengthy history of multiple criminal offenses and several years of active substance use.

Jackie Hartman – Cecil County Health Department, Health Promotions

- Reported on synthetic marijuana. Shared printed information with DAAC members. Digital copies of said information will be distributed by e-mail to all members of the DAAC e-mail list.

Walter Rozanski – Concerned Citizen, Drug and Alcohol Council Member

- Expressed concern that information regarding the seriousness of the drug issues in Cecil County is not getting out to everyone in the community.
- Asked for the resignation of the DAAC Chairman.

Mike Massuli - Cecil County Health Department, Alcohol and Drug Recovery Center

- Acknowledged the sense of urgency in the room to work together to reduce substance abuse in the community.

Next Meeting: TBD

Adjourned: 4:30 pm

Submitted by Alicia O’Connor