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Vernon Drug and Alcohol Prevention Council
Special Meeting
April 10, 2017 12:00pm-1:30pm
KIDSAFE CT, 19 Elm Street, Vernon, CT

APPROVED MINUTES

Members present: Robin Kohler, Chad Williams, Kaitlin Carafa, Melisa Luginbuhl, Kimberly McTighe, Lieutenant Meier, Officer Josh Wells, Michelle Hill, Steven Jackson, Beth Russell

Welcome and Introductions:

A motion to accept the draft minutes for February's meeting was made by Kaitlin and seconded by Steve Jackson. All present voted in favor of accepting the February minutes

Partnerships for Success (PFS) Updates:

Kaitlin shared that the PFS needs Assessment was revised to include Alcohol in addition to NMUPD as a priority substance to target in our plan for substance abuse prevention for a number of reasons. Vernon has more local data on the use of alcohol, most substance users use more than one substance, and there are more evidence based –informed strategies that have been shown to be effective in reducing alcohol use as compared to NMUPD, which is a newer problem.

Strategic Plan – Due May 1

Kaitlin explained that the VDAPC needs to choose Evidence-Informed Strategies; one per risk factor for each priority substance.

After discussing the following strategies were chosen to address the risk factors of social access and family norms for each priority substance:

Alcohol:

Social Access: The strategy of "Enforcement" will be implemented through the activity of Alcohol Compliance checks run by the VPD

Family Norms: The strategy of "Social Marketing" will be implemented through the activities of a campaign that targets parents/families using social media and community events, that informs them about the dangers of underage drinking and the important role they play in prevention.

NMUPD:

Social Access: The strategy of "Social Marketing" will be implemented through the activities of a community campaign that targets adult community members (including parents, grandparents, relatives, etc.), that educates them on the importance of properly storing and disposing of prescription meds in an effort to prevent others from gaining access to misuse them.

Family Norms: The strategy of "Raise Awareness" will be implemented through the activity of coordinating a community-wide forum that targets families and community members to share information and discuss the Opioid epidemic.

Next Meeting 4/21/17 will be cancelled.

National Prevention Week May 15-May 20



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Kaitlin shared the dates of National Prevention week. The groups discussed the idea of holding prevention type events throughout the year instead of focusing on one week.

DMHAS National Prevention Week Conference May 15th – Cromwell Radisson

Kaitlin shared information about this conference and shared there are 2 other conferences; the CADCA conference in July and the National Prevention Network conference in September. The PFS funds can cover the full costs for VDAPC members who would like to attend. Those interested in the July conference were asked to inform Kaitlin by April 14.

Next Step: Implementation Plan & Evaluation Plan

S-Birt training

Michelle shared that S-BIRT training has been schedule for May 24th and 25th from 9:00-noon. The S-BIRT is a screening tool that helps identify the need for substance abuse services for youth. Members of the Vernon JRB, VDAPC, and school support staff will be invited.

The meeting was adjourned

Submitted by:

Michelle Hill

Michelle Hill on May 19th, 2017