

Opiate Task Force

Friends, support, & advocacy subcommittee minutes

Committee meeting July 24, 2017

Attendees: Cindy McQuown, Cornerstone, Chair; Betty Barlow, Oaks Family Center; Melissa Pearce, Community Action Wayne/Medina; Steve Hambley, Ohio House of Representatives; Michelle Kipfstuhl, Catholic Charities

NEXT MEETING: August 21st, 10:30am at 246 Northland Drive, Meeting room A

1. Introductions

2. Old Business

Solace-group members were updated as to status of the SOLACE application. Cindy M. informed that she requested the new director at Robbies (new recovery organization at the old Medina Steakhouse) be on the lookout for a potential SOLACE leader(s). Group discussed having representative from SOLACE attend one of our task force meetings to share lessons learned regarding starting a SOLACE group and a SIBS group.

ACTION: Cindy M will follow up with SOLACE and invite to Medina.

Survey Monkey-group members reviewed the feedback from the Survey Monkey survey that Michelle K created. Of the

55 responses, it was clear that a resource regarding grief/loss of loved one due to overdose would be utilized. Steve H. presented idea of inviting the respondents who said they would participate in a focus group on this issue, to a focus group and to open the focus group to include community members. Group members were supportive of this idea to further discern community and professional feedback about how to address the loss due to overdose death for those surviving. Group discussed value of meeting with representation from SOLACE to help determine how to lead this type of focus group, perhaps get their assistance.

ACTION: need to determine a place/date to offer a focus group, invite those from Survey Monkey survey who are willing to attend and extend invitation to community, determine a facilitator.

3. New Business

Prevention Sub-committee-Cindy M shared that the Prevention Sub-committee is also working on a resource list and said she would attend their next meeting on August 11th, to get more information and to see how we can team up on this effort.

Grand families-County Navigators?-Cindy M brought up the occurrence of more families involved with MCJFS due to parental drug/alcohol abuse and more grandparents assuming parenting responsibilities for grandchildren. Group discussed this as an additional area for investigation, eg, what resources are available for grandparents raising grandchildren,

determining what need there is, how to reach these families and assist with navigating resources, whether or not there exists a “navigator” role currently, as is best practice across United States. Group discussed how to determine how many grandfamilies are currently in existence in Medina County. Steve H. also encouraged group to research where RFPs are coming open and for what services, to possibly pursue.

4. Go-Round

**Recovery walk/run at Kite fest information distributed
Discussed possible role of sales tax initiative**

Meeting adjourned: 11:40am.

5. Next meeting: