

Braintree Community Partnership on Substance Use
Wednesday, January 22, 2020, 6:30 p.m.
Johnson Hall, Braintree Town Hall,
1 JFK Memorial Drive, Braintree, MA

Attendance:

Lead Stakeholders:

Parents: Deric Topp, Marianne Barrett, Christine Fosco

Business Community: Brian Leary

Schools: Andrew Marron

Youth Serving Organizations: Roger Medeiros

Law Enforcement: Mark DuBois

Faith Based: Jon Wilson

Healthcare Provider: Anita Young

Local/State Government: Steve Leary

Agency with Expertise in Substance Abuse: Diana Cleary

Civic/Volunteer: Not Present

Fire Department: Fred Viola

Other: Kathi Wood

Town Council: Meredith Boericke

Substance Use Prevention Coordinator: Lyn Frano

General Membership/Guests:

Jean McGinty, John Griffin, Kim Kroger, Stormy Leung, Yvonne Lanlenny, Noel Sierra, Robyn Houston-Bean, Don Harrington, Deacon Mike Cavanaugh, Briana Keating, Jan Wiley, Diane Whalen

Welcome/Introductions/Housekeeping:

Lyn Frano opened the meeting and welcomed the partnership members. Members introduced themselves and explained their agency/organization affiliation.

Action Item Review:

Lyn Frano reviewed the action items from the last meeting. She stated she will be sending out the information on One Life at a Time. Jon Wilson shared photos from the December recovery trivia event, which was a huge success, with approximately 75 people attending. He stated they are hoping to hold these more often.

Lead Stakeholders:

Lyn Frano reviewed the list of current lead stakeholders for 2020. She stated there are still two open lead stakeholder positions, youth and civic/volunteer. In the near future, she hopes to attend a SADD meeting to speak with students and recruit a youth representative.

Annual Meeting Business:

Lyn Frano stated last year Bay State Community Services received close to \$19,000 in overhead for acting as the fiscal agent for the Earmark funds. Bay State has several grants with the state. She stated there was a line item budget for consultants for \$50,000, program supplies \$55,000, program support including recording secretary and office supplies. She stated they sent a lot of people to training programs at a cost of approximately \$6500. They spent \$700 to cater the Community Heroes Awards and produced a video about the Interface Referral Service which was \$2500.

Ms. Frano distributed the FY20 budget, for funds that were received in October 2019. She stated she has been working on a newsletter which will be produced once a month entitled Partners in Prevention. She told members to let her know about events they would like included in the newsletter. She stated they filmed two shows last month for BCAM.

A member asked if information can be provided on the number of overdoses in town. Fred Viola stated that the Fire Department tracks overdoses along with the Police Department and the deployment of Narcan if it is an opioid overdose. He stated the problem they have is they cannot trickle the information down if the overdose is due to another substance. It was suggested that this information be provided in the newsletter. Ms. Frano stated some of this information is confidential and she is not sure it should be included in a newsletter. Discussion was held about providing data and overdose statistics in the newsletter. Members agreed that this information is important so the Partnership knows what goals to set, however, they were unsure it should be provided monthly in the newsletter.

Ms. Frano stated she has completed the orientation manual and is working with the Education Development Center (EDC) on a few tweaks. In the packet of information is information about the post overdose support team, and all help resources. She recommended providing information in the newsletter about the post overdose support team. She also recommended dedicating a portion of a future meeting to reviewing orientation materials and videos.

Ms. Frano stated Stormy Leung will be assisting the Partnership with the Youth Risk Survey, parent survey, and community survey, social media, the newsletter, community presentations, and working with their partners at EDC. They will also be renewing the Interface Referral Service.

Frameworks Institute:

Lyn Frano announced that she is having a conference call with the Frameworks Institute. Briana Keating stated this is an organization that does research on communication and how people interpret messages. She stated they have researched how to best communicate in a way that gets the average person to care about substance use. They are going to assist Braintree, as well as the regional coalition with this process.

Steering Committee:

Lyn Frano stated that the executive order that Mayor Sullivan executed in 2016 spells out who the lead stakeholders are for the Partnership. The lead stakeholders have voting rights at meetings, as well as vote for Steering Committee members. She announced that there are two openings on the Steering Committee vacated by Tim Carey and Julie Jacobs. There is currently one candidate who has expressed interested, Christine Fosco. Ms. Fosco addressed the meeting and explained her qualifications and why she is interested in serving on the steering committee.

A motion was made by Kathi Wood, with a second from Roger Medeiros, to approve Christine Fosco as a member of the Steering Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Frano stated if there are any other lead stakeholders who are interested in being part of the Steering Committee to let her know.

SAPC/MOAPC Update:

Briana Keating stated their grants will be coming to an end in June and they are hoping to get a new grant in the next few months. She will be discussing this more at the next Partnership meeting. Lyn Frano announced that Chris Cobb, the MOAPC Coordinator, has left Bay State Community Services and Briana Keating is handling both positions at the moment.

Coalition Satisfaction Survey:

Lyn Frano stated there have been several responses to the survey, which was conducted through Qualtrics. She was going to review the results at this meeting but did not have time to complete this, so it will be presented at the next meeting.

Announcements:

Robyn Houston-Bean thanked everyone who contributed to their homeless drive, which allowed them to help over 200 people. She announced the Sun Will Rise Foundation has expanded, they now offer nine monthly grief support groups in different towns in the state. Through generous donations throughout the year they were able to donate \$46,000 worth of scholarships.

Briana Keating stated the Quincy Family Resource Center is holding support groups for children of substance use and alcohol, called Finding My Way. This is for youth ages 6 to 10 years of age. They will be talking about age appropriate effect of substance use on families and developing coping skills to improve self-esteem. Lyn Frano stated she is going to send out information regarding upcoming Quincy Family Resource Center open houses.

Marianne Barrett stated she is attending a program called the Resilience Project which is being held at Newton-Wellesley Hospital on March 4. This is a free program on vaping and cannabis. She stated she will send information to Lyn Frano for distribution.

Noel Sierra stated the Mass Helpline has education events that they post on their website as well. They have training for recovery coaches and individuals that work with adolescents. He stated this is a good resource for educational trainings. He stated the Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery (MOAR) also posts a lot of events that are going on in communities all around the state, so this is another resource.

Lyn Frano announced the next speaker series event is going to feature Val Walker, who just published a book entitled 400 Friends and No one to Call. She still has to confirm a date, hopefully in April. Robyn Houston-Bean stated this book is about isolation and the author uses the book to discuss her own isolation after she had a medical issue.

Nicole Taub stopped into the meeting and introduced herself. She is the Town Solicitor and interim Chief of Staff for Mayor Kokoros. She thanked everyone for their commitment and time with this really important issue.

Lyn Frano announced that she sent a letter to all tobacco licensees about the new tobacco regulations, and she will include this information in the newsletter. They will be conducting tobacco compliance checks to ensure the establishments have proper signage.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes from November 20, 2019 were reviewed.

A motion was made by Andrew Marron, with a second from Brian Leary, to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2019 Partnership meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Review of Action Items:

Lyn Frano will: send out information regarding One Life at a Time; follow-up with the recommendations provided by Andrew Marron for the civic lead stakeholders; will look into providing information on the post overdose team in the newsletter; send out Quincy Family Resource Center youth information and mental health advocacy program open house information; will circulate information about the BSAS trainings; will send information about the upcoming speaker series event.

Marianne Barrett is going to send Lyn Frano the information about the vaping lawsuit, as well as the Resilience Project, for distribution.

Noel Sierra is going to send Lyn Frano information about the Mass Helpline trainings and MOAR events.

Anita Young will send Lyn Frano the contact information for Michael Angelini and will ask him if he is interested in being a participant in the speaker series.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.