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# CHNA#24/GTHHSC Substance Abuse Committee 12/20/06, 3:30, CCBC



The GATHER/GTHHSC Substance Abuse Committee addresses health and social issues in the Greater Attleboro/Taunton communities resulting from substance abuse. This is accomplished by coordinating with existing community resources to heighten public awareness and to develop programs to prevent, reduce and treat substance abuse.

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Attendees: Carol Annarino, Deb Brown, April Cabrera, Valerie Calais, Tyshrah DeBarros, Arlene Dickinson, Annie Gallagher, Kathy Lalor, Jonathan Marcus, Maggie Pike-Thompson, Lorraine Rosa, Julianne Seekell, Janina Smith, Jimmy Vibert,

## Discussion Highlights:

### **Project YELL:**

**The American Drug and Alcohol Survey (ADAS)** was administered during B block this morning. So far, about ¾ of the 1869 surveys were returned. Good feedback was received from the teachers, and although teachers and students were told the survey was voluntary, all but 1 teacher administered the survey, and most students cooperated. The test included 10 perception questions for the social norms campaign.

**Carry Over Budget** – Carol has been working on the carry over budget from the \$65,000+ remaining from last year. A letter and budget will be sent to the project officer and financial person in Washington. The letter was read and the budget explained. It will allow Project YELL to complete the goals of grant and continue with summer work with peer leaders. Several changes happened during the time of defunding, such as the youth coordinator position. The budget request for carry over is to increase the youth coordinator's and peer leaders hours and continue the summer work. Peer leaders will have plenty to do over the summer, such as prevention programs and the Boys and Girls clubs, and 2 youth summits (MADD Power Summit and SADD National Conference). Other uses of the carry over money will allow an increase in the youth coordinator's mileage allowance, a laptop and color printer, T-shirts for youth staff, an increase in office supplies and coalition postage, social norms consultant, graphic designer, web design, Guiding Good Choices expansion, strategic planning, work with MADD, SARTXII, staff shirts, a banner, parent program snacks, etc. (Committee members all had excel spreadsheets with budget details) All requested monies will be matched from sources such as community donations to the SARTXII, school liaison time, a college intern time, etc. Further suggestions from the committee included expanding the marketing campaign messages with additional poster printing, send committee members to the social norms conference in Cambridge, etc. as updated on the spreadsheet. Once complete, Deb Brown motioned to accept the letter and funding request as revised by the committee, April Cabrera seconded the motion, vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**Substance Abuse Round Table IX** – A grant was submitted to the United Way for \$2500. They suggested we add the Attleboro and North Attleboro YMCA teen groups in the planning meeting. Kathy will follow up and invite them and gauge interest. The committee is willing to rotate locations to accommodate an expanded membership. Kathy contacted the Chamber of Commerce about doing a presentation for prize donations for youth attending the SARTXII. That not being customary, she offered to share a letter from the planning group with the chamber and possibly print it in their February newsletter. Also contacted for inkind donations to the SART were businesses on the auto mile and the Bristol-Plymouth High School for printing invitations, agendas and other documents for the April 12<sup>th</sup> event.

**Community Care Services Tobacco Program** – DPH funded Tobacco planning grant starts 1/1/07. The agency had an internal meeting on it. The goal of the 18 month grant is to come up with a community intervention. The ADAS survey from today will provide fresh data that this project will use.

**Get the Word Out Tobacco Grant** – Work has begun on this \$10,000 grant. Peer leaders doing a report card on tobacco ads in stores, which are not supposed to be near candy or toys, or be self serve. Some store managers are not complying. The report cards will be brought to the store to show how they did on compliance to the tobacco advertising laws. Youth received information on the dangers of tobacco and how tobacco industry sponsors events for young people. They also make candy flavor cigarettes. Although the industry claims these are not geared to youth, these flavors have a strong appeal to youth. Peer leaders also did a survey on the frequency of signs of

tobacco use between the Boys and Girls Club and the YMCA (Cigarette butts, tobacco logos on shirts, tobacco ads in gas stations. They also had a presence in the Christmas parade. Surveys at tobacco selling businesses will be proceeded with informing the manager of what the teens are doing. This project addresses how they sell, not who they sell to.

**Get the Word Out High School Grant** – SADD and other students are collecting data and will utilize teen topics for second hand smoke for smoking prevention presentations in Freshman Science

**GTHHSC/CHNA Kick Off** – The committee selected 2 SAC representatives to attend the Steering Committee meeting on 1/15/07, 10:30, at AHS. Committee members will rotate attendance at these quarterly meetings for fresh ideas and to share the burden. Ken Mayer and Arlene Dickinson will attend the first meeting, with Jonathan as an alternate.

**United Way Needs Assessment Groups** – Committee members attended the community focus groups to ensure that substance abuse issues were included. There are still surveys available for consumers to fill in and return

Next Steps:

- ☐ Set goals for 2007 at the January meeting.
- ☐ Complete the budget request carry over before deadline.

Next Meeting: 1/17/07, 3:30, CCBC

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