

Drug Free Tipton
Board Meeting
February 17, 2022
9:00 AM
Tipton County Justice Complex

In attendance: Robin Sealy, Hannah Yawn, Kirsty Rhe Tiffner, Chris Williams, Ben Dickey, Michael Peeler, Madalyen Mason, Tony Ginn, Robin Racine, Adam Blackwood, Sean Cullen, Kay Rose, Sierra Butler

Zoom attendance: Lejulian Roy, Danielle Faulk, Billy Daughtery, Anna Carver, Tom Griffin, Dorothy Isbell, Rebecca Ray

Read response from: Chief Anthony Rudolph

Robin Sealy welcomed everyone and opened the meeting, which was held as a hybrid meeting with a zoom option.

The January minutes were reviewed. A motion to accept was made by Chris Williams and a second by Madalyn Mason

Important Information and Events:

- Kirsty-Rhe reported that our social media has been increased and staff has been working more with youth to create content. She asked that members continue to like, share and interact with those. The more post are interacted with the more they are pushed out. At the last meeting an elevator speech for Drug Free Tipton was requested. Staff has worked on the elevator speech and provided it to the coalition. It is a few sentences that shares what Drug Free Tipton has done and continues to do. A video will be made and pushed out to the community

Kirsty-Rhe shared the elevator speech. At Drug Free Tipton, we are about prevention. Our goal is to lower substance misuse rates in our county by stopping the problem before it starts. We identify community gaps and partner with people to create solutions. We are proud to say that the coalition has brought in over 2 million dollars but more importantly, we celebrate the fact that we have seen a drop in substance misuse by our youth.

Robin Racine made a quick announcement on the Strengthening Families Program, a great example of team work between Coalition members. Tipton County Schools is going to implement the program starting March 1st at the three Middle Schools (CMS, MMS, and BMS).

Reduce Youth Substance Use: Alcohol

-Chris Williams reported that we will not be continuing the Tip 4-11 contract. The signs are coming down and the contract will be over March 1st. The goal is to have all signs down by the end of February. If each law enforcement agency could make sure they are removed in their area that would be beneficial.

- He also reported that quarterly compliance checks were not done in the county last month but they have them scheduled for March, Covington will get the ball going on that, Munford has not done any as well. The county mentioned that if any department would like assistance with compliance checks the county has streamlined the process and is willing to share any information needed.

Reduce Youth Substance Use: Marijuana

-Hannah reported exciting news that the Coalition has received another grant for marijuana. The dates are October 2021-March 2023. It is expected to be continual funding in addition to the state block grant that addresses tobacco, prescription drugs and alcohol. She also reported that the executive board requested the coalition write the stance we have on marijuana. Staff will work on this and provide the information at the next meeting.

-Hannah reported that we have had a successful year of LEAD. Those classes are wrapping up. A special thanks to all law enforcement partners who made this possible. Pizza parties have started at most schools and will wrap up soon.

Reduce Youth Substance Use: Tobacco/Vaping

- Hannah reported that Vape classes through the collaboration with Juvenile Court are continuing. The next class is March 15th. It is always great to have volunteers to help with these, if you are available for the March class please reach out to Hannah.

Reduce Youth Substance Use: Prescription Drugs

- Kirsty-Rhe reported that they have had a lot of success with the social media post advertising lock boxes. They are working to obtain more as they receive them. Currently there are some at Covington, Munford PD and the Justice Complex. She asked if anyone had any other recommendations on where to leave lock boxes. Suggestions were made to leave them with pharmacies, fire departments, sheriff's department lobby, Veterans Office in Munford, Commission on Aging, and relatives.

Youth Expo- Hannah updated that the coalition is excited to partner with the 8th grade career expo. The coalition will positively help kids be aware of needing to address passing drug screens before obtaining jobs. Robin Sealy reported over 3,000 8th graders are signed up to attend and any and all members are encouraged to volunteer.

Action Plan Update- at the last meeting we worked on updating action plans. We are looking at Covington to see what needs to be addressed with CARA funds. We have evaluated plans and interpreted we can improve youth involvement. It has been a challenge over the last ten years and we have had different successes. We are working on a new approach to have a youth advisory board with two high school representatives from each high school. There would be one junior and one senior from each school that meets quarterly. We will reach out to each school separately and involve them in activities rather than meetings.

Community Announcements:

- Health Council has started a community health assessment and they are asking community members to participate- Anna Carver will be sending out more information. The next meeting is March 8th at noon. Anna's email: Anna.Carver@tn.gov
- Next week is Quit week
- March 2nd and 3rd is the 8th grade career expo Pathways to Opportunities (volunteers and vendors needed)

Meeting Adjourned.

Minutes Submitted by Sierra Butler