

DRUG-FREE ASHLEY COUNTY COALITION

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, August 8, 2023

INTENDED OUTCOMES OF MEETING:

Share status of community connections/meetings, Annual Progress Report, and upcoming events with Coalition members

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS:

The meeting of the DRUG-FREE ASHLEY COUNTY COALITION called to order at 4:05 PM. on August 8, 2023, at the UAM College of Technology, Crossett, and via Zoom by Janie Carter.

PRESENT IN PERSON		PRESENT VIA ZOOM
Janie Carter	Arlyn Richards	Eric Shoffner
Ronnie Donaldson	Rachael Richardson	Superintendent Tracy Streeter
Sheri Hendrix	Lisa Riels	
Rev Ephraim Johnson	Lucille Smith	
Kandi Keith	Mary Vaughn	
Gina Morgan	Dr. Alisa White	
Bro. Mike Neal	Elizabeth White	
Chief Johnny Oliver		

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes from the July 11, 2023, meeting were approved as written. Chief Johnny Oliver initiated the motion for approval and Dr. Alisa White followed with a second. The motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/INTRODUCTIONS:

Janie introduced and thanked Sherri Hendrix for accepting the appointment to Sector Leader for Civic/Volunteer Organizations and Rachael Richardson as Sector Leader for Youth. Appreciation was expressed to the outgoing Sector Leaders: Amanda Friedman and Trinity Foster. Everyone introduced him/herself, and first-time attendees Lucille Smith, Kandi Keith, and Gina Morgan were welcomed to the Coalition.

REPORTS/EVENTS:

Welcome New Coalition July Members:

3 Active: Christi Carter, Eddy Tucker, & Kandi Keith)

4 Supporting: LuAnn & Freddie Guin, Chris Hammond, Tim Outlaw, & John Spradlin

14 Extended: D-FAC members who are administrators for Hamburg School District

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

July 10-11

Johnny's Ambassador Marijuana Conference (Virtual)

July 12

Naloxone Training for D-FAC Members at Hamburg School District

July 25

Parent Open House Hamburg Middle School

July 27

Parent Open House Hamburg High School

July 28

Presentation by Vice Chair Daniel Shelton to AR Community Corrections Recovery and Re-Entry Program

August 5

Back-to-School Bash, Ashley County United with Love & Diversity, 1st United Methodist Church

August 11

Parent Open Houses Crossett Middle School and High School

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Fall Semester

Begin Initial meetings with youth to form Drug-Free Youth Groups

TBD (September)

Law Enforcement Appreciation Lunch with Guest Speaker Arkansas Drug Director Thomas Fisher

REPORT ON THE DFC ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT:

Janie reported that the Annual Progress Report was being completed. A summary of the impact on the community during the first ten months of the grant are presented in the table that follows:

	Number of	Adults and Youth
--	-----------	------------------

DRUG-FREE ASHLEY COUNTY COALITION

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, August 8, 2023

Strategy of Community Change Addressed	Activities	Served
Providing Information thru Media Campaigns (Radio PSA's, postcards, vinyl posters)	3,412	--
Providing information media coverage: radio, newspaper (news stores, articles, ads, etc.)	110	--
Providing information thru print produced (brochures, flyers, Welcome Guide)	1,470	--
Providing information thru materials disseminated (brochures, promotional items)	25	2,270
Providing information thru social media (Facebook October – April)	90	145
Providing information thru website www.drugfreeAC.org (March – July)	56	1,109 views 293 visitors
Providing information in person (presentations, conferences, pre-prom skits, career/job fairs, parent events, Red Ribbon Week events)	25	2,046
Providing information through special events (Town Hall Assemblies & Focus Groups)	8	1,525
Enhancing Skills (Naloxone Training and Distribution)	7	60
Providing Support (Drug-Free Activities-After Graduation Support)	2	250
Changing Access/Barriers (Prescription Take Back for safe homes)	2	90
Changing Consequences (Drug-Free Youth Recognition Gift Cards)	2	32
Physical Design Changes (Safe Medication Box Distribution)	1	8 families
Informing About Laws/Policies (Social Hosting Campaign & Good Samaritan Law)	9	260

REPORT ON PREVENTION CURRICULUM & RESOURCES TEAM:

Lisa Riels and Liz White reported on the work of the Prevention Curriculum and Resource Teams. The curriculum for the first two nine weeks has been completed. Hamburg started classes the first week of August and began the prevention lessons the second week of class. Crossett will begin classes on August 11 and plans to initiate the lessons the second week of class.

DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATIONS/SUGGESTIONS:

In small groups, members discussed and completed the "Training and Coalition Development Support Survey of Needs" as required by the Annual Progress Report. After tabulating the results, the #1 training need was identified as "Engaging the general community in substance use prevention initiatives"; #2 was "Engaging key partners (e.g., school personnel, parents) in substance use prevention initiatives"; and #3 was "Recruiting/engaging populations of focus (e.g., youth/students) in substance use prevention initiatives".

In response to the discussion regarding the work of the Cultural Competence Committee, Mary Vaughn, Regional Prevention Representative from Phoenix Youth and Family Services, commented that she has a generous supply of informational materials written in Spanish. Additionally, she has materials ordered for Red Ribbon Week (October 23-31) that she can share with the Coalition. Mary also shared information about a group called **Beyond Opioids**, a group who provides free legal services for civil (not criminal) matters to Arkansans and their families who are struggling with substance use disorder (SUD). Examples of legal issues Beyond Opioids can help with include the following:

- Driver's License Reinstatement
- Criminal Record Sealing
- Eviction Defense
- Housing Discrimination
- Reasonable Accommodation
- Medicaid Appeal and SUD Coverage
- Foreclosure
- Social Security
- Guardianship; Custody; Visitation
- Divorce
- Orders of Protection
- Bankruptcy
- Credit
- Scams
- Tax Controversy
- Education

The website for the group is: www.BeyondOpioids.org and they can be reached at (479) 239-9048

NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday, September 12 - 4:00 PM at UAM College of Technology Crossett

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.
Minutes submitted by: Janie Carter