

**Blair Drug and Alcohol Partnership Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, January 27, 2022 12:30pm-1:30 pm**

**Location: Blair Drug and Alcohol Partnerships- 3001 Fairway Dr. Altoona Pa, 16601**

Agenda Items	Discussion-Notes	Action Item-Follow up
Welcome and Introductions	<p><b>Voting Members (Zoom):</b> Clark Sheehe, Tammy Lundgren, Brendan Moran, Ryan Custead, Tyler Frye</p> <p><b>Voting Members (In person):</b> Lynn Thompson-Gregory, Bruce Erb Ex-Officio</p> <p><b>Non Voting Members (Zoom):</b> Amanda Farkus (Penn Highlands), Jon Frank (Blair County), Margie Yon, Dr. Carol Osgood, Tyler Hindinger, Chris Cohn, <b>Non Voting Members (In person):</b> Rebecca Lidwell (BDAP), Judy Rosser (BDAP), Donny Hoffman (BDAP), Stephanie McConnell (BDAP), Donna Gority (Community), Autumn Wagner (Altoona Housing Authority), Marcee Petrarca (FICS),</p>	
Review of the Minutes from previous meeting	Minutes Attached	
Additions to Agenda		
Public comment on agenda items		
Presentation	<p><b>Presentation – Autumn Wagner (Altoona Housing Authority)</b></p> <p><b>Autumn provided a presentation on the Altoona Housing Authority: Highlights of the presentation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Section 8 waitlist opening March 1<sup>st</sup>; -Will stay open until Friday April 29 (a little later than usual);</li> <li>-Preference points for Section 8 (as long as documentation is submitted):               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. If you are a veteran;</li> <li>2. Live locally – can show that you do (or have) lived or worked in the city of Altoona</li> <li>3. Have income</li> </ol> </li> <li>-Criminal background policy changes already in effect for public housing and will also be in effect for Section 8 soon, pending approval; As of right now, two situations that mitigating circumstances will not change: - Manufacturing and/or possessing methamphetamine and- Lifetime Megan’s Law offender</li> <li>-Family Self-Sufficiency Program (FSSP)-After being placed on Section 8 Program, applicants can sign up for FSSP               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Must be housed through Public Housing Authority and must have an employment goal                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- may enter program with or without a job, on disability, etc.</li> </ul> </li> <li>-Connects people with resources within the community based on their individual needs</li> <li>-Set self-sufficiency based goals</li> <li>-Budgeting and financial literacy workshop available</li> <li>-While in the program, if person has an increase in employment income, FSSP will match the difference and put that money into an escrow account for them to use (toward their goals) when they graduate from the program (5 years)-Currently 108 people in the program</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>FSSP has a professional clothing closet for those in need</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Please refer those in need, to Autumn</li> </ul>	
Discussion/Action Items for Council:	<p><b>Discussion and Action Items</b></p> <p><b>Discussion: Requirements for voting membership:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Part of our bylaws</li> <li>- Generated because of Act 63 that organized the single county authority, the state drug and</li> </ul>	

	<p>alcohol system and the governor’s advisory council, down to the counties having an advisory council as well; To represent their community and to provide insight into what they’re doing</p> <p><b>Open voting member positions:</b> Specific Categories that are open:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Community Disadvantage</b>-someone disadvantaged in community (people with disabilities) or someone who works with those who are disadvantaged in community</li> <li>- <b>Education</b>-Someone with interest in the area, involved in Blair County community, D&amp;A background</li> <li>- <b>Labor</b>- concerns about labor force and impact of SUDs; Involved in labor union</li> <li>- <b>Senior Community</b> – above 65 years or someone who works with those 65 years or older</li> <li>- <b>Community at Large</b> – Involved in the community in some way</li> </ul> <p>All must live in Blair County and show some interest in wanting to make a difference in the area of drug and alcohol issues locally.</p> <p>Board has to consist of a consistent split of males/females (11 slots-5 male-6 female)</p> <p>Chris Farrel’s recommendation for Education position - Amanda Farkus-Pennsylvania Highlands (in Altoona mall)-Assistant Director-Judy had invited her to the meeting. Amanda introduced herself. Judy will follow up with Amanda to encourage her to submit her application. Judy also knows a few family members of persons in recovery who she will reach out to and discuss this volunteer opportunity.</p> <p><b>New coalition campaign for 2022</b> Last year was “Engage, Empower, Believe,” Looked at billboard options from last year; Post to Facebook page and website; Ideas for slogans, images, etc., or keep everything the same?</p> <p>Suggestions: Need to keep everything the same to establish a brand; All of the billboards should say “join us” on it; Need to make sure website is visible and should say “Join Us”; Add another option that includes a person with a disability to encourage representation from other populations of the community, etc.</p> <p><b>“Talk, They Hear You” Campaign</b> State run through SAMSA, they provide billboards and PSAs so we cannot make changes; Targeting parents to talk to their kids about drugs and alcohol; Talked about at Education Meeting and CPDUD Meeting</p> <p>Suggestions: Need to change wording from “he, she” to “them”; Will be utilizing radio ads, tv commercials, billboards, posters, brochures, etc.; We just need to choose from the options provided; There are radio ads and tv commercials to go with each billboard; Becky and Donny will work with Margie to get 2-3 final choices to bring to next month’s meeting; will vote at the next meeting</p>	<p>Judy will reach out to Blair Senior Services and Amanda at Penn Highland as well as family members.</p>
<p><b>Committee Reports:</b> Education: CPDUD:</p>	<p><b>Update on Partnership Sub Committees</b> <b>Education; CPDUD; Youth League: Members were encouraged to review the monthly committee update.</b></p>	

<p>Youth League:  Rise for Recovery:  Grants and BDAP program update:</p>	<p><b>Rise for Recovery:</b>  Judy reported out on the upcoming community events; May 20<sup>th</sup> Arts in Recovery-at Zion Lutheran Church. August 6<sup>th</sup> 2022-Recovery Walk/Rally- Use of courthouse and Legion Park approved  Given permission by the Borough to do the walk from Legion Park up to courthouse</p> <p><b>Grants and Program updates:</b>  <b>Center of Excellence Grant:</b> No Report  <b>ODU Housing Grant -Amanda Grannas provided the quarterly report on the grant and Year to Date:</b>  -Assists with security deposit and first three month's rent; up to 6 months of rent (months 4, 5, and 6 are evaluated on a case by case basis)  -Goal is for individuals to be able to maintain employment and sustain their own rent  -Also helps with furniture assistance, some utilities when needed and emergency hotel stays  Each client who receives rental assistance, is also provided with a case manager who performs a needs assessment and then connects the client with any resources available to help them to be able to find and maintain employment, as well as sustain rent and utilities  - BDAPs recent connection with CareerLink will connect clients to resources for job skills, finding employment, etc.  -Client continues to work with case management over the first three months  -Client does not have to be in treatment but must have a documented diagnosis of OUD and/or stimulant use disorder;</p> <p>Biggest Barriers:  -Lack of available and affordable housing in Blair County that fit clients' needs; Lack of Recovery Housing;  -Most landlords are typically on board and are willing to work with our program; they remain engaged with us and our clients, if needed</p> <p>Our grant has specific guidelines: The DDAP funding is to be used as funder of last resort; Clients must go through 211;  Data was provided and report attached.</p>	
<p><b>Partner updates:</b></p>	<p><b>Partner Updates (Staff, Facilities, etc.):</b>  <b>Town Hall meeting on Recovery (Representative Gregory)-Tyrone Library- Thursday, Jan 27<sup>th</sup> 2022, 6pm-7pm</b>  <b>Recovery Prayer Service (Zion Lutheran Church Hollidaysburg)-Sun Jan 30, 2022 at 7pm</b></p>	

<p><b>BDAP and other meeting update</b></p>	<p><b>HOPE Support Group:</b> Face to Face at BDAP with a Zoom option meetings- Wed: 5:30-7:30pm  <b>SMART Recovery:</b> Every <b>Monday</b> at 6:30 pm face to face at BDAP with Zoom option  <b>Healing Hearts:</b> 2nd and 4th Thursday monthly face to face with a Zoom option  <b>BALM:</b> Face to Face at BDAP: Contact Stacey Karchner at (814)360-7590 for information  <b>MARA:</b> Every Tuesday at 6:30 pm Face to Face at BDAP with Zoom option  <b>DDA:</b> Wednesday's at 5:30 pm Face to Face with a ZOOM option.</p> <p><b>All of the following committees will meet at BDAP unless indicated otherwise:</b>  Blair County Overdose Prevention Meeting: Wednesday, February 2, 2022 2:00pm  Rise for Recovery: Wednesday, February 9, 2022 2:00pm  Education Committee: Thursday, February 17, 2022 1:30pm  Youth League: Tuesday, February 8, 2022 2:00pm  CPDUD: Wednesday, February 9, 2022 8:30am</p>	
<p><b>Next Meeting: Thursday, February 24, 2022, at 12:30PM at Blair Drug and Alcohol Partnerships (Zoom Conference Option available)</b></p>		