



TPAUD Coalition Meeting

April 19th 8:00am

Trumbull EMS

Attendees: Officer Scott Duva, Deirdre Ekholdt, Sergeant Tim Fedor, Nicole Hampton, Tim Hare, Lori Hayes-O'Brien, Sue Jacozzi, Rep. Sarah Keitt, Scot Kerr, Cat Lamy, Melissa McGarry, Dennis McLaughlin, Julia McNamee, Dr. Cornelia Morris, Jordyn Nappi, Kiersten Naumann, Victoria O'Neill, Joanne Orenstein, Melissa Roberto, Rep. Dave Rutigliano, Jessica Samuolis, Dr. Martin Semmel, Brie Seymour, Stephanie Vaughn, Lara Walden

1. Introductions & Partner Updates:

- Cat Lamy reported that PTAC: 1) awarded 28 mini-grants to teachers focusing primarily on social-emotional learning initiatives, 2) will award five \$1,500 scholarships to students (criteria will NOT be based solely on academic merit), 3) finished a bus efficiency study which concluded that the district could save \$900,000 by switching to a three-tier bussing system to accommodate later start times.
- Gillian (My Friend Abby) asked Melissa to report: 1) Thank you to Tim Hare and Todd Shipley for participating in the Pastors' Plunge fundraiser, 2) "Here's My Truth" social media campaign launching soon, 3) Spreading Sunshine lawn signs are available through May at myfriendabby.org, 4) MFA volunteers were featured on News 8 as they prepared artwork for the spreading Sunshine campaign, 5) new peer-to-peer grant recipients will be announced soon.

2. Partner Spotlight: Victoria O'Neill, Program Coordinator at The Hub. The Hub is one of five Regional Behavioral Health Action Organizations (RBHAOs) in CT (Region 1 includes 14 towns in Southwestern CT from Greenwich to Stratford). The Hub provides guidance and coordinates resources for prevention initiatives in the region, and acts a liaison between Local Prevention Councils (LPCs) and the CT State Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS). The Hub oversees the two Catchment Area Councils (CACs) in the region - community groups consisting of consumers and providers to identify and advocate for behavioral health needs in their communities. The Hub also oversees the Region 1 Gambling Awareness and Suicide Advisory Boards. For more information visit thehubct.org.

3. Prevention Activities:

- Xylazine update from DEA: Xylazine, a highly addictive veterinary tranquilizer, is showing up in most fentanyl in the Northeast. Xylazine is not an opioid, and does not respond to Narcan. It causes open sores on users, and results in quick and severe withdrawal, which intensifies current fentanyl crisis. Xylazine test strips are in development but not readily available yet. The DEA has issued a Public Safety Alert regarding xylazine – DEA has seized xylazine and fentanyl mixtures in 48 of 50 States; in 2022 approximately 23% of fentanyl powder and 7% of fentanyl pills seized by the DEA contained xylazine.
- Legislation Update:
 - Sarah reported that House Bills 6718 (AN ACT CONCERNING THE SAFE STORAGE AND DISPOSAL OF CERTAIN PRESCRIPTION DRUGS, CANNABIS AND CANNABIS PRODUCTS) & 6915

(AN ACT CONCERNING CANNABIS USE PREVENTION EFFORTS RELATED TO YOUTH) received Joint Favorable Substitutes.

- Dave reported that legislators in support are looking for a favorable vehicle to include H.B. 5434 (AN ACT CONCERNING THE REGULATION OF CANNABIS).
- Environmental Scan follow-up: Melissa & Kiersten visited the four gas stations that the November environmental scan identified as selling THC products. Two had large inventories of synthetic THC products, and were offering price promotions on THC vapes. TPAUD has reached out to Planning & Zoning to determine how Trumbull's cannabis moratorium language applies to THC products (including THC derived from hemp/CBD), and will partner with Police and Health Department to communicate and clarify the moratorium as well as state regulations to retailers.
- Screenagers Under the Influence: Vaping, Drugs, and Alcohol in the Digital Age: Coalition approved a \$950 expenditure to purchase a one-year license for Trumbull High. The license will allow community screenings and includes a 50-minute classroom cut with teacher resources and materials. Cat will confirm that TPAUD can use remaining funds PTAC had allocated to TPAUD for the 2022-23 school year.
- "Launching After HS" Information for families: first workgroup meeting on 4/20 on Zoom. All are welcome, contact Kiersten to be added to the list.
- "Recipe for Wellness" resource partnership with Progressive Institute, to offer residents an online forum to share wellness information. Progressive has offered to underwrite the development and promotion of the site.

4. Coalition Business

- Opioid Prevention –
 - State Opioid Response grant: The SOR grant funding applications will be released shortly. The \$5,000 grant funding must be spent by September 30th. TPAUD will use the \$5,000 to continue to support YouThinkYouKnowCT.org and to purchase lockboxes.
 - Municipal Opioid Settlement Funds: Attorney General Tong is holding a session on Opioid Settlement funds on May 18th at The Hub. TPAUD staff will attend, and encouraged coalition members to attend if possible. Trumbull has received some settlement payments, and others are pending. TPAUD currently coordinates much of the opioid prevention activities in town, and plans to make the case that it should coordinate Trumbull's settlement funds going forward. Coalition staff and leadership will continue to work with the First Selectman, town attorneys, and other coalition partners/stakeholders to clarify amounts, distribution plans, suggested uses, etc.
- Johnny's Ambassadors Marijuana Prevention Conference – Two-day, virtual conference July 10-11. TPAUD can provide scholarships to any coalition members who wish to attend. Contact Kiersten or Melissa if interested.
- Meeting Location: still looking for a space large enough to accommodate 25+ people and available 8am-10am. Suggestions included Pinewood Lake Clubhouse (Lara will inquire), Progressive Institute (available but not central), and Long Hill (parking is an issue). Marty will inquire about the Elite bookstore.

Upcoming Events:

4/20 – "Launching After HS" Workgroup Mtg, 11

4/22 – TPD Drug Take Back Day at Trumbull Mall, 10-2

4/29 – YMCA Healthy Kids Day, 10-1

5/7 – 5/13 – National Prevention Week

5/18 – AG Tong Session on Opioid Settlement Funds, 10am at Burroughs Community Center

5/20 – Trumbull EMS Open House, 10-2

6/2 – THS Senior Prom

7/10 – 7/11 – Johnny’s Ambassadors Preventing Youth Marijuana Use Conference

2022-23 Meetings – 5/19, June TBD