

# DRUG-FREE ASHLEY COUNTY COALITION

## MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, July 11, 2023

### INTENDED OUTCOMES OF MEETING:

*Share status of community connections/meetings and upcoming events with Coalition members  
Provide information regarding Crisis Intervention: Mental Health and Public Help*

### AGENDA ITEMS:

#### WELCOME:

Meeting of the DRUG-FREE ASHLEY COUNTY COALITION called to order at 4:08 PM. on July 11, 2023, at the UAM College of Technology, Crossett, and via Zoom by Janie Carter.

PRESENT IN PERSON		PRESENT VIA ZOOM
Officer Robert Black	Chief Johnny Oliver	Mayor Carolyn Harris
Janie Carter	Bro. Mike Neal	India Holt
Officer Nicole Carter	Agent Territha Reed	Mandy Morris
Ronnie Donaldson	Arlyn Richards	Julie Roberson
LaTeasha Franklin	Lisa Riels	Eric Shoffner
Freddie Guin	Linda Rushing	Superintendent Tracy Streeter
LuAnne Guin	Daniel Shelton, Jr.	
Rev Ephraim Johnson	Prostell Thomas, III	
Officer Brandon Kelley	Vice Chancellor Tracy Tucker	
Dennis Maxwell	Kaneshia Wallace	
Osmara Mondragon	Elizabeth White	

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes from the May 9, 2023 meeting were approved with one correction on Rachel Richardson's name (Richardson instead of Richards). With that correction, Daniel Shelton initiated the motion for approval and Officer Black followed with a second. The motion carried.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS/INTRODUCTIONS:

Janie introduced the new UAM College of Technology Crossett Vice Chancellor Tracy Tucker who introduced the new UAM-CTC Career Coach, Osmara Mondragon. Other first-time attendees included LuAnne and Freddie Guin, Officer Nicole Carter, Kaneshia Wallace, LaTeasha Franklin, and Guest Speaker Agent Territha Reed.

#### PRESENTATION BY AGENT REED:

Agent Territha Reed, Crisis Intervention Training Coordinator for the Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training (CLEST) presented information on policies and procedures for referring adults (age 18 and older) to Crisis Stabilization Units (CSUs) in Arkansas. ACT 423, the Criminal Justice Efficiency and Safety Act of 2017, was passed to create behavioral health crisis intervention protocol to implement and fund four CSUs in the State. Currently, the units are 16-bed facilities with two units in northwest Arkansas, one in northeast, and one in Little Rock. Work is in progress to establish a fifth unit in El Dorado.

Individuals can be referred to any of the four units by law enforcement officers, family, friends, the individual in crisis, or anyone concerned about the person in crisis. Priority is given to law enforcement referrals for which purpose the units were created. The units operate on a 24/7 basis, staffed by agencies experienced in providing behavioral health services. Commitment is voluntary and typically encompasses a three-day period of time comprised of initial stabilization, treatment, and possibly prescription of medications. Clients leave the unit with a long-term plan, and the CSU staff provides follow up.

New law enforcement officers (recruits) are required to successfully complete sixteen hours of training related to behavioral health crisis intervention. Veteran officers are required to complete at least eight hours of training to better understand behavioral impairments and mental illnesses. In the training, officers are introduced to mental health professionals, consumers, and family members.

The crisis intervention unit in Little Rock is located at 3001 W. Roosevelt Road; phone number 501-340-6646.

**NOTE: All referrals for adolescents/children younger than 18 who are in mental health crisis should be made to Brian Kelton, UAMS; bdkelton@uams.edu.**

### REPORTS/EVENTS:

#### Welcome New June Coalition Members:

4 Supporting: Lucille Smith, Jessica Griffith, Pam Jones, April Adams

2 Extended: Kelley Allison and Carol Campbell

**NOTE:** **Reminder:** "MEMBERSHIP FORMS" need to be completed to ensure we have documentation for coalition records.

June 6, 2023	<b>Presentation to Crossett Lion's Club</b>
June 10, 2023	<b>Hamburg Juneteenth Celebratory Banquet</b> , Hamburg Middle School
June 13, 2023	<b>Prevention Curriculum Consultants' Orientation</b> <b>D-FAC Sector Leader Training</b>
June 15, 2023	Phoenix Youth & Family Services – <b>RECLAIMING OUR FUTURE</b> Prevention Conference: Mary Vaughn, Regional Prevention Representative <b>Guest Speaker: Dave Gomez</b> , with Tall Cop Says Stop Organization
June 17, 2023	<b>Juneteenth Celebration</b> , Hamburg Pine Street Park

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

July 12, 2023	<b>NARCAN Training for D-FAC Members at Hamburg School District</b>
July 25, 2023	<b>Parent Open House Hamburg Middle School 5-7 pm</b>
July 27, 2023	<b>Parent Open House Hamburg High School 5-7 pm</b>
August 5, 2023	<b>Back-to-School Bash</b> , Ashley County United with Love & Diversity, Crossett City Park, 12 – 6 pm
August 11, 2023	<b>Parent Open Houses: Middle School 9:30-11:30 am; High School 12-3:00 pm</b>
Fall Semester	<b>Begin Initial meetings with youth to form Drug-Free Youth Groups</b>
TBD (August/Sept.)	<b>Law Enforcement Appreciation Lunch with Guest Speaker Arkansas Drug Director Thomas Fisher</b>

### REPORT ON PREVENTION CURRICULUM & RESOURCES TEAM:

Lisa Riels and Liz White reported on the work of the Prevention Curriculum and Resource Teams. Two teachers from each school district comprise the teams: Jessica Griffith and Kelley Allison from Hamburg and Pam Jones and April Adams from Crossett. Each team has a middle and a high school teacher who are experienced in both curriculum development and technology. The development of lessons for this school year are broken into four units of study, each covering a nine-week period. The units follow the data presented by our students both from the Arkansas Prevention Needs Survey and the D-FAC Coalition surveys collected in Spring 2022. According to both sets of data, the primary substance abuse problems are: 1) underage drinking; 2) marijuana; and 3) prescription drugs. The final unit of study will be on mental health issues, suicide prevention, and the negative consequences of substance abuse. A major problem in both school districts is vaping with devices that contain nicotine and possibly THC; consequently, the dangers of this method of consumption will be covered while learning about marijuana. In each district, administrators will determine the protocol for dissemination and frequency of the lessons.

### DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATIONS/SUGGESTIONS:

Prostell Thomas announced events for small business owners to be offered through Phoenix Youth and Family Services. He can be contacted at 364-1676 for further information.

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** Tuesday, August 8 - 4:00 PM at UAM College of Technology Crossett

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.  
Minutes submitted by: Janie Carter