Defiance County Drug Free Coalition
1300 E. Second St., Ste. 100
Defiance, OH 43512
(419) 784-3818

Defiance County Drug Free Coalition Quarterly Meeting	
Date	Tuesday, July 21, 2026 | 8:30am – 10:15am
Location	Defiance County EMA | 22491 Mill St, Defiance, OH 43512
Mission & Vision	Mission: Preventing substance misuse in Defiance County through education, awareness, and collaboration with community members and organizations. Vision: Building a drug free community for a brighter and healthier future.
Coalition Leadership Contact Information	• Coalition Coordinator: Taylor Jessing, tjessing@defiancecohealth.org • Jessica West, jwest@defiancecohealth.org • Brian Heil, bheil@defiancecohealth.org • Bridget Fischer, bfischer@defiancecohealth.org

Time and Speaker	Agenda Item	Notes	Action Items
Welcome: 8:30am – 8:40am Taylor	• Introductions • Approve meeting minutes	• **IN-PERSON**: Tom Boals – Recovery Community; John Diehl – Recovery Community; Jeff Beam – Resurrection Recovery; Kathy Minck – Community; Mike Winslow – Defiance College; Doug Engel – DCSO; Michelle Waltmire – DPD; Meredith Schmersal – Defiance County Probation; Shannon Richardson – MVGC; Nicky Ferguson – MAN Unit; BJ Horner – Four County ADAMhs Board; Chelsea Diedrich – Arrowhead; Nikki Arnold – Defiance College; Jamie Gerken, Taylor Jessing, Jessica West – DCHD; Joy O'Donnell – Defiance County Prosecutors Office; Fostina Stewart & Mira Banks – Zepf Center, Wendy Anderson – Mercy Health; Kayla Irvin– Legends Recovery. • **ONLINE** – Laurie McCann – Mercy Health; Brian Bollinger- OSSC; Lee Martinez – DPD; Nicole Zolman – JM; Pat Hardy – Ohio Guidestone; Sara Casper – WCHD; Deb Hench – Community/DCHD BOH member; • **Approve Meeting Minutes**: John motioned to Approve, Jeff seconded. Motion passed.	

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Tobacco Grant: 8:40am – 9:00am Taylor	• TU26 wrap up and TU27 Overview	• **TU26** ended on June 30 and TU27 began on July 1. Q4 reimbursement was $19500, which was about $6000 less than anticipated due to 3 measures of policy change where we did not get the full measure completed or policies adopted with schools and City of Defiance. All other deliverables were completed, including Behavioral Health Policy change with Arrowhead Behavioral with a change from 6% to 84% tobacco compliant according to ODH standard. • **TU27**: Still 3 deliverables with the same potential reimbursement of last year of $68,250. Similar requirements as TU26 – trainings/meetings with ODH, ODH consultant, and partners; Annual Data Assessment – geared towards those who work in Defiance; Cessation Media Campaign; Coalition expansion; Adult Cessation and SHS reduction focused; and Youth Cessation and SHS reduction. • **Annual Data Assessment** – will be a focus for the Data group. Last year, surveyed 9th graders. This year the focus is adults in Defiance – personal encounters. Going out soon. • **Cessation Media Campaign** – same time frame and similar deliverables. Need to work with a provider who works with pregnant women and women of child-bearing age on tobacco screening. Hoping to work with HPWO-Defiance. We would work with WIC but ODH said we cannot as they are a part of DCHD. Ed & Outreach workgroup will assist with this deliverable. • **Adult SHS** – Looking to work with Defiance County Senior Center on policy and signage. • **Youth Policy Change** – last year worked to add CATCH My Breath to curriculum and Alternative to Suspension policy – none of the schools completed the full measure so we will be working to get 1 school to get this accomplished. Taylor is no longer a CMB trainer – Taylor & Jessica still trained and there is an online free training. • **Youth SHS** – Looking to work with the Boy Scouts and Camp Lakota on Youth policy for Camp Lakota. • **Youth Action Plan** – continuing our work with DCLC on Alternative to Suspension policy adoption at a school. Ayersville made changes and has been very active and helpful with this. Also youth campaigns will continue focused on Live Vape Free. • **Store Audit** – checking product placement, ads, and pricing for Tobacco products with the youth entering the data. These will be winter/spring 2027. Taylor and Jessica had some store owners concerned about enforcement. We can only offer	

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		recommendations such as the vapes shouldn't be by donuts or update Tobacco 21 signage, etc. • **Compliance checks** – trained underage purchasers will go into selected location to attempt to purchase. Last year DCHD staff went with UAP – might have plain clothes law enforcement go with UAP this year. This will be completed in fall/winter. UAP given a gift card as incentive for their time. • Sheriff asked what came of Compliance checks or what enforcement happened. Last year, we had 2 out of 23 stores that sold to UAP. This info was reported to ODH and to Todd at MAN Unit to give to BCI. DCHD has no enforcement rights – FDA would be governing agency for this. • TU27 goes into a separate fund from the DFC fund. • John had a question about what is considered tobacco products – asking about new nicotine pouches. Anything with nicotine or used like a tobacco product is included.	

Workgroup Updates: 9:00am – 9:45am Workgroup Chairs and Taylor	• Prevention and Education Outreach Group- Kathy
	  ○ OAD Event Planning
	• Data Group- Brian/Bridget
	  ○ Marijuana Readiness Assessment
	  ○ Community Response Template
	• Harm Reduction/Treatment Workgroup- Jeff
	• Fiscal Update- Taylor
		• **ED/OUTREACH**: OAD planning continues – meeting this Thursday at 10am. OAD Event is 8/26 from 4:30 – 7p with 5 speakers starting around 5:30p. State Bank GIVES truck with free will donation dinner of hot dogs, chips and Sweet As Cakes selling desserts. Currently have 15 resource tables – looking for more. Recovery and Memorial tables. Candle display for Overdose deaths – 36 from 2020 – 2025? Taylor updated that we are able to carry over donations from Safety Town for OAD t-shirts; WGC grant for addiction and emotional books; 2 vendors donating; JM Stars sponsorship. Looking for additional sponsorships for ads and medication locking bags. BJ said ADAMhs Board had funding, then funding went away, and now may have funding to purchase med locking bags, radio ads, streaming ads, newspaper ads, and food stipend (will need to track the food).
		• **DATA:** Readiness Assessment completed in spring 2026 – focusing on marijuana. Using the Community Readiness for Community Change packet to guide them. Overall score of 3.87 out of 10 – vague awareness of marijuana with limited knowledge of this. Still a need for increased awareness and education. MVGC intern assisted with this. See slide deck for more information on this. Next meeting will look at potential campaign ideas and overdose data and the community response template. Q1 = 12 non fatal and 1 fatal OD; Q2 – 4 non-fatal and 2 fatal. Taylor and Nikki looking at a community response plan for increase or potential for an increase of ODs. Robust plan involving public health, law enforcement, health care, etc.
			Contact Kathy or Taylor to be a resource table at OAD
			
			OAD Flyer and SM Graphic.
			
			See slides for more information on Marijuana Readiness Assessment.

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		Focus on prevention and harm reduction messaging – OCANS alert to law enforcement and public health and ADAMhs Board. Data workgroup may increase meetings to get this up and moving. • **HARM REDUCTION**: applied for OPN funding for harm reduction boxes, which we did not get awarded. Continue to look for funding for this – we do still have Substance Use Folders. Pat Hardy asked about barrier to receiving this funding – we were told they had 5 to award and 25 applicants. • **FISCAL**: Fiscal report looks in the red because the invoice was not sent to ADAMhs Board, so this will adjust the report. IF you see any grants that DFC could apply for, please let us know.	
Member Sharing 9:45am – 10:15am	• Round Robin community updates. Please limit updates to 3 minutes per person. If you have more to share, please email Taylor and she will include additional updates in the meeting minutes.	• **Pat**- Ohio Guidestone – MTWT 9 – 1, F 10 -12 Walk in clinic in Defiance with Friday focus on Substance Misuse – First Come First Serve. Also expanding early childhood programming – contact Pat for more info. • **Fostina & Mira** – mothers struggling with recovery program. Assistance for pregnant/post-partum recovery and treatment. Hoping to reduce infant mortality. • **Kayla** – Legends Recovery detox and residential recovery in Defiance. Invite to come tour facility now construction is completed. • **Chelsea** – working on Tobacco Grant with Taylor was a great experience – patient and knowledgeable. Came out to tour and advise facility. Grateful for her! • **BJ** – thank you all – BJ moving to a new job with Napoleon Schools. Appreciation for Defiance! • **Nicky** – already 1 fatal suspected OD and increase in 1st week in July. Reviewing police reports for frequent calls for substance misuse or mental health. Looking to roll out a QR code for referrals to Nicky. Question – Drug of choice? Highest seen is meth, however seeing mix of meth and fentanyl and opioid use. Hiring for assistant for Nicky at MAN Unit – part-time position job listing open till Friday.	**Flyer for Zepf Center Maternity Journey** **Flyer for MVGC Veteran's Program**

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		• **Shannon** – still pushing out Fox Veterans Wellness program – changing so that may be able to interact with those who have been served by VA medical. Dedicated case manager for this program – overall wellness focus. Currently serving 6 veterans. Project DAWN going strong – seeing higher rates of OD in summer, likely due to heat. Shannon taking Narcan to all events. Drug Free workplace trainings available. Expired Naloxone will still work – however, DCHD & MVGC will not distribute. • **Kathy** – join us Thursday at 10am at DCHD to join in OAD planning meeting. • **John** – Tuesday 6p meeting at Legends. Question about where tobacco grant funding comes from – DCHD receives from Ohio Department of Health through federal funding. • **Michelle** – asked about disposal of expired Naloxone – previous guidance was to dispense into coffee grounds. Expired doses can be brought to Taylor at DCHD. • **Jessica** – reminder NORY trainings still available and scheduling – contact Jessica for more info. Join us for Coffee with a Cop on July 30 at 8am at Goodwill Defiance and August 26 at 9am at Defiance County Fair Pavillion. Reminder to follow DCHD social media for updates.	

Minutes taken by: Jessica West

Next meeting: October 20th @ 8:30 – 10:15am at the Defiance County EMA or via Microsoft Teams.