

Colchester Youth & Social Services

127 Norwich Avenue, Suite 205, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

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Youth First Coalition Data & Evaluation Sub Committee Meeting Minutes

Aug 24, 2022 | 12:00 – 1:00 PM | Zoom Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Russel Melmed, Jennika Jenkins, Charity Benedict

MEMBERS ABSENT: Christine Miskell, Jacquelyn Rose

OTHERS PRESENT: Janet DePratti, Ann Marie Maffuid

1. CALL TO ORDER

R. Melmed called this meeting to order at 12:03 pm.

2. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

None.

3. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

None.

4. DISCUSS SERAC SURVEY RESULTS TO SHARE AT COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

- a. Recent use statistics
- b. Perception of Harm
- c. Perception of Parental Disapproval
- d. Perception of Peer Disapproval
- e. Source -where substances obtained from
- f. Location of use
- g. Method of use- related to Marijuana & Vaping
- h. All data points shared will be specific to marijuana, alcohol and vaping
- i. We need a pre/post evaluation for grant reporting purposes
- j. Will use Poll Anywhere to have interactive moments with audience where they can guess what they think the statistic is for some of the data points
- k. Share info on reasons/motivations for using (marijuana=coping mechanism, Alcohol=social/fun)
- l. End with preventative measures parents can take and resources for information
 1. conversations about risks/harms of youth use and rules & consequences
 2. help youth identify their reasons not to use
 3. help youth find ways to deal with stress/anxiety
 4. help youth practice refusal skills
 5. secure alcohol and marijuana in the home
- m. Prepare a handout for parents with preventative measures and resources

The Youth First Coalition functions as the Youth Services Advisory Board and fulfills the requirements of the Drug Free Communities Program. The goals of the Drug Free Communities Program are to strengthen and enhance the functioning of the Coalition and to reduce youth usage of Marijuana and Alcohol. The Coalition does this by developing culturally appropriate substance use prevention and education initiatives based on local data collected annually from Colchester Youth and Parents.

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6. NEXT STEPS

1. **Charity:** move presentation to October 11th - DONE
2. **Charity:** send out meeting invite for 9/8/22 -DONE
3. **Charity:** Start PowerPoint presentation, pull data points from surveys
4. **Russ:** help with generating graphs, charts
5. **Ann Marie:** Identify UCFS staff to present last 15 minutes on helping youth cope with stress and anxiety -DONE

7. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

None.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 1:01 pm

9. NEXT MEETING

September 8, 2022 at 12 pm, Zoom

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