

# DRUG-FREE ASHLEY COUNTY COALITION

## MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 12, 2024

### WELCOME:

Meeting of the DRUG-FREE ASHLEY COUNTY COALITION called to order at 4:02 PM. on March 12, 2024, at UAM-CTC in-person and ZOOM by to Eric Shoffner, Chairperson.

IN PERSON		ZOOM
Christi Carter	Cathie Hillier	Officer Allyson Carter
Harry Hillier	Janie Carter	Mayor Carolyn Harris
Arlyn Richards	Bro Mike Neal	Giyermina Mondragon
Liz White	Mary Jo Mitchell	Jasmine Taylor
Katie Hernandez	Rayce Johnson	Mary Vaughn
Ryker Johnson	Victoria Herrera	Barron Griffin
Brenda Sedberry	Eric Schoffner	Officer Timothy Sivils
Lisa Riels	Rene Bowles	Heather Culbreath
Ronnie Donaldson		Evelyn Woods

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Hearing no corrections or additions, minutes from the February 13, 2024, meeting were approved as written, with Arlyn Richards initiating the motion and Cathy Hillier following with a second. The motion carried.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS/INTRODUCTIONS:

**New Members<sup>1</sup>**      **Adult Active Members:**                      Harry Hillier [Media], Brenda Sedberry [Parent]  
**Adult Supporting Members:**                      Mary Jo Mitchell [Drug Treatment]

**In Kind Contributions<sup>2</sup>:** Coalition members were reminded to report in-kind service hours to Gina Morgan [Treasurer] for Grant tracking documentation.

### REPORT ON FEBRUARY/MARCH EVENTS:

**CHANGE IN DFC GRANT STAFF:**                      From Project Director Janie Carter to Project Director Mike Neal  
 Submission of the Non-Competitive Year 3 Proposal was made on March 4  
 Review of updated Welcome Guide (Harry & Cathy Hillier-copies distributed)

**MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT:**                      Mike Neal is doing PSA's of positive, encouraging messages on QLITE (7:25 am), KAGH (7:30 am), and KWLTV (8:45 am) "brought to you by D-FAC" with air-time contributed as an in-kind donation by Station Manager Dennis Maxwell.

### HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS:



- Lisa and Liz had Student Leadership Group meetings for both districts
- Ashley County Souper Bowl food drive donations secured 20,459 cans donated.
- Liz taught 3 classes for Coach Lawson @ the Crossett Middle school about dealing with refusal skills, peer pressure and stress reliever skills.
- Project Coordinators, Officers, and Faculty Advisors sponsored the first D-FAC Student Leadership Group Summit on March 8. Evaluations showed that the event was a great success with presentations by Robert Holt, Youth Consultant, a pill awareness activity by Lisa and Lisa, a panel discussion by law enforcement officers, and a working session to plan for next year's activities. In addition to Mr. Holt from Central; Arkansas, Sharron Mims, Program Director for Coalition Training, and Matt Burks, Program Coordinator of Media and Data from the Arkansas Drug Director's Office attended.

**DELTA UPDATE:** Carolyn Harris, Executive Director Heart2Heart Connections/Mayor reported on a February Naloxone training session, the Spring Cleaning/Beautification D.A.A.F. Youth Coalition projects, an upcoming March Naloxone training session, and the April Drug Take-Back Program by Wilmot Police Department and H2H Connection – *report attached*

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**March 14**                      Picnic with the Arts, Crossett Library & Crossett Public Schools  
**March 27**                      Chambers of Commerce Lunch & Learn; Presenter Staci James, Founder of Hope Movement Foundation/Coalition  
**April 6**                      Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Banquet  
**April 17**                      Mental Health First Aid Training, ARRPH, Hamburg 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist, 10 am – 2 pm (Must pre-register)  
**April 27**                      DEA – AR TAKEBACK RX Drug Day; volunteers needed at Gammel's, Hamburg PD, Wilmot PD

**DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATIONS/SUGGESTIONS:**

1. **PARENT SECTOR PRESENTATION:** Rene Bowles has been rescheduled to give her presentation at the April meeting.
2. **CHAIRPERSON DISCUSSION:** Chairman Shoffner relayed his desire to keep the mission/vision of the Drug-Free Ashley County Coalition up front in our minds and in our decision-making. He guarded members against becoming overwhelmed and trying to be everything to everyone. He asked, "What can we do to not get overwhelmed, get our mission out there by focusing on our drug problem in the community, and how it affects those impacted by it?" He suggested having a banner/poster created with our mission/vision to keep us attuned to it and meeting to prioritize activities.
3. **SECTOR LEADERS/MEMBERS PRESENTATIONS UPDATE:** Each sector was encouraged to identify the month they would be interested in leading conversation for their sector as a presentation to coalition membership.

*NOTE: Work is being done to find Sector Leader replacements for Business and Healthcare Professionals.*

COALITION SECTOR	Sector Leader or Member Speaker	2024 PRESENTATION
Youth	Rachel Richardson	
Parents	Rene Bowles	March (Rescheduled to April 9)
Law Enforcement	Officer Robert Black	February 13
Schools	Tracy Streeter or Barbara Garner	
Businesses	Kristi Stocker (Pending)	
Media	Dennis Maxwell	
Youth-Serving Organizations	Roshunda Davis-Johnson	
Faith-Based Organization	Ronnie Donaldson, Bro. Ephraim Johnson & Bro. Mike Neal	June 11 & December 10
Civic & Volunteer Groups	Sherri Maxwell Hendrix	
Healthcare Professionals	Eric Shoffner	January 9 October 8
State, local & tribal agencies	Sharron Mims	
Treatment	Barron Griffin	



4. **PAYCheck Program Update:** Hamburg Chief of Police Johnny Oliver and Hamburg Superintendent Tracy Streeter are working through the enrollment and training process to become involved in this program of the Arkansas Criminal Justice Institute.
5. Updated D-FAC Welcome Guide is being revised to reflect new leadership and current information. Copies were distributed by Harry and Cathie Hillier for members to proofread and offer recommendations.
6. Janie reported on Sector Leader Barron Griffin's behalf that Barron has an appointment with ACMC CEO Gilmore to move forward with the Naloxone-Home project with UAMS. This is a free program that will equip ACMC with kits of Naloxone to accompany anyone who comes to the Emergency Department because of a drug overdose.
7. Barron is also working with Life Choices to equip the community with a Safe Haven Baby Box for ACMC to allow a parent who feels unable to care for a child to surrender the baby safely instead of abandoning it.

**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 **In-Kind Match:** 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 \$25 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".

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at 4:00 PM at UAM College of Technology-Crossett

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned 5:06 p.m. and minutes submitted by: *Christi Carter*

# HEART2HEART CONNECTIONS

Carolyn E. Harris  
Founder/Executive Director  
204 Cone St.  
P.O. Box 206  
Wilmot, AR 71676  
(870)473-2400 (office)  
(870)940-2849 (cell)  
heart2heartconnect@yahoo.com

March 15, 2024

## Drug and Alcohol-Free (D.A.A.F) Youth Coalition

February 2024

- Naloxone Family Training - Carolyn Harris and Evelyn Woods conducted Narcan Training on Sunday, 18, 2024, and we had (3) attendees. Received great feedback from participants. Narcan Kits were received on February 28<sup>th</sup> and distributed to participants on February 29<sup>th</sup>.



March 2024

- Spring Clean w/ Heart2Heart Connections- D.A.A.F Youth Coalition. Youth Coalition members will spend one Saturday in March and (2) Saturday in April to spruce up a seasoned citizen yard in three communities: Wilmot, Parkdale, and Montrose. Youth will give back to our seniors by beautifying their yards; we will remove unwanted debris, rack, mow, and plant flowers.
- Naloxone Family Training – March 30<sup>th</sup> – Wilmot Community Center @11am
- H2H Connection and Wilmot Police Dept will participate in the Drug Take-Back Program on April 27<sup>th</sup>

Carolyn E. Harris  
Executive Director

**Mission:** Heart2Heart Connections is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization dedicated to helping change and improve the lives of youth, individuals, and families in under-served communities through mentoring, education, support, and advocacy.

