



TPAUD Coalition Meeting

February 15, 2023 8:00 am

Trumbull EMS

Attendees: Gillian Anderson, Nina Chanana, Lily Cores, Sam Cousins, Scott Duva, Nicole Hampton, Tim Hare, Sue Jacozzi, Sarah Keitt, Scot Kerr, Melissa McGarry, Cornelia Morris, Kiersten Naumann, Joanne Orenstein, Jeff Rago, David Rutigliano, Jessica Samuolis, Martin Semmel, Will Testani, Stephanie Vaughn

1. Introductions & Partner Updates

2. Prevention Activities

- Narcan Training
 - Recently provided training to THS and St. Joe's staff. There is a plan to train all security staff at Trumbull schools.
 - Dave Rutigliano informed the group that there is a bill to put Narcan in vending machines.
 - Trumbull HR Director, Tom McCarthy, supports training all Town employees, close to 200. Town employees who are public facing will have a kit available to them, provided by TPAUD and The Hub.
- Supporting LGBTQ+ Youth
 - Triangle Community Center Trainings - The Counseling Center organized a LGBTQ+ allyship training for center staff, school staff, other community providers and stakeholders. Triangle and the Trumbull Police Dept. also recorded a training video with TCTV.
 - BOE attorneys offered training on 2/15 to THS for staff to educate around state laws on LGBTQ rights, protocols, etc.
- THS Inclusion Week Plans- March 27-31. TPAUD is working with the THS organizers to promote school climate and connection to resources and support. Our data shows that certain youth are at higher risk for substance use. Lower mental health wellness is a risk factor for poor outcomes.
 - YAY kids will have Monday, and the focus will be on promoting mental health resources in school and community.
 - GSA Club will also have a day; TPAUD is providing support with supplies like Ally pins, Ally stickers.
- Social Norming Campaign on Vaping and Marijuana – Have to pre-buy social media ad's. Issue with ad's getting blocked by sites. Working with marketing group to tweak ad's and launching soon.
- Gambling Awareness – TPAUD was selected to participate in a public health planning process with the state on gambling prevention. There is a push to focus on gambling prevention (especially since sports betting, on-line gambling was passed in CT last year),

although most prevention dollars are tied to substance use prevention. TPAUD is hoping there will be near future grant opportunities tied to this work.

- Dave Rutigliano advised that there are bills in this session tied to sports betting and gambling.
 - Legislative Update –
 - The Attorney General is going after stores selling THC products like Delta-8 and Delta-10, as a direct result of environmental scans done in Trumbull (and Westport). Legislators were not aware these products are being sold outside of CT's legal cannabis market (due to a loophole in the 2018 federal Farm Bill bill that legalized hemp. This loophole can be closed in 2023 Farm Bill.)
 - Opioid Settlement Money – trying to redirect State dollars to prevention and treatment. Currently goes to a general fund, gets appropriated out.
 - Some money has gone to Town and some to State. Money is sitting in an account at Town level. Few restrictions on use as it is paid out as a settlement, but substance use prevention and mental health promotion is an encouraged use for these funds. TPAUD is in discussions with First Selectman to discuss prevention options.
 - “Cannabis Day” at the State Legislature is scheduled for 2/23 – numerous bills that make changes to the state’s cannabis law will have hearings. Some topics include potency caps, warning labels, etc.
 - Cornelia had a question about appropriations around youth mental health.
 - TPAUD will send summary of items that are coming up in legislature that are related to prevention. Dave Rutigliano is looking for community support.
 - Discussion around setting up administrative process for cannabis sales (like the Liquor Commission). There is nothing like that for Cannabis.
 - Environmental Scan follow-up – following Zach’s presentation last month, the need for education was identified as the next step. TPAUD staff have a meeting with First Selection, Health Department and Police Department to discuss plans to educate retailers around not selling Delta 8 products in town. Assume many retailers do not know the legality of this issue.
3. Cannabis 201: Impacts on Youth, CT’s Law – Melissa McGarry
- a. Melissa McGarry presented information on impacts of cannabis to youth. Topics include potency, the variety of forms (i.e. Edibles, concentrates, tinctures, Deltas), mixing substances and using with medications, use while pregnant. The presentation also outlines the various components of the CT Law. She is presenting this information to schools and youth-serving groups in Town (i.e. Boy Scouts, St. Catherine’s). PowerPoint/presentation is available.
4. Coalition Business
- STOP Grant – federal grant for alcohol prevention that will provide 60 grants nationally. The grant scoring gives significant weight to applicants with at least 50% of their target population affected by defined health disparities. At least 2 other CT communities are applying who meet the disparity threshold, so it will be virtually impossible for TPAUD to be funded. In light of the complexity of the application, the number of hours required to complete, and the low likelihood of success, attendees agreed that this application is not a productive use of staff time.
 - Meeting Location – TPAUD is still exploring alternate meeting locations.