

MINUTES: Healthy Carolinians of Macon County – Substance Abuse Task Force

DATE: May 6, 2010

PLACE: Health and Human Services Building

TIME: 2:00 – 3:30 PM

ATTENDEES: Stephanie Almeida, Sarah Altman, Rhonda Blanton, Jim Bottomley, Tony Corbin, Jennifer Garrett, David Hinnant, Marci Holland, Robert Holland, Kathy McGaha and Patti Tiberi

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
Welcome and Approval of Minutes	<p>Robby Holland welcomed everyone to today's meeting of the Substance Abuse Task Force. Mr. Holland asked the task force members to review the minutes of the last meeting. Marci Holland motioned for the approval of the minutes. Jennifer Garrett 2nd the motion, with a unanimous vote for approval.</p>		
NC Controlled Substance Reporting System	<p>Kathy McGaha gave a brief review of the North Carolina Controlled Substance Reporting System for the task force members. Ms. McGaha reminded the task force members that this system was created to monitor outpatient dispensing of prescription controlled substances on a statewide basis.</p> <p>M. R. Hall and Ms. McGaha had recently met and composed a list of questions that Ms. Hall would ask each pharmacy in Macon County. Ms. Hall had hoped to present the results of this questionnaire at today's meeting, but was unable to attend. Ms. McGaha said Ms. Hall would present these results at the next meeting.</p> <p>Ms. McGaha said she had volunteered to check on the Prevention RX Program and whether it could be used to promote this system. Ms. McGaha said she would report on this at the next meeting.</p> <p>Ms. Garrett stated that Stan Polanski, a physician assistant at the Macon County Public Health Center, sends out a quarterly newsletter to local physicians. Ms. Garrett said this might be a possible avenue to use to promote this system. Ms. McGaha volunteered to check on this and report back at the next meeting.</p>	<p>M. R. Hall will present survey results at the next meeting.</p> <p>Kathy McGaha will check on the Prevention RX Program and report on this at the next meeting.</p> <p>Kathy McGaha will meet with Stan Polanski about promoting this system via Stan's newsletter and report at the next meeting.</p>	

MINUTES: Substance Abuse Task Force

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
	<p>Patti Tiberi said she is still pursuing having Paul Martin as a speaker and also providing credit hours. Ms. Garrett stated that some drug companies will pay to cover credit hours. The task force members will continue discussing these options at the next meeting.</p>		
<p>National Drug Facts Week</p>	<p>National Drug Facts Week (NDFW) is a health observance for teens. The goal of a NDFW event is to shatter the myths about drugs and drug abuse by giving teens a forum to ask questions and receive honest answers from a drug abuse expert. NDFW is an initiative of the National Institute of Drug Abuse.</p> <p>NDFW will be celebrated from November 8th through November 14th. The Drug Facts Chat Day is scheduled for November 9th from 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM EST.</p> <p>The task force members discussed staging an event at Franklin High School, Macon Middle School, Highlands School and Nantahala School. Ms. Garrett stated that once this task force had designed a program, this program would have to be presented to the School Board for their approval. Ms. Garrett offered to be the presenter to the School Board.</p>	<p>Once this task force has designed a program for this observance, Ms. Garrett will present the program to the School Board for their approval.</p>	
<p>Operation Medicine Drop</p>	<p>Tony Corbin explained that he had been looking for flyers and brochures that this task force could use in any of their projects. Mr. Corbin stated that he had found a program he really liked in Broward County, Florida. Mr. Corbin said he had contacted the person over this program to obtain further information.</p> <p>Mr. Corbin said the Broward Sheriff’s Office had combined with the United Way Commission to present Operation Medicine Cabinet – A Prescription Drug Take Back Program. Mr. Corbin explained that several locations are listed and \$5.00 Wal-Mart or CVS gift cards are offered as incentives (while they last).</p>		

MINUTES: Substance Abuse Task Force

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
	<p>Mr. Corbin said evidently a grant was obtained to start this program and several businesses were contacted about providing gift cards as an incentive to attract people to turn in their prescriptions. The grant was awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs.</p> <p>Mr. Corbin offered to further check into the Office of Justice Programs. Ms. Almeida offered to review the grant and see what stipulations are attached.</p> <p>Ms. Tiberi informed the task force members that some counties are offering Medication Drop-Box Programs in their communities. Ms. McGaha offered to further check into this option.</p>	<p>Tony Corbin will further check into the Office of Justice Programs.</p> <p>Stephanie Almeida offered to review the grant and report on it at the next meeting.</p> <p>Kathy McGaha offered to further check on Medication Drop-Box Programs and report at the next meeting.</p>	
Media Campaign	<p>Patti Tiberi reported that Stephanie Almeida, Rhonda Blanton and herself had met on April 6th to discuss ideas for a future media campaign. Ms. Tiberi said they agreed that a theme or slogan needed to be developed that would cover both drugs and underage drinking.</p> <p>Ms. Tiberi said once a theme or slogan has been picked, artwork would need to be developed. One idea was to have a contest with local high school students. Mr. Corbin also suggested possibly contacting Southwestern and offering their art students the chance to develop it. David Hinnant offered to visit Southwestern and check on this option. The task force members agreed to decide on this once a theme or slogan has been picked.</p> <p>Ms. Tiberi asked the task force members who the primary audience should be. The task force members were in agreement that adults would be the primary audience with children being the secondary audience.</p>	<p>David Hinnant will visit Southwestern Community College and follow up on the option of giving their art students the chance to develop artwork for the task force.</p>	
Next Meeting Date	<p>The next meeting of the Substance Abuse Task Force is scheduled for Thursday, June 10th, from 1:00 -2:30 PM in the Mae Shope Room at the Health and Human Services</p>		

MINUTES: Substance Abuse Task Force

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
	Building.		

MINUTES.DOC