



Decisions at Every Turn Coalition

Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2018

Ashland Middle School Library, 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Welcome

Neha Shabeer, Al Porter, Kathy Silva, Kelly St. Coeur, Dave DiGirolamo, Lili Hellerman, Lily Orr, Haley Boccuzzi, Claudia Rose, Amy Turncliff, Mark Oram, Kristin French, Saumya Sankhavaram

DFC Grant Year 6 Update & Budget Discussion

DAET was awarded a consecutive round of DFC grant funding. The 5-year grant will begin on October 1, 2018. We will apply for BAA funds in the fall. DAET was included in the state budget and we are in the process of requesting the funds to be released. We have almost completed the process of becoming a 501c3 – non-profit organization. We have Articles of Organization, and By Laws. Being a 501c3 will enable us to accept donations. For the DFC grant, we are transferring fiscal responsibility to the Town of Ashland.

Website update

We have been working with Gordon Multimedia to rebrand our logo and website. The website should be ready to debut in October. We see the website as a community resource and a locus for Coalition updates & events and youth, parent and adult prevention information. It will be easier for us to post information and feed into our other social media.

Visioning Exercise

A visioning exercise was used to inspire participants to think long-term and envision what DAET success would look like in ten years, without regard to money, time, or staffing. The exercise was meant to get participants to think creatively. By working in twos, each pair was asked to illustrate their vision of success by creating a newspaper headline. The group came up with:

“AHS Students in Breaking the Barriers launch a viral social media campaign about substance abuse prevention and mental health”; Leadership Club at Ashland High School changes the way students view prevention”; Ashland Community Unites to Celebrate the Impact of Youth on Health and Decision-Making”; and Ashland Students Lead Town in Healthy Decisions at Every Life Phase.

Youth-focused coalition meeting time

We discussed the challenges of the youth meetings of which the initial purpose was for middle school students with high school student leadership. However, the timing has made it difficult for all students, especially if not arranged around late buses. If we continue to run the youth meetings at 3:00 and can build up interest among 6-8 graders, these could be successful. Kristin will check in with Caroline Williams and Katie Lizotte. Another option is to have a middle school meeting and a high school meeting. At the November meeting ask the students what would work best.

Participant Sharing

- BTB will be at Ashland Day with a photo booth to raise money for CADCA.
- St. Cecelia’s – program with 2nd graders.
- Prevention work is being included in the Peer Leader curriculum for the Freshman. The goal is to have the students work on the curriculum and decide what fits their needs.

- We held a STAND activity during the lunch periods where students could ask questions about vaping and juuling. Most of the questions were around harm and risk.

- Is there any policy interest? If there is we can convene a policy group. Holliston updated their in-school policy to include a \$100 fine for vaping.
- Lauren and Erin have developed a policy procedure for vaping on school grounds – which includes counseling and an educational component. It is in the handbook.

- First POWER program on October 23rd is FIND your VOICE
- “Minding your Mind” is scheduled for Dec 13th

Next Meeting: October 9th