

**Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Warren County**

**Monthly Meeting Minutes**

**Date**: November 2nd, 2023

**Time**: 8:30-10:30 am

# In Attendance

John Hitchens, Josh Jowers, Shelley Brown, Joel Jacobs, Jackie Hunter, Rich Bertanga, Katie Wolf, Vikki Stickelman, Tom Seddon, Katie Williams, Samantha Gray, Kim Sellers, Robert Peeler, Austin Sandin, Tim Beverly, Michele Robinette, Carol Lettler Hoelle, Jennifer Howard, Jess Martin, Heather Warner, Carolyn VonStein, Deborah Harsch, Shari Smith, Maria Dickson, Arla Tannehill, Amber Spaeth, Ann Brock, Fatiha Alam, Natalie Vargos, Maddie Lewis, Chris Peters, Miranda Lamb, Erica Norton, Brian Russ, Ali Wagner, Victoria Billman, Nichole Richardson, Heather Moore, Amanda Peterson, Connie Williams, Stephanie Gati, Madison Martin, Abby Wallace, Brett Lee, Avery Cuthbertson, Jennifer Landry, Robert Wendling, Uki O’Basuyi, Tracy Funke, Ann Brock. An additional 69 viewers attended on-line. A recording of the event can be viewed by following this link <https://www.youtube.com/live/hLxuH1PImrM?si=bpA4Afi5M6mybXc5>.

# 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.
* Shelley kicked off the November meeting by thanking everyone for attending and thanking Faith Building Church and Target for hosting and breakfast.
* Katie Williams, Franklin HOPE, gave an update on what HOPE squad does. They work with law enforcement and community partners to respond to overdoses in the county and connect people to treatment resources. Learn more here: <https://www.franklinohio.org/i-want-to/hope>
* Alison Wagner, speaker from Mary’s Haven Youth Center, gave a presentation on the services provided for youth. They do SUD treatment programming through evidence-based harm reduction and decision making. They do assessments to better serve each of the youth in their center, including info on last use and diagnosis out of the DSM. Recent trends include over-the-counter medication abuse and Delta-8/kratom THC products sold in stores and gas stations. Mary Haven is just for boys, but girl’s treatment is still done and housed in JDC. Learn more here: <https://www.co.warren.oh.us/probate_juvenile/MaryHaven/About.aspx>
* Amanda Peterson and Connie Williams, Talbert House Outpatient, gave a presentation on the mental health and addiction services that Talbert House provides. 2023 had a 40% increase of clients receiving treatment in Warren/Clinton County. TH has offices in Lebanon and Franklin with office hours from 8am-5pm. TH has added outpatient treatment for youth ages 6+. TH has a Hospital Specialist, and Community Care Coordinator, and a School-Based Vaping Specialist. TH does medication assisted treatment – over time the substance use trends changed reducing the number of people needing MAT, but TH still maintains around 100 clients receiving MAT. Walk-in assessments are done on weekdays from 9-3. Learn more here: <https://www.talberthouse.org/help/>
* Katie Wolf, Talbert House Prevention, gave an update on drug takeback days locations. Take back day happens twice a year on the last Saturday of April and October. Warren County collected 1,688.5 pounds of medication this past event in October. If you want to volunteer with the coalition, this is a great event! If you can’t make it out to one of the events, there are permanent disposal box locations all over Warren County.
* The Ohio Highway Patrol gave an update on fatal crashes and drug-related crashes. In Warren County so far there have been 228 drug seizures, mostly of marijuana, meth, mushrooms, and pills. Statistics can be found on the Ohio Highway Patrol website.
* Nationwide Children’s Hospital came to talk about a study they are doing. They work with people who have a history of substance use and who are involved in the court. Any data that is shared with Children’s Hospital is confidential, and the study is paid. The purpose of the study is to reduce and prevent overdose. Learn more here: <https://www.nationwidechildrens.org/research>
* The Drug Task Force gave an update on Warren County. Warren County is a High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA). They have undercover detectives and a Rx detective. The task force is multi-jurisdictional. The goal is to target the mid to upper-level drug traffickers. Warren County is a HIDTA county because of the geographical location between Cincinnati and Dayton with I-75 and I-71. The biggest drug threats are meth, fentanyl, and THC. Meth is no longer locally produced, the DTF has not had a meth lab in a long time. Instead, it is trafficked. Fentanyl is a lot more expensive than meth, but is just as heavily trafficked, Fentanyl is found in counterfeit prescription pills, often brightly colored or made to look like legitimate pills using pill presses. Some are meth and fentanyl pills. Marijuana/Hash/THC is also seized. Vape shops are being served search warrants and are finding all forms of THC including branded candy/edibles. THC vapes are being used in schools by kids. The products that are being sold in vape stores are not under the legal amount of THC to be sold.

# 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 Shelley 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!

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

**Next Meeting**

December 7th | 9:00-10:00am; Committees meet 10:00-10:30am

Warren County Admin Building Room 128

406 Justice Drive, Lebanon, OH 45036