

MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 9, 2025 4:00 P.M. TO 5:30 P.M. MEETING OF THE DRUG FREE
ASHLEY COUNTY COALITION

update update update **THOSE IN ATTENDANCE: Harry Hillier, Chief Johnny Oliver, McKenzie Reynolds, Liz White, Josh Adams, Fushia McDonald, Tempest Alexander, Janette Ramirez, Madilyn Ramirez, Linda Rushing, Roman Hebert, Shawn Hebert, Cathie Hillier, Dennis Maxwell, Hamburg Mayor David Streeter, Ephraim Johnson, Daniel Shelton, Jr., Tony D. Jones, Ryker Johnson, Rayce Jonson, Jennifer Johnson, Janie Carter, Lisa Riels, Rosemary Riels, Arlyn Richards, Mike Neal. ZOOM: Sundee Rushing, India Holt, Arnetta Pugh**

Welcome and Introductions:

Mike Neal opened the December meeting with introduction of guests and new members: National Guard Counterdrug Unit Members MSgt Josh Adams and SSgt Fushia McDonald, guests. Shawn Hebert and Roman Hebert, guests of Linda Rushing. Identification of Zoom attendees, India Holt and Sundee Rushing, members.

Old/New Business:

Attendees were given time to read the November minutes.
One correction to minutes regarding a double meeting--members corrected date for December meeting - only one meeting at Crossett UAM-CTC.
Motion made by Harry Hillier to approve minutes with correction. Dennis Maxwell seconded the motion. Members approved minutes.

Recent Conferences/Community Events Information:

11/17/25 Arkansas Attorney General's annual Overdose Summit in Hot Springs was attended by Mike Neal, Lisa Riel, Liz White, Daniel Shelton and Eric Shoffner.
12/1/25 - 12/4/25 Dangers of THC (Marijuana and Vaping) assemblies by Laura Stack of Johnny's Ambassadors to 5,000 youth in Ashley, Bradley, Drew and Jefferson Counties.
12/5/25 Appreciation night for Crossett Youth Leadership at the Trieschmann House in Crossett

Upcoming Events:

12/12/25: Governor's Office Faith-Based Meeting in Little Rock (three

selected counties for pilot work are Union, Pulaski and Pope; Ashley County will be included in meetings and information but not as pilot.
DATE TBD: Sector Leader Training

Presentations:

Recognition of members for attendance and participation. Each recipient shared thoughts on what membership in D-FAC means. Students and their comments will be posted on the D-FAC website under a new post called: Hall of Fame.

Members recognized included: Middle School Youth-- Ryker & Rayce Johnson tied for 1st place.; Elementary School Youth -- Roman Hebert; High School Youth: Madelyn "Maddie" Ramirez.

Special thanks to Julie Roberson, Canfor Southern Pine who provided Subway sandwiches and our members who brought additional holiday snacks ad desserts.

Special thanks to Janie Carter who provided a flyer introduction to the 10:33 Initiative by Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders referencing Luke 10:33 Parable of the Good Samaritan encouraging people to reach out to each other, eliminate stigma and bias. Janie voiced her opinion that in addition to modernizing and rebuilding our prisons, faith-based organizations should promote the need for "more Jesus" and better understanding of addiction.

Mike Neal gave out Emergency Volunteer Survival Kits to all in attendance. They were a mixture of chocolates and an air freshener with John 3:16 printed on it.

Mike also offered some thoughts on Christmas: Christmas has changed over the years with all the transformations in celebrations, our "commercial frenzy", noise in our lives, advances in technology, diversity of beliefs and cultures and traditions. It is easy to lose sight of the reason for Christmas. Christmas is a story of sacrificial love, an act of giving and invitation to experience God's love. It is a message of unity and opportunity to pause and reflect o our work defined by God's love, a chance to open dialogue, a chance to show respect and a chance to share our lives throughout the year. Christmas is a promise of light in the darkness.

Mike also announced that the Coalition will be purchasing t-shirts for members.

Mike led group in Chrismtas music including an original song, "Christmas in Crossett".

Meeting adjourned with prayer at 5:30p.m.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, January 13th at noon at Hamburg Public Schools Administration Building