

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

DATE: September 10, 2009

PLACE: Health and Human Services Building

TIME: 2:00 – 3:30 PM

ATTENDEES: Sarah Altman, Rhonda Blanton, Jim Bottomley, Annie Breedlove, Sandra Conaty, Tony Corbin, Jennifer Garrett, Marci Holland, Robert Holland and Patti Tiberi

| TOPIC | DISCUSSION | ACTION | FOLLOW-UP |
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| Welcome and Approval of Minutes | 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. Patti Tiberi motioned for the approval of the minutes. Sandy Conaty 2 nd the motion, with a unanimous vote for approval. | | |
| Introductions | Robby Holland welcomed Sarah Altman and Annie Breedlove to today's meeting. Ms. Altman is a Community Based Clinician at Smoky Mountain Center. Ms. Breedlove is a Social Worker working part-time with the Sheriff's Office. Mr. Holland asked everyone to introduce themselves and tell what organization they represented. | | |
| Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention | <p>Robby Holland next led the task force members in a discussion on Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention. Mr. Holland briefly reviewed the topics that were discussed at the last meeting.</p> <p>Mr. Holland then updated the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Mr. Holland said he had met with Mike Lewis and they had devised a photo layout to use for the picture(s) to be taken for the billboard. Mr. Holland said due to unforeseen circumstances, the photo shoot had not been done. Mr. Holland asked for another volunteer to work further on this topic. Sandy Conaty volunteered➤ Mr. Holland also updated the task force members on the success of Operation Pill Crusher. Mr. Holland said Macon County alone had collected over 23,000 pills. Mr. Holland said a major roadblock had developed over the disposal of the medications collected. | Sandy Conaty volunteered to work further on taking a picture to use for the billboard. | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Jennifer Garrett said she had contacted Allison Outdoor Advertising about obtaining a free billboard to place our message and photo about prescription drug abuse. Ms. Garrett said Allison's agreed to provide a billboard on the Highlands Road for one month. Tony Corbin also asked about the possibility of putting something on the flashing sign at The Factory. ➤ Jennifer Garrett reported that Kathy McGaha would like for this task force to take a road trip to Wilkes County to check out their efforts on combating prescription drug use. Ms. McGaha is hoping to schedule the trip in November, December or January. ➤ Robby Holland asked that the task force members consider how to make our plan of action work and consider what everyone is currently doing or will be doing. Mr. Holland asked that the task force members bring ideas and suggestions to the next meeting. | <p>Kathy McGaha will work further on setting up the trip to Wilkes County.</p> <p>The task force members will bring ideas and suggestions to use our plan of action and how to make it work.</p> | |
| Other Items for Discussion | <p>Other Items for Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rhonda Blanton passed out a handout with the dates and times for the upcoming Rabies Clinics. ○ Rhonda Blanton also passed out a handout with the dates and times for the upcoming seasonal flu shot clinics being scheduled by the Macon County Public Health Center. ○ Rhonda Blanton also reminded the task force members of the upcoming School Health Fairs and passed out a volunteer form with the dates for each school. ○ Robby Holland informed the task force members that he believes his program Reality Check 101 is having an effect on the school children that attend it. During the program, Mr. Holland asks the students if they know someone who uses meth. | | |

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| | <p>Mr. Holland says the numbers of hands being raised has decreased.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Patti Tiberi informed everyone that September is officially Celebrate Recovery month and invited them to attend any Celebrate Recovery events being held in the area. Ms. Tiberi will send the list of events to Ms. Blanton, who will then forward this information to HCMC members. ○ Jennifer Garrett asked the task force members for ideas and suggestions on entertaining and informing students at the informational booth at the School Health Fairs. Ms. Garrett stated that in the past Larry McDonald had manned this booth, but she would need someone else this year. ○ Jim Bottomley informed the task force members that the local Oxford House had closed. Mr. Bottomley said there were many factors that led to the closure. Mr. Bottomley said that the Oxford House organization promised to pay the owners any amount still owed. | <p>Patti Tiberi will forward Celebrate Recovery information to Rhonda Blanton. Ms. Blanton will forward this information to HCMC members.</p> | |
| <p>Next Meeting Date</p> | <p>The next meeting of the Substance Abuse Task Force is scheduled for Tuesday, November 10th, from 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM in Classroom #1 at the Health and Human Services Building.</p> | | |