

**Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Warren County**

**Monthly Meeting Minutes**

**Date**: December 7th, 2023

**Time**: 9:00-10:00 am

# In Attendance

Frank Dimos, Jennifer Howard, Jennifer Hoffman, Nick Rowell, Will Clipson, Audrey Kong, Khurslov Rafy, Steve Brady, Rich Bertagna, Joel Jacobs, Aly Barrett, Josh Jowers, Paul Dorn, Katie Wolf, Connie Williams, Emilia Dickson, Brian Russ, Erica Norton, Caitlyn Wagonfield, Robert Wendling, Rachel Chrismer, Melissa Hoin, Tiffany Mattingly, Uki O’Basuyi, Nichole Worthington, Joseph Stuart, Kelly Dukes, Amber Spaeth, Kristy Daniels, Heather Moore, Ann Brock, Jackie Hunter, Kanika Rahalkar, Shelley Brown, Tracy Funke, Vikki Stickelman, Carol Lucio

# Mission Statement

# Partners working collaboratively to prevent the misuse of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs by youth and adults in Warren County and to build healthy communities by increasing protective factors, reducing risk factors and sharing resources.

# Meeting Notes

* Breakfast and networking provided from 8:30-9:00 am
* Steve Brady, coalition chair, kicked us off with an icebreaker activity and introduced the Mason Students.
* Shelley, coalition coordinator, introduced the coalition to the group and provided the mission statement, and executive committee structure. She gave an overview of expenses and the DFC grant. We have roughly $100,000 in the DFC to use between now and September 2024. We have drug task force funds available as well that are unrestricted funds. We also have the OCI funds available. For the DTF funds, we need to do 90 events by June 2024 and we are currently at 70 events! WAY TO GO!
* Committees are the working groups of the coalition. We have so many opportunities for people to get involved, so join a committee! Joel Jacobs, chair of the faith-based committee, has decided their role in the coalition is to be a support to the other committee events in ways such as faith-based merchandise, staffing pop-ups at schools. He gave an overview of a group called LifeWise Academy that is a program that allows students to participate in faith-based activities during the school day. The program teaches various character traits each week and how to apply it in real life. Ann Brock, alcohol committee, is talking about doing a dry January/Superbowl party that does not involve alcohol, and has games, mocktails, trivia etc. We are looking for a restaurant/bar that is big enough to host the event, and for prizes/raffles.
* Mason High School Youth gave a presentation on youth-led prevention in their schools. They did some prom prevention work including pop-up lunch booths, the quick-click challenge, and notes from younger grades to high schoolers to remind them to be safe. They also presented in health classes to discuss drunk driving etc. And participated in suicide awareness month to make positive post-its for the school. During red ribbon week, they had booths focused on other substance use and vaping topics, and also got to reach out to the younger kids during this week. For the future, they plan to panel parents and teachers around the topic of substance misuse, continue prom prevention, continue presenting in middle school health classes. Their group is called CLIC (Comet Leaders Initiating Change).
* Brian Russ, Xavier University, gave a presentation on counseling certificate that is available as well as a fellowship program. If there is any interest, contact Brian Russ at russb1@xavier.edu
* Shelley discussed the great things that the coalition has been doing and some of the future directions. She went over the numerous events that the coalition participated in this past year.

# Action Steps

* Join a committee! Be thinking of ways you would like to get involved in the work of the coalition – how would YOU spend $500 to address substance abuse?
* Send Katie event info and numbers of participants for ANY substance-related work you do. Teaching a class in a school, info tables at events, forums/town halls, all of the partner work everyone does counts toward our goals!

**From Now On: Meetings will be shortened to ONE HOUR long, and the time after partner meetings is reserved to work in the committees!**

**Next Meeting**

January 4th | 9:00-10:00am

Warren County Admin Building Room 128

406 Justice Drive, Lebanon, OH 45036