



Franklin Mayor's Drug Task Force

Task Force Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 14, 2016

5:15pm – 7:00pm at Bessie Rowell Community Center

Present:

<i>Name:</i>	<i>Sector:</i>	<i>Name:</i>	<i>Sector:</i>
<i>Angela Lynch</i>	<i>Coalition Coordinator</i>	<i>Andrea McFall</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>
<i>Ken Merrifield</i>	<i>City of Franklin Mayor</i>	<i>Paul Blackford</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>
<i>Christy Liolis</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>	<i>Carrie Charette</i>	<i>School: FHS Teacher</i>
<i>Bob Lucas</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>	<i>Glen Feener</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>
<i>Melissa Lee</i>	<i>Healthcare</i>	<i>Tamara Feener</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>
<i>Chief Goldstein</i>	<i>State, Local or Tribal Governmental Agency with Expertise in the Field of Substance Abuse</i>	<i>Joe Giunta</i>	<i>Religious/Fraternal Organization: Franklin Elks</i>
<i>Beth Bellows</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>	<i>Jim Connell</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>
<i>Lynn Haskell</i>	<i>Youth-Serving Organization: Merrimack Juvenile Diversion Program</i>	<i>Karen Darling</i>	<i>Civic/Volunteer Group (Choose Franklin, Franklin Jr. Youth Group)</i>
<i>Alice G.</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>	<i>Barbara Olson</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>
<i>Stephen O'Brien</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>	<i>Bob Grover</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>
<i>Lucy Natkiel</i>	<i>Hill Resident</i>	<i>Corey Gately</i>	<i>LRGHealthcare</i>
<i>Scott Shepard</i>	<i>Parent</i>	<i>Wil Perez</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>
<i>Roy Roberts</i>	<i>LRGHealthcare</i>	<i>Bill Doherty</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>
<i>Dawn Sanchez</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>	<i>Pedro Sanchez</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>
<i>John Wagner</i>	<i>Andover Congregational Church Pastor</i>	<i>Alan Grill</i>	<i>Religious/Fraternal Organization: Franklin United Methodist Church</i>
<i>Tracy Goldthwaite</i>	<i>Parent</i>	<i>Jason Vezina</i>	<i>Parent</i>
<i>Donna Liolis</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>	<i>Dessault</i>	<i>Franklin Resident</i>

Angela Lynch welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending, began brief introductions around the room and quickly reviewed the meeting guidelines.

Mayor's Minute

In the past in this room and in other settings, he has come to believe that this issue of substance misuse in our community and in our state, and beyond, really affects almost every social ill that we can point to, whether is low test scores in school, healthcare costs, low worker productivity, and so on. It is really the challenge of our time.

Ken described that today at work, as many may know he works at the Dept. of Health and Human Services for NH and he is a Finance Director for welfare, food stamps, and the homeless

and housing division. They are having meetings now about establishing a new program to help people move from social welfare programs to work. In trying to devise this program, substance misuse has come up numerous times as a predominant driver of people into social welfare programs. State costs, federal costs are greatly affected by this issue.

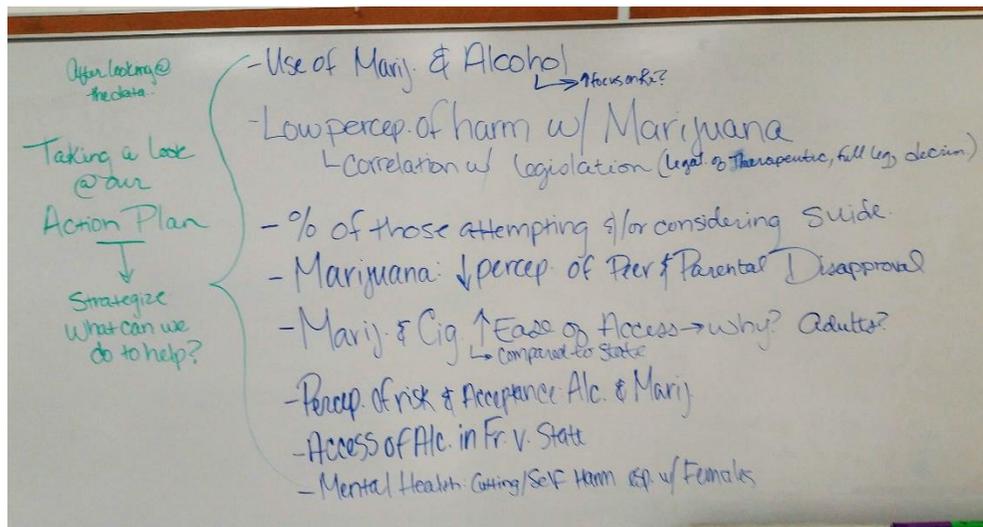
2015 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) data presentation

Angela introduced the next topic. Recently the coalition put on a Lunch n' Learn opportunity for the community to attend to learn about the most recent YRBS data that has come out. We have that presentation tonight at this meeting to quickly review, as we noticed that many of our regular coalition members were unable to attend that opportunity but wanted to learn about the new data. We also would like to use this information tonight, to drive some conversation around our current strategies and focus areas that are speaking to us after looking at what is being reported by our community's youth. Melissa took over to present the data to the group. (see data presentation on our website)

YRBS Data Discussion

Key group notes:

- Use of Marijuana and Alcohol has gone up. Rx has gone down. Since coalition began, we've focused heavily on awareness of Rx misuse/abuse. Correlation?
- Very low perception of risk/harm with Marijuana use. Correlation with decriminalization and legalization in legislation.
- Low perception of peer and parental disapproval of Marijuana
- Concerned about the mental health such as the percent of those who reported attempting or considering suicide and 31% of the females report that they engaged in self-harming
- Ease of Access is higher than the state to Marijuana and Cigarettes, as well as Alcohol. Why is it easier in Franklin than in the state? Not necessarily looking to our retailers here, but access in the home...



Coalition Ambassadors: Making Introductions

Angela opened up the next activity, which is an extension of our ongoing workshop activities to create consistent messaging among coalition members (or “Coalition Ambassadors”) and practice engaging community members in introducing and discussing our coalition, who we are and what we do, why we do it, how we organize our efforts and strategize around what we implement within the community and recruit further community support. Chief Goldstein led the group in a 10-minute overview of Active Listening skills and using these skills to make initial introductions with people without turning those people’s interest off or triggering their defensive “walls,” etc. See attached.

The group then engaged in some role playing, using a community table set-up with one person acting as the Coalition Ambassador/volunteer and another pretending to be a community member that does not yet know or understand what the coalition does.

Coalition Updates & Other

- **CANCELLED:** Saturday’s *How to Help Teens Make Healthy Choices* (using motivational interviewing) workshop is going to be re-scheduled as we’ve only received two RSVP’s and we are really looking to have more engagement so that we can really feel good about the cost for what our community will get from it. We keep hearing about the desire of many parents and those who work within the schools who want to attend and engage in these opportunities but a Saturday morning was not an ideal time for most, especially as the weather is really warming up so people would rather engage in outdoor family activities. So we are going to get more input from community members and look at future dates as well as potentially altering our marketing around it. So we will keep the coalition and community updated on the progress of this, so be on the lookout!
- **Chem-Free Craft Fair, from 9 to 2 this Saturday (in the FHS Cafeteria)!** Please stop by, proceeds go toward this fantastic opportunity for our youth!
- **The Anonymous People documentary screening** is happening on April 28th at Franklin Opera House at 5:30pm. This is a wonderful and uplifting documentary, it is free but you must RSVP with Kelley Gaspa at LRPPH by calling 528-2145 as there will be dinner provided.
- **Member Profile forms:** Please fill one out if you haven’t yet (or haven’t in the past 2 years). This form is a great tool for our coalition to better organize itself as it will give us a snapshot of what each person is interested in and/or willing to help with.
- **Refreshment Donations:** A reminder that our coalition’s grant cannot be used to purchase food or drinks so we always welcome any refreshment donations for our meetings or other activities!
- **June’s Coalition Meeting:** The next meeting is on Thursday, June 12th and we will be welcoming Staff Sergeant Rick Frost from the NH National Guard Counter-drug Task Force to do a coalition survey called the Coalition Kaizen. Please attend! This survey will

help give us a snapshot of strengths and areas we could improve upon to help our coalition run more smoothly and to help make the future of our coalition sustainable and effective (even without grant funding).

Volunteer Opportunities!

- **April 30th** from 10 to 2pm at CVS in Franklin is our next “Drug Take Back Day” in partnership with Franklin PD and Tilton PD.
- **Community Day** (Saturday, May 14th from 10 to 2pm at Odell Park). This is a huge community event. Our coalition again will be there and have a booth to spread awareness about the substance use and misuse topics, as well as increase awareness and recruit for our coalition as well as the Franklin Youth Initiative (FYI) group at FMS and FHS. This event is also very important to our coalition because this is when we implement our Community Day Survey! This is an opportunity for us to survey the adults who live in or frequent our community about their perceptions of risk, use and approval of use as well as questions around access to substances and awareness of our coalition and our coalition’s activities.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by Angela Lynch

A big thank you to Barbara Olson for providing delicious cupcakes to share!