

Braintree Community Partnership on Substance Use
Wednesday, February 26, 2020, 6:30 p.m.
Johnson Chambers, Braintree Town Hall,
1 JFK Memorial Drive, Braintree, MA

Attendance:

Lead Stakeholders:

Parents: Deric Topp, Marianne Barrett
Business Community: Brian Leary
Schools: Andrew Marron
Youth Serving Organizations: Roger Medeiros
Law Enforcement: Mark DuBois
Faith Based: Not Present
Healthcare Provider: Not Present
Local/State Government: Steve Leary
Agency with Expertise in Substance Abuse: Diana Cleary
Civic/Volunteer: Not Present
Fire Department: Fred Viola
Other: Kathi Wood
Town Council: Meredith Boericke
Substance Use Prevention Coordinator: Lyn Frano

General Membership/Guests:

Kim Kroeger, Catherine Weerts, Stormy Leung, Jean McGinty, Sandra Stamos, John Griffin, Briana Keating, Noel Sierra, Sue Penson, Jay St. Ives, Peter Thompson, Jamie Mosesso

Welcome/Introductions/Housekeeping:

Lyn Frano opened the meeting and welcomed the partnership members. Members introduced themselves and explained their agency/organization affiliation.

Coalition Satisfaction Survey:

Lyn Frano stated they conducted a survey through Qualtrics to get a sense for how people feel things are going with the Coalition. She announced that students in grades 9 through 12 at Braintree High School participated in the Youth Health Survey today.

Andrew Marron reviewed the data collected from the Coalition Satisfaction Survey. Results indicated the Partnership has a clear purpose and a positive energy. Members share details of the Partnership's work with others. Members feel their attendance at meetings is meaningful and they are adding to the overall coalition. There is a lot of high trust in members and the work is meaningful and satisfying. Areas for improvement include encouraging more people to commit and reaching out to all sectors of the community to get better attendance at meetings and events. The need for orientation for new members and no clear conflict resolution process. Lack of a

brief statement or pitch that members could use to describe to other community members what happens at the Partnership and how it benefits the community. Some lack of transparency in how decisions are made and the need for more proactive communication with members.

Barriers and gaps were reviewed. There is a large gap in youth involvement and school involvement and lack of diversity of members. A member asked if they had reached out to Archbishop Williams for youth participation. Meredith Boericke stated she reached out to Thayer Academy and Braintree High School. She heard back from both headmasters and her next step is to call people with high school students. She also made an announcement at the Town Council meeting last night. Lyn Frano stated she connected with the SADD advisor and she is going to try to attend a meeting. She stated she met last year with SADD students but they graduated and moved on. Peter Thompson expressed frustration that Braintree Public Schools do not want to cooperate with these issues. He stated they need assistance from the Mayor in this area. He works with the Quincy Schools and they offer many programs with great attendance, but Braintree does not. He stated with every class that graduates they are losing an opportunity to educate a parent or a child.

Physical accessibility was reviewed. There were comments about linking the meetings to a webinar or conference call when members cannot attend. Ms. Frano stated they may have the capability to do this and could potentially start with next month's meeting.

Partners in Prevention:

Stormy Leung provided information about Partners in Prevention. She stated Lyn Frano has been doing BCAM interviews to provide information on substance use trends or ways to prevent substance misuse and to provide support for resources. On February 12 they released a newsletter talking about the Partnership, the Interface Referral Service, Rethink the Drink survey and upcoming events. She stated this newsletter will be produced once a month and members can feel free to let them know if they would like something included.

Ms. Leung reviewed the difference between a Facebook group and a Facebook page and how the Partnership can use both. She stated with Partners in Prevention they are not only talking about preventing substance misuse and abuse, they are talking about behavioral health, gun violence, mental health, domestic violence, etc. Questions from the members were addressed. Lyn Frano asked for feedback from members on how they feel about branding the group Partners in Prevention. The members seemed to like this name and branding.

Briana Keating stated that prevention in general is difficult to explain and people do not understand how prevention impacts addiction. They are working with the Frameworks Institute, who does research on what the average person understands relative to messaging. Frameworks is helping to develop an elevator pitch and key talking points. They will also teach how to train other people on communicating that message.

Orientation:

Lyn Frano conducted an orientation for the members. She provided copies of the orientation manual and stated it will also be available online. After the orientation she asked that members send her feedback.

Announcements:

Lyn Frano announced that at next month's meeting Fred Viola will discuss calls for service for overdose. They met with the Mayor last week and discussed calls for overdose, how many times the post overdose support team went out, and how many times Narcan was provided to families that need it.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes from January 22, 2020 were reviewed.

A motion was made by Kathi Wood, with a second from Diana Cleary, to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2020 Partnership meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Plus/Delta:

Stormy Leung is doing a great job.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.