Dukes County Health Council

Meeting Minutes DRAFT

April 4.18.2024

Minutes of 3.21.2024 **Leslie.** Moved to accept and were seconded. Minutes accepted.

**Cindy Trish presented on Older Adult Transportation Coalition initiative.**

See the accompanying slide deck and recording.

Data support the need for a project to meet a current and growing need to include 1200-1300 people.

Robust coalition has been in place since 2021, convened by Health Aging.

Focus is on vulnerability ongoing or episodic – ‘moments that matter’

Identified:

* Building blocks to sustainably address service gaps: communication between solutions groups; funding; education.
* Strategic principles
* Mapped the ‘landscape’ of on-Island transportation.
* Which service does what, what doesn’t someone do?
* Mapped solutions developed by the Coalition

The Coalition data is thorough and supports the decision-making of the group, and they are tracking lessons learned.

HA has a new Transportation Directory in print. They are at the hospital, COAs, etc., and can be requested from Cindy. ctrish@hamv.org

Plans are: develop Mobility Manager position; develop a volunteer drive; long-term funding sources; create a medical transport to Boston; raising awareness with community leaders and influencers. Each workgroup has a plan. Funding workgroup plan was featured – has a broad base of support and a plan for mix of funding sources.

DCHC can lean in on: 1) Spreading the word on need for Transportation options, 2) Connect to organizations and put Cindy with them, 3) Be a volunteer driver, 4) provide ideas to the Coalition through Cindy.

Cindy will send out the directory in pdf as well as hard copy at sites where they can be distributed. Cindy introduces Lisa Stewart as Mobility Manager. MassDOT will be initiating a network of Mobility Managers and the Coalition will be on the cutting edge on this statewide.

Christine offers to bring to the County Commissioners. Cindy accepts this offer.

**Theresa Manning presented on the Youth Task Force Data Project**

Overview of the process of the data project – Health Resources in Action (HRiA).

Previously has YTF has had focus on youth in the community. Have found that without understanding the nature of the challenges and having data to respond to or address needs, they were challenged to broad understanding across the community. They are now being allowed to expand to new, broader understanding of the community with substances.

‘Through his eyes’

Task was collecting and assessing data available in the community across all ages, to present to the community; Will attach Community Profile Report for Council members; Will send us a summary with recommendations from HRiA; YTF is using this study to develop its strategic plan. “Community Profile and Planning” is title of slide deck.

National trend is alcohol use rates seem to have dropped significantly almost suspiciously so. Increase in MH challenges. Community norms around marijuana use are more favorable in our community. Messaging and efforts for diff populations may need to be different, ex. Non-Brazilian families are more favorable to use marijuana, Brazilians more favorable to use alcohol. Translation is not cultural competency.

Substance use data gaps slides – data needed still.

Recommendations –HRiA recommends some regular collection of Adult data on substance use; SUD workgroup did some of this some time back?

YTF is developing their strategic plan based on the data currently available. Actively seeking feedback.

Theresa requests that members send her their priorities from intervening variables. what are the whole list from which variable could be chosen?

Some Q&A: engagement in activities is a protective factor for our young people; some thoughts about cortisol level at late afternoon; older adult alcohol use is demanding a new set of norms;

**PH update – Marina Lent and Susan Pratt presented on SUD data collection and initiatives**

PH has been looking at mortality data with some reporting and trending.

Susan has been taking good data to the town meetings where it was successful to get support for the SUD Coalition admin support for sustainability of the work.

Cindy requested to have the data cut by age (which Lea notes is available). Marina referenced Theresa’s data on alcohol admits and alcohol.

Comments on Youxuan’s work – we need to be careful about how to present data from small group so that is not identifiable and stays protected. Discussion between Marina and Theresa on presenting statistically small numbers and confidentiality. Christine asks about the rate of Narcan distribution on the Island to give a glimpse of how much other overdose activity might be happening that is not currently captured.

**Announcements**

Please send in your updated Council information to the survey Bob sent around

Please make sure to do your required state-mandated Council member activities with Suzanne Jakel

Dan Pesche requests 20 minutes on May Council Agenda for the Rural Scholars. New curriculum for UMASS now will not include advanced practice nurses. Now there will be only 3rd year medical students. Dave Runion – a Rural Scholar may be taking over the program.

**Next meeting May 16, 2024**

Respectfully submitted, Kathleen Samways