



CASS COUNTY SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION COALITION

November 10th 1130-1230pm and November 14th 1-130pm

Karli Armstrong, Melissa Denney, Sherry Harris, Nikki Malott, Rick Hollering, Veronica Osborn, Axel Richter, Daniel Castro-Scliinas, Lauren Saldivor, Maeda Bradbury, Reyna Hernandez, Lucas Smith, Chris Dehulle, Camila Castillo, Gracee Baer, Brooklyn Harris, Madison Zimmerer, Libby Dexter

Thomas Keller, Jennifer Lombard, Mariola Hernandez, Chuck Newton, Missy Ahearn,

Minutes during Thursday November 10th meeting:

- Introductions- we have students from Commercial Arts Class, SADD, and Sources of Strength. Also Rick Hollering, Nikki Malott, Veronica Osborn, Karli Armstrong, Melissa Denney, and Sherry Harris.
- Opened up explaining what the coalition is and why we are meeting. Want to get a youth coalition together, a group of students who can tell us what they want to do and we can rally behind them and help where needed.
- Main purpose of the meeting is the logo/branding/name topic. Asked Melissa Denney's class at the end of last year to start brainstorming names so we can shift and come up with branding and logo for coalition.
- Melissa feels once we establish a name the logo will be easier to tackle.
- Melissa read off name suggestions and then we asked the youth for their input, what stood out? Which did you like the most? What do you think sounds the best? We had a great discussion on this. (please see Melissa Denney's notes in this folder).
- It was mentioned that we want the students to have a platform of their own, something they can take ownership of and share messaging with the community on. We need to think of creative ways to connect, what can we do? What times are best, club times

aren't long, we have tried after school meetings, what do we think would work best to get everyone together. We have challenged them to think on this.

- Karli suggested having one or two kids from each club attend the meetings and then go back to the club and share information. That is what they do with Key Club and the Kiwanis and it seems to work well.

Minutes from Monday November 14, 2022 (virtual)

- Introductions
- General updates: Progress Report was submitted and approved for the coalition. Our coalition was one of fifteen awarded the Blue Ribbon Coalition awards from CADCA, we released a press release, Nikki will send out to members.
- Training and Public Engagement Action Team: Since last quarterly we have hosted the Vape Presentation and the IYI Panel Discussion. Panel discussion has received positive feedback from attendees. Vape presentation was NOT well attended, but was a good presentation after we got through some glitches in the beginning. Please encourage others to attend the trainings we host, and please attend if at all possible. Vape presentation was talked about for about a year and not many people showed up, which was a disappointment. We did record both and YSA has hired someone to edit those videos so we can upload to the website. We are behind on video uploads because it has been hard to find someone to edit them.
- Next meeting will be scheduled soon for Training Team.
- Recruitment of Youth: last weeks meeting was a success. 15 youth and 5 or 6 adults were present for the discussion which was primarily focusing on the naming ideas for the coalition. Commercial Arts teacher, Melissa, went through list of names the kids had come up with and then asked all youth that attended what their opinions on those were. We had a good conversation with the youth. Top selections will go into a survey so that the entire group can voice their opinions on the names. Please watch your inbox for the survey.
- Data Collection team: Still working on data release documents. It becomes challenging with data sharing/releases and taking surveys sometimes. Rick is meeting with Austina to discuss final steps in getting the release/share document to the schools.
- Chuck says that Tippecanoe County avoids the legal constraints by bringing together a group of 60-80 youth in that county, with parent permission, outside of school hours. They do a 2-3 hour focus group type meeting. They ask questions and record their responses. They collect anonymously with no identifying criteria collected. They invite the mayors in to get involved and make it a big deal. They have their prevention committee ask questions in a confidential environment. Usually have about 12 groups of youth and they are each asked 10-12 questions. Since records are totally anonymous it eliminates the liability/legal issues and going through the schools for permissions. Chuck would like to be added to the data group, wants to connect to Austina.
- Each school corporation will likely be looking at the issue differently and have differing opinions.
- Someone suggested linking "drug prevention" back to the name for coalition in some way.
- Nikki will send out survey to the entire group to include their input on name choice.

- Nikki will send out press release for Blue Ribbon Coalition award that we were awarded. We were 1 in 15 coalitions in the nation to receive this and we will be celebrated at CADCA's leadership forum in January.
- Rick wants coalition to connect more with Ivy Tech, it is important to connect with them and get them involved just like the high schools.
- Jennifer mentioned meeting with the Training and Public Engagement Action Team and discussing more about the youth panel coming up in Spring. We may want to start seeking participants now and asking for permission.
- Had a lot of positive feedback on panel discussion. It was recorded and will be posted on website along with other trainings.