

DRUG-FREE ASHLEY COUNTY COALITION

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

INTENDED OUTCOMES OF MEETING:

Share status of community connections/meetings, upcoming events and build knowledge/capability.

AGENDA ITEMS:

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS: D-FAC Coalition Website: <https://www.drugfreeac.org>

Meeting of the DRUG-FREE ASHLEY COUNTY COALITION called to order at 4:09 PM. on November 14, 2023, at UAM-CTC in-person and via Zoom by Janie Carter.

PRESENT IN PERSON		ZOOM CONNECTION
Christi Carter	Harry Hillier [Guest]	Mary Cole
Janie Carter	Beau Kilcrease	Vivian Guimbellot
Josh Goodwin	Gina Morgan	Carolyn Harris
Asher Johnson [Guest]	Brother Mike Neal	Felicia Mitchell
Rev Ephraim Johnson	Chief Johnny Oliver	Mary Vaughn
Jennifer Johnson	Arlyn Richards	
Rayce Johnson [Guest]	Lisa Riels	
Ryker Johnson [Guest]	Linda Rushing	
Sherri Hendrix	Daniel Shelton, Jr.	
Roman Herbert [Guest]	Ben Short	
Katie Hernandez	David Streeter	
Victoria Herrera	Tracy Streeter	
Cathie Hillier	Elizabeth White	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Hearing no corrections or additions, minutes from the October 10, 2023, meeting were approved as written, with Daniel Shelton, Jr. initiating the motion and Linda Rushing following with a second. The motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/INTRODUCTIONS:

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

ACTIVE: N=1 Jennifer Watkins
SUPPORTING N=7 Nick Adams, Stephanie Brooks, Kacy Jo Gill, Alicia Mann, Scott Sasser, Zachary Winfield, Emily Wisener
EXTENDED: N=81 Crossett & Hamburg educators and administrators [*attended NARCAN training*]

REPORT ON OCTOBER/NOVEMBER Events:

RECOGNITION FOR SPECIAL DAYS

October 28 National Prescription Drug Take Back Day
October 23-31 RED RIBBON WEEK
November 2023 **NO VAPES ALL NOVEMBER!** – Youth Groups working on PSA.
November 13 World Kindness Day – to honor, to celebrate and to inspire kindness in action.
November 18 International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day – promotes coming together, showing support and love to survivors of this tragic event.
November 30 National Methamphetamine Awareness Day

DELTA UPDATE:

CAROLYN HARRIS, Executive Director Heart2Heart Connections/Mayor

- Attended training to learn about DFC grant application process.
- Heart2Heart Connection afterschool students participated in activities to learn the history of Red Ribbon Week and Coalition youth distributed drug-free educational material in our delta communities.
- October 28th:
 - Wilmot Police Department participated in Drug Take Back Day
 - Drug and Alcohol Free (D.A.A.F.) Youth Coalition-Halloween Dance/Party. Youth attended event and completed student surveys that focused on vaping

both nicotine and/or marijuana and presented information on Opioid knowledge and usage.

SCHOOL EVENTS:

- October 18:** Robert Holt, Consultant met with Hamburg and Crossett Youth Groups
October 23-31. Red Ribbon Week in both school districts, door decorations, events.
October 16 & 23: **NARCAN TRAINING:** provided instruction and Naloxone kits to Crossett & Hamburg teachers and administrators.

COMMUNITY EVENTS:

- October 14:** Members of D-FAC Coalition staffed informational booth at Wiggins Cabin Festival
October 28: **Prescription Drugs TAKEBACK DAY** in Crossett, Hamburg, and Wilmot
November 8 Stop Overdose Summit, Little Rock attended by several members of Coalition. One key learning and recommendation from presenter was nicotine and alcohol changes your mind and encouraged everyone to **"STOP NORMALIZING VAPING OR DRINKING"** - rather than rationalizing "they're just a teenager experimenting!" - encouraging a push is **"SAY NO!"** until you're 21 - when the brain is more developed and experimenting may not be that much of a thrill.

UPCOMING EVENTS DECEMBER/JANUARY:

- December** **DELTA:** parent meeting Heart2Heart will present results of survey.
December 7 Roshunda Davis-Johnson, Deputy Director, Phoenix Youth & Family Services extended invitation to speak at annual Meth Awareness Conference [12/7/23: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.] The conference will focus on efforts and barriers to service delivery for meth prevention.

DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATIONS/SUGGESTIONS:

1. **CONGRATS** to Lisa Riels & Elizabeth White for completing and submitting CADCA PROJECTS scoring a **PHENOMENAL** score of 98.9%. *They will be attending a national leadership conference in Washington, D.C. in January/February 2024 to "graduate" from the Academy.*
2. Congratulations: Vice Chair/Chair Elect, Mr. Daniel Shelton, Jr., accepted a new position as the Peer Support Specialist for the 10th Judicial District
3. **MARKETING/FUNDRAISING:**
 - a. Mary Cole, Century Next Bank presented D-FAC Coalition with \$500.00 donation.
 - b. Elizabeth White suggested Coalition Members [collaborating with Steven Elmore] consider sponsoring/participating in an *April Drug-Free walk*.
4. **EVERY SECTOR IS IMPORTANT:** Janie relayed a suggestion from Mary Vaughn that each sector select a month to present how they see their contribution to the Coalition or ideas and suggestions they are considering. Liz offered that she had a sign-up sheet starting with January 2024 for volunteers and suggested that the volunteering sector be responsible for providing light refreshments during their "program" month.
5. Christi Carter suggested we capture videos from members discussing why the Coalition is important to them or share a bit of their "story" to post on Facebook.
6. December D-FAC Coalition meeting will include:
 - a. Presentation by Faith-Based Sector [Ronnie Donaldson, Rev Ephraim Johnson, Bro Mike Neal and Mandy Morris]
 - b. D-FAC Coalition members will vote on a slate of proposed 2024 officers recommended by Nominating Committee [Sherri Hendrix, Brother Mike Neal & Daniel Shelton, Jr.]:

Chairperson:	Eric Shoffner [2-year]
Vice Chair/Chair Elect:	Bro Mike Neal [2-year]
Secretary:	Christi Carter [1-year]
Treasurer:	Gina Morgan [1-year]

NOTE:

- i. Bylaws detailing duties and responsibilities of each position posted on our website www.drugfreeAC.org
- ii. Janie Carter, Chairperson will remain on Executive Committee as Immediate Past Chair.

7. **GETTING TO KNOW:** everyone participated in a fun “get better acquainted” activity responding to a random question they received: “How friends would describe you?”, “Your favorite movie!”, “Greatest fear”, “Best place traveled to”, etc.

NEXT MEETING DATE: *Tuesday December 12, 4:00 – 5:30 PM at UAM College of Technology-Crossett (Come when you can; don't leave until you just have to! And feel free to bring a guest.)*

END OF YEAR FELLOWSHIP

Please bring a covered dish for everyone to enjoy!

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned [*Initiated: Cathie Hillier; second: Rev Ephraim Johnson*] at 5:15 p.m. Minutes submitted by: Cathie Hillier

1 **TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP**

ACTIVE: Must be a resident of or employed in Ashley County, Arkansas, attend a minimum of six [6] monthly meetings and be actively involved in the work of the Coalition. Active members have voting rights that can be revoked if attendance falls below required threshold.

SUPPORTING: May not be able to attend all meetings regularly but is familiar with the work of the Coalition, supports prevention efforts and has a vested personal or professional interest in the community. Supporting members have no voting rights; however, if their meeting attendance reaches a total of three [3], they have one vote.

EXTENDED: Not necessarily aware of the day-to-day work of the Coalition but is an individual or community leader who may be contacted occasionally regarding specific prevention issues and or specific tasks.

- 2 Our 5-year grant has the possibility of being extended to a maximum of ten years. The match for the first six years is at 100%. One thing that is very important is attendance. Anyone who attends meetings, in person or virtually will contribute to the match at more than \$23 per hour - a resource considered a fair amount per hour for public volunteerism in Arkansas. Every volunteer event, everyone in attendance, including youth and volunteers, is a “good in-kind match”.