



Defiance County Drug Free Coalition (DFC) Meeting Minutes

January 12th, 2021 8:30 – 10:00am

Attendees: Karen VonDeylen, Mike McCann, Morris Murray, Fred Coulter, Tom ?, Abby Wolfrum, Brittney Beard, Deb Hench, Diane Goyings, Hillary Kunesh, Katie Marbaugh, Leah Fisher, Maggie Westrick, Laurie McCann, Ron Jones, Jamie Gerken, Brian Heil

Topic	Discussion	Decision, Action/ Assignments
Welcome and Introductions	Jamie Gerken welcomed everyone and stated that the Health Department is eager to start the Drug Free Coalition (DFC) back up and although the pandemic slowed things down it has also created new opportunities. Jamie shared with the group that Brian Heil has started a new role at the Health Department as Health Promotion coordinator and that the Health Department will be hiring a full-time Health Educator to facilitate the DFC and the Community Health Assessment (CHA).	
Review 2022-2024 CHIP	Jamie explained that although the CHA was due to be completed in 2021, the group felt data gathered in 2021 would be skewed from the pandemic, so instead 2018 data was used and some secondary data was pulled in in lieu of a new assessment. In 2024 we will go back to the surveying method. Jamie explained that Power Defiance County reviewed the data and determined areas for the next Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) cycle. These areas are: Community Conditions, including Housing and Kindergarten Readiness; Health Behaviors; Access to Care; Mental Health & Addiction; Chronic Disease; and Injury Prevention. Mayor McCann shared that there has been an increase in EMS runs. There was discussion on what can we do to cut back the number of runs for EMS. Jamie shared that the ongoing public health emergency has created a damper for some of our prevention programs. Jamie then shared an Epi report showing ED runs & deaths. There was discussion on Opioid Poisonings and how the data is obtained/reported.	
Review Final Strategic Plan	Jamie explained that develop the new DFC Strategic Plan Bridget Fischer met with the DFC Steering Committee and looked at the CHA & CHIP. Jamie reminded the group the DFC will be focused on Primary & Secondary Prevention of risky behaviors and substance abuse. The stigma of substance abuse was discussed and Morris Murray shared information on the perception of naloxone treatment, an increase in methamphetamine traffic, and potential legislation related to the legalization of marijuana.	Email Jamie at healthcommish@defiancecohealth.org for input on messaging

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	<p>Jamie shared the goals identified for the new Strategic Plan as follows: Goal A, to increase awareness of risky behaviors & substance abuse through communication plans; Goal B, Increase awareness of education programs and/or workshops on difficult “hot topic” for Risky Behavior and Substance Abuse such as “Hidden in Plain Sight”; Goal C, Rebuild the Drug Free Leadership Council. Promote awareness regarding drugs & alcohol to Defiance County Youth.</p>	
<p>Assign workgroups or leaders for action steps/Input</p>	<p>Review of the Strategic Plan was followed by open discussion to the new Goals. Mayor McCann asked what will the change in approach be once marijuana is legalized to which Jamie responded there will most likely be a shift in messaging, similar to tobacco and alcohol.</p> <p>Laurie McCann stated there should be a focus on parents; kids are doing what they are seeing.</p> <p>Tom shared that he is happy to be back and working in the collaborative effort in Defiance County. He also stated that he believes we can focus messaging toward the neuroscience behind drugs and the physiological impact on young people.</p> <p>Hillary Kunesh asked if the response team still exists, Jamie will look into the status of the team. Hillary also stated the group could focus on why women use drugs and asked if this correlates or coincides with the data on pregnant women’s alcohol/drug use.</p> <p>Fred Coulter shared that there should be a focus on families and connection. The group should support families and empower them to educate themselves in their home.</p>	
<p>Round robin-community updates</p>	<p>Karen Vondeylen reminded everyone that Maumee Valley Guidance Center has Mental Health & First Aid Training available. A minimum of five people per training is required. They will also be starting the family café back up.</p>	<p>Let Karen know if anyone is interested in Mental Health/First Aid Training.</p>

Next Meeting: TBD