



Prevention Coalition of Huron County

Meeting Minutes

02.04.2025 (1 hour, 15 minutes)

Present:

- **In Person:** Charise Briggs, MSSA, LISW-S, Kristen Cardone, LPCC-S, LICDC, Bethany Chime MA, LPCC-S, Niki Cross, Shylee Greszler, Renee Leber MSSA, LISW-S, Ashley Morrow, Alexis Fleming, Carol Wheeler, Sue Wilson, LISW-S, IMFT-S, Fallon Winterstein, Michelle Aplin, Angela Pocock, Sydney Gomez, Nicole Marks, MPH, Grace Habeck, Tim Hollinger, MPH, Gracyn Shupp LSW, and Tracey Hylton.
- **Microsoft Teams:** No one in attendance online.

Grant Updates:

The Ohio Department of Health (ODH)'s Youth Suicide Prevention (YS) Grant:

- The selected "Tier 1" activity is reducing access to lethal means. HCPH is currently partnered with the sheriff's office, Fisher Titus, and Connections Recovery for this initiative.
- The selected "Tier 2" activity is the Counseling on Access to Lethal Means (CALM). Gracyn reported that Huron County Public Health is continuing to collaborate with CALM America to offer the CALM training to Fisher Titus emergency department personnel. The expected timeframe for the training being available is late spring to early summer. Potential dates have been proposed to Fisher-Titus for scheduling.
- The selected "Tier 3" activity is the SOS (Signs Of Suicide) Program. HCPH is continuing to work toward purchasing the program for Willard City Schools (MS and HS) and Norwalk City Schools (MS). Gracyn reported that there has been a slight pause with this process, as there's been a lot of unknowns at the federal level with grants. But HCPH is hoping to have the program purchased in the first couple of weeks in February.

Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) Grant:

- Gracyn shared that there's not much of an update with the SPF grant. The key informant and Focus Group interviews will be taking place this coming week.

The Drug Free Communities (DFC) Grant:

- HCPH is working on updating the Strategic Action Plan. Along with this, HCPC will be sending out a Survey Monkey to get a scan of what agencies are doing in regard to the areas of focus for this grant. Once HCPC has the plan updated, it will be sent to MHAS and then reviewed as a coalition.

General Prevention Updates:

- Gracyn is continuing to work on the *environmental scans* of services and programs available for HC residents. She reported that some services are no longer available due to low attendance or staffing issues. Gracyn engaged the coalition in a discussion about whether residents perceive programs housed in different counties as being inaccessible to them, even if the services are available to them as well. Transportation was brought up as a possible barrier as well. Discussion around the Prevention Coalition prompting the services outside the county to help remind residents the services are available. When prompting, making sure it clearly states, "Services available for all Huron County Residents."
- Gracyn shared that the Family Dependency Court Program had another graduate, making this the 24th person to successfully graduate from the program.
- With the ongoing changes at the federal level, the coalition discussed the impact on the community and how to provide support. It was mentioned that the Trauma Informed Care meetings will discuss this further.

Data Updates:

Grace Habeck, Data Analyst at Huron County Public Health provided the coalition with an update on our data. Gracyn and Grace met with Connections Recovery and Firelands Counseling.

- **Connections Recovery:** Met with David Olds and Michaela Dewese. Discussed what data we can receive from their services. Awaiting details on transfer/discharge information, demographics, and call origin.
- **Firelands Counseling:** Regarding the Hopeline, we're going to discontinue the data moving forward currently. As the Hopeline is a multifaceted resource and purpose varies, making the data unclear.

Key insights:

- Most agencies in HC consistently track and share transfer information of individuals in crisis.
- Moving forward, data collection efforts will focus on this standardized information
- **Environmental Scans:** Gracyn shared that the purpose of environmental scans is to go to local businesses / agencies who are selling vapes, alcohol, etc. and identify potential risks or hazards. An example would be if alcohol is close to candy or toys in a gas station. Our environmental scans were recently done in the summer of 2024. These scans are done through the SPF grant.
 - 34 Surveys were conducted
 - 11 unique zip codes covered
 - 44% of stores allowed clear visibility inside the store, but 56% percent had obstructions (posters cover the doors, small windows, etc.) but only 10% had up to 50% coverage

- 91% of the stores did not have youth congregating near or in the store (parking lots or sidewalks) during the scans
 - 90% had alcohol placed at youth height level (3 feet or lower)
 - Few stores had alcohol and youth-related items (toys, candy, earbuds, etc.) within close proximity to each other
 - Substance use advertisements covered less than 25% of the windows in most stores
 - 3 stores (10%) had up to 50% coverage of substance use advertisements
 - 74% of stores offer deals and rewards of alcohol / tobacco products
- **Compliance Check:** Gracyn shared that the purpose of compliance check is to reduce the likelihood of illegal alcohol sales to underage individuals. As well as making sure businesses are following rules, regulations, and that standards are being followed. Grace gave a summary of various types of liquor licenses, most common being C and D.
 - 32 C permit carryout checks conducted (for establishments that sell alcohol for off-premises consumption)
 - 1 D permit check conducted (for establishments that sell alcohol for on-premises consumption)
 - 28 locations were found to be in compliance, meaning they adhered to all state liquor laws and had no violations.
 - 5 were not in compliance, indicating that violations were detected.
 - 4 out of 5 locations had no previous violations, meaning this was their first documented offense
 - 1 location had a previous underage violation
 - All non-compliant locations were cited, and their liquor permits were additionally cited through the Ohio Investigative Unit (OIU)
 - At the time of citation, the permit holder was informed about the ASK program (Alcohol Server Knowledge)

Next Steps:

- Gracyn asked the coalition what they would like to do with the information that was gained from both the Environmental Scans and Compliance Checks. Kristen Cardone shared that in the past, the coalition had done a press release, promoting the agencies who successfully passed. As well as partnering with agencies who had violations, to provide training / assistance for them.
 - Moving forward, the coalition will look into doing a press release to celebrate the successes of the environmental scans and compliance checks.

Grace Habeck contact information: ghabeck@huroncohealth.com, Direct Line (567) 244-3222

Veterans Organization:

Gracyn informed the coalition that she had met with Charise Briggs, from Veterans Affairs to talk about organizations available to support our veterans at different levels (Local, State, and Federal). Charise serves as a clinical social worker at Veterans Affairs as the Community Engagement and Partnership Coordinator. Charise shared information regarding the U.S Department of Veterans Affairs (federal), Veterans Service Commissions (VSC) (County / local),

and Veterans Service Organizations (VSO) (state, county, and / or privately funded). Charise shared she can assist agencies with not only identifying Veterans but with guidance on where to look for resources depending on the need. Keeping in mind that Veterans can utilize both private and VA healthcare.

- **Veterans Hospital Administration (VHA) (Underneath the VA):** *Doctor Offices.* Primary care, mental health support, medical care, etc. 14 facilities, 3 strictly for Mental Health.
 - **Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) (underneath the VA):** Compensation, education, insurance, home loans, etc. is provided through this organization.
 - **National Cemetery Administration (NCA) (underneath the VA):** Records, and other service members and family benefits, burial and memorial services.
 - **Veterans Service Commissions (VSC) (County level):** Elected board of commissions and are responsible for funding that is specifically for our local Veterans. Any Veteran that needs *financial assistance, needs help filing claims to the VA, or transportation to appointments at the VA*, can seek support at the VSC. The new Executive Director for the Huron County Veterans Commissions is Jessica Hamilton.
 - **Veterans Service Organization (VSO) (State, County, and / or Privately Funded):** *offers a range of services for Veterans, servicemembers, dependents, survivors.* Some examples of VSOs are Disabled American Veterans (DAV), The World Veterans Federation (WVF), and American Legion.
- Charise shared with the coalition that there's been an increase in anxiety and calls to the Veterans Crisis line have doubled in the past two weeks. Charise informed the coalition that 988 has an option for Veterans and / or services members that are seeking help. Individuals can call and it will say *if you're a veteran or service member, please press 1*. When a call is made to this option, the local VA Medical Center is also notified. VA has 72 hours to get in contact with the Veteran who made the call. VA will help assist in connecting the Veteran to VA services or community services.
 - Gracyn shared the idea of creating a guideline to help agencies know where to send Veterans for different supports. The coalition agreed this would be beneficial. Gracyn will work with Charise to create this document. Gracyn shared she will be setting up a meeting with Jessica (our county's Executive Director of the Veterans Service Commissions) to discuss services and possibly see about partnering with them to provide gun locks as well.

800-698-2411 is the national number for The Department of Veterans Affairs. Helps guide Veterans looking for support / services. They will ask the Veterans for their social security number, and it will tell them right away what they're eligible for. As well as the closet VA centers near them.

988 then press **1** Crisis Support for Veterans

Charise Briggs Contact Information: Charise.Briggs@va.gov

Re-Introduction of Subcommittees:

- Starting in March the coalition will dedicate either the beginning or end of the meeting to breaking out into our subcommittees. The coalition currently has a total of three committees; Youth Success, Substance Use, and Youth-Led Coalition (ARISE). Youth Success will be focusing on youth suicide prevention, coping skills, ACE scores, Positive Childhood Experiences (PCEs), etc. We need a lead for Youth Success as well. Substance Use will be focusing on providing education, resources, outreach, etc. Ashley Marrow will be serving as the lead for this committee. And lastly, ARISE will be focusing on continuing to build up our youth lead prevention coalition. Niki Cross will serve as the lead of this committee. A sign-up sheet was passed around to sign up for a committee.

Open Discussion:

- **Connections Recovery** is looking for individuals who are interested in being trained and serving on their Critical Incident Stress Management Team (CISM). Anyone who is interested should reach out to David Olds at dolds@connectionsrecovery.org
- Renee Leber from Family Health Services introduced their new MAT provider Tracey Hylton at the Norwalk office and Sydney Gomez the new Community Health Worker. If patients that are seen by Family Health Services cannot drive to the pharmacy to pick up their medications, FHS can have the medications delivered by FedEx the following day. If it's a controlled substance, it can take up to four days and someone must sign for it, that's over the age of 18. Renee shared that FHS also has a pop-up food market on the first Friday of every month (through Second Harvest). Individuals just need to have a photo ID with them. But if they don't have a photo ID they won't be turned away.
- Niki Cross shared she recently was at a meeting where screen time was brought up as a concern, regarding our youth. Niki shared she will be sending Gracyn resources to share with the coalition on this topic.

Upcoming Trainings / events:

- **Strengthening Families Program** (Through Family Life Counseling & Family and Children First Council): Program starts *February 6th, 2025 – May 15th, 2025* but families are able to register up through the third week of the program. Register at: <https://forms.gle/yYXgkt5jpVEQhcMF9>
- **Gaelin Elmore (Inspirational Speaker):** *The Belonging Difference*. February 11th, 2025 10:00AM – 12:00PM Virtual Presentation
- **Youth-Led Prevention Adult Training:** March 4th, 2025, Westerville OH
<https://www.youthtoyouth.org/youth-led-prevention-adult-training>

Reminders

- Next Meeting: March 4, 2025 @ 10:00AM, HCPH Conf. Rm. #1

- Coalition Capacity Survey – Please Complete!
 - <https://epiphanycommunityservices.research.net/r/2025HuronCap>
 - Survey will close April 1st, 2025

