

Those present: Angela Dickens (Johnson), Miranda Russell (Hancock), Stuart Sigrest (CCS), Becky Cassell (Unicoi), Alice McCaffrey (Sullivan), Jill White, Johnny Love (Frontier Health), Sherriff Chris Mathes (Carter Co), Kayla Hyder (Crossroads), Zach Whitley (PA Group) Jennifer Berven, Neil Fisher, Sam Mays (Insight Alliance)

1. Future meeting dates and locations.

NEPAC Meetings 2012

- a. Tuesday **May 1** - Kingsport 2001 Stone Brook Place Kingsport, TN
- b. Tuesday **August 7** – CCS 2514 ½ Wesley Street Suite 5 Johnson City, TN
- c. Tuesday **October 30** - Greeneville, TN (tentative – need to ask Mary)
- d. **April 10** – next statewide meeting

2. Jennifer talked about attending regional Mental Health Planning Council meetings which was meeting during our meeting time. At the last meeting Jennifer attended she suggested using SPF to look at data for them to use. How do you know what you need – where the “gaps” are unless you sure there is a demand for something? Collecting, keeping, and monitoring data. State highly suggests that we attend those meetings and asked for help from others who know the SPF process if they ask her to come present. Jenn shared regional data books with them and that they should take some with them

3. News from Nashville (TPAC meeting)

- a. Info on Drug disposal boxes given out
 - i. Unicoi has a permanent box at Senior Center (need to look into security/protocol)
 - ii. Congressman Rowe’s office is doing some disposals in communities
 1. Feb 21 in Johnson County
 - a. (Must have DEA permission outside of Natl. days)
 2. **AFTER NOTE: Jeff Gray from ETSU said he has also been contacted by them and thinks they are going to back off this idea because we already have planned events. And realizing there is more to it than they realized.**
- b. Reviewed all the necessary elements of a disposal event.
- c. April 28 – National DEA Disposal Day
- d. Report just came out questioning effectiveness of drug disposals
 - i. Part of takebacks need to be actually measuring controlled substances coming off of the street
 - ii. Important to measure impact – to support using grant money on them
 - iii. Education – survey participants to gather information – why they’re bringing them in, what they did with them before **(Share our survey with other coalitions)**
 1. Dr. Grey is tracking what is taken in, is it controlled vs reg vs OTC and is looking at mail orders also.
 - iv. Carter County Sheriff Chris Mathes shared a little bit about trying to understand drug use – they go where they know they can get it. A lot of medicines going out of VA.
 - v. Regional things to look at – Education, Doctor Education; Partial prescriptions, VA med/therapy requirements may be a problem in putting out medications that people do not actually need
 1. It’s very hard to prosecute a doctor or a lawyer (according to Sheriff Mathes)
 2. Pills and meth have become very rampant, along with synthetic drugs.
- e. Synthetic drugs
 - i. No age limits on selling “incense.” Head shops are making a lot of money – we would be surprised at who goes into these head shops to buy this stuff b/c it is legal.

- ii. Many people do it b/c it is “undetected” but it is beginning to be testable – but tests are expensive.
- iii. Drive thru head shop in Gray always busy.
- iv. Problems with outlawing synthetics is they are always changing – one step ahead. Feds will not step in unless it meets threshold amount.
- v. As a coalition – encourage people to support any legislation that will limit the access (not advocating) Figure out what is going on at the National/Federal level. Forums in school about synthetic – education has to be a part of it.
 - 1. Evidence has shown that DARE has not been effective in 10 years.
 - 2. Educating kids in the wrong way – how long it stays in system, effects, etc.
 - 3. Why are they trying this stuff to begin with??
 - 4. Symptom of our society – multiple solutions
 - 5. 50% divorce – 15% of those b/c of video games
- f. What IS working? Discussion of research based practices, strategies must include everything.
 - i. ACTION Coalition advertising sobriety check points and compliance checks, going to outlets directly when fighting with beer board
 - ii. Town in Florida made effort not to give the press any negative info – focusing on the positive aspects instead.

4. NETprevention.org – Christian explaining how to use [website \(we will do a Ready Talk for this in the next couple weeks\)](#)

5. Other discussions

- a. Using social media – Facebook – to get messages out there – linking to other coalitions stories, tracking results/people reached
- b. Funding for alcohol – figuring out ways to branch out into other substances by relating them to alcohol
- c. Becky has talked to students about drinking and driving – majority during a presentation at the time had driven or ridden with someone drunk
- d. Prevention – gateway substances have to be looked at
- e. Is meth a student issue? Or more parents
- f. Discussed “Free Ride if you Provide” campaign, and share some post cards.
 - i. Have been getting them out through direct mailings, handing out at sobriety checkpoints, and going to be sent out through schools

6. Regional Booklets (please take some with you, think about where and with whom you can distribute them) - discuss updating them. [Send electronically.](#)

7. Updates from the region / state on Synthetic Drugs.

8. Updates on Tobacco / SYNAR efforts

9. Regional Beer boards – We started talking about beer board policies / rules (usually in their ordinances). This is the rules about permits and consequences if they do not follow the rules. Also if you can get the description of the process for getting a beer license. If you are a coalition leader this is useful information and we will tell you why.

- a. Source investigation – who is buying the alcohol for underage?
- b. Is there a way to do beer board policies regionally?

- i. Someone to do some more investigation to create a strong case to hold someone responsible for it
- ii. ABC governs liquor and wine, but beer (on and off premise) is governed by local beer boards
- iii. Who is responsible for charging who? Beer boards, sheriff
- iv. County/city limits, liquor by the drink
- v. Certain types of law enforcement agencies that can govern liquor by the drink – police can, sheriff's cannot (LBD in Johnson City and Jonesborough, but not out in county)
- vi. "Private" clubs – Speedway, country clubs have exceptions/special rules – check local ordinances – ask questions "If I wanted to open a restaurant that serves beer what steps do I need to take?" to learn about the process and requirements
- vii. Sunday sales; alcohol laws are complicated and messy

10. WKPT Radio AM 1400 – Possible Monthly Coalition Spot

- a. 15 minutes spots on the radio talking about different topics, event, substance abuse prevention
- b. In Kingsport Food City on Eastman Drive
 - i. Call or online chat to see who is interested, what do we want to talk about?

1. Discuss / Explore electronic meeting options. So we can communicate and plan in between meetings.
 - a. Touching base about certain things in between quarterly meeting times.
2. Someone from Pos Approach will update us on the media and PR activities for the regional group and check in about topics and issues in the coming months.
 - a. Zach introduced himself as our contact with Positive Approach. He shared a handout asking for information from each coalition to put out a monthly news release in each county.
 - b. Having contacts with local papers – press releases about statistics, information, personal quotes added
 - c. Alice suggested creating a site with a lot of good information that we can steer the press towards to get their information
 - d. Collecting articles and info through Facebook
3. Review of Prevention Specialist Certification application (on-line application process. This will be necessary for anyone with a prevention contract with the state).
 - a. TN state certification process online – manuals, what you need, requirements, documentation needed – certificates or send out for certification
 - b. Level 1 and Level 2
 - c. Will be required to have at least one person on staff certified by end of grant year
 - d. They are asking people to start putting in their information – once it's opened, 90 days to complete applications
 - i. Information has to be checked/verified
 - e. \$50 application fee
 - f. Must at least meet minimums
 - g. Prevention specific ethics course being offered
4. Alice attended a Kaizon event – evaluate coalitions in real-time (not available in TN yet) then they lead you in a conversation to see what you can do better. May be coming to TN in 6 to 12 months or so

Idea for regional purchase -- Clickers – with power point dashboard? (used with focus groups, students)

5. Jennifer and Sam shared about the Awake Campaign as an example of a way we tied a non alcohol related project into our alcohol grant