

# DRUG-FREE ASHLEY COUNTY COALITION

## MEETING MINUTES

9/10/2024

### 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 4:00 p.m. on September 10, 2024, at UAM-CTC in person and ZOOM by Eric Shoffner, Chairperson 2024/2025

IN PERSON		ZOOM
Arnold, Jarrod [Visitor]	Maxwell-Hendrix, Sherri	Hillier, Cathie
Griffin, Barron Dr.	Neal, Mike Bro.	Rushing, Linda
Griffin, Willie	Officer Robert Black	Sims, Colon (Chad)
Herrera, Victoria	Riles, Lisa	Alexander, Tempest
Hernandez, Katie	Schoffner, Eric	
Hillier, Harry	Streeter, Tracy	
Johnson, Jennifer	Stocker, Kristi	
Lingo, Jessica	White, Liz	

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Hearing no corrections or additions, minutes from the August 13, 2024, meeting were approved as written, with Robert Black initiating the motion and Katie Hernande following with a second. The motion carried.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS/INTRODUCTIONS:

**New Members<sup>1</sup>** Active-**Stacey Barnett** (Substance Abuse Treatment Provider); Supporting- **Charles Brown, Kesha Campbell, & Landra Hartley** (CSD Parents); Extended-**Officer Olajerwon Nalls, Jarrod Arnold & Melissa Sapp** (SRO & CSD Parents)

### REPORTS/EVENTS:

#### REPORT ON AUGUST/SEPTEMBER EVENTS:

**August 17, 2024,** Atwood's Fundraiser from 9-2; raised \$330+  
**August 24, 2024,** Partnership for Success Conference: Clear Mind, Clear Path, White Hall

**HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS:** **Elizabeth White/Lisa Riles**  
Fall Semester kickoff  
Hamburg: Considerations and revisions being made on Mental Health knowledge  
Janie Carter & Elizabeth White presented information on Naloxone to Crossett 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation (approximately 200 parents, students & staff) on August 15<sup>th</sup>.



**DELTA UPDATE:** August 2024: Carolyn Harris, Executive Director Heart2Heart Connections/Mayor of Wilmot has informed us that the Drugs and Alcohol Free (D.A.A.F.) Delta Youth Coalition will be inactive for an undetermined period, therefore will not contribute monthly reports to the regular D-FAC Coalition meetings.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**September 17, 2024,** Violence & Substance Abuse Prevention Conference, Crossett Community Center. Sponsored by Phoenix Youth & Family Services Inc. Objectives: i. Learn the growing trends of prevention in our area; ii. Learn why victims stay with abusers; and iii. The impact of drug and alcohol addiction on survivors.  
**September 25, 2024** Webinar by: Addiction Policy Forum and American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. For more information go to: [https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_nt5VJKMARx-KJsU72CHBPq#/registration](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_nt5VJKMARx-KJsU72CHBPq#/registration)  
**October 8, 2024** D-FAC Coalition Monthly Meeting: Healthcare Sector  
**October 12, 2024** Wiggins Cabin Festival, Saturday, 9 am-4 pm. Need volunteers  
**October 26, 2024** AR Take Back Day, Crossett, Hamburg, Wilmot, 10 am-2 pm. Need volunteers

### IN KIND CONTRIBUTIONS2:

Coalition members were reminded to report in-kind service hours to Gina Morgan [Treasurer]

**DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATIONS/SUGGESTIONS:**

- 1. **FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:** We have applied for a mini-grant from the Community Empowerment Council, Inc. in Pine Bluff that will provide workshops regarding community engagement projects for youth to be presented by Robert Holt, our consultant from Healing Waters Ministry and Let Our Violence End (L.O.V.E.) in Shannon Hills, AR.
- 2. **SECTOR LEADERS:**
  - a. A new sector leader for Youth is being finalized and will be announced at the October meeting.
  - b. Presentation Opportunity **OPEN for November** Coalition Meeting
  - c. Faith-Based Organization Sector Leader presentation December 10, 2024

COALITION SECTOR	REPRESENTATIVE
Youth	To be announced
Parents	Mandy Morris
Law Enforcement	HPD Chief Johnny Oliver
Education	Tracy Streeter
Businesses	Kristi Stocker
Media	Dennis Maxwell
Youth-Serving Organizations	Roshunda Davis Johnson
Faith-Based Organizations	Ronnie Donaldson
Civic & Volunteer Groups	Sherri Maxwell Hendrix
Healthcare Professionals	Dr. Barron Griffin
State, local & tribal agencies	Sharron Mims
Treatment	Yolanda Johnson-Martin

- 3. **SPEAKER:** Dr. Barron Griffin, in recognition of "Suicide Awareness in Arkansas," led her presentation designed to increase awareness of suicide and equip participants with information and basic skills to respond to a person considering suicide. In summary, she stressed that "words matter" when discussing suicide. In an opinions survey by Nathan & Nathan (2020), 39% of respondents said that the main cause of suicide is "a way to escape." Dr. Griffin discussed the history of suicide and the devastating story of the youngest known suicide victim in the U.S. In Arkansas, suicide is the 13<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death and is the 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of death for ages 12-18. According to the CDC, the most prevalent contributor (42%) was relationship problems. Dr. Griffin shared resources and encouraged members to "reach out; find the words; express concern; and ask directly if someone is thinking about suicide."

**NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday, October 8, 2024, at UAM College of Technology-Crossett**

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. and minutes were submitted collaboratively by Cathie Hillier and Janie Carter.

**<sup>1</sup> 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.

- <sup>2</sup> 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 (as of 2023) at \$27.74 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".