

## Community Action for Safe Teens

Minutes of February 12, 2014. Meeting from 3:30 – 5:00pm @ Milford Ambulance Center

In attendance: Monica Gallant, Wes Palmer (MUMC), Kevin Salemi (BGCSV), Susan Taylor (BGCSV), Carol Rowlette, Sgt. Richard Frost (NH Nat'l Guard Counterdrug), Eric Schelberg (Milford Ambulance), Paula Troie, Allen Peck (Milford Ambulance), Officer Dan Campbell (Milford PD)

Monica read the mission statement of CAST. Minutes of January 20<sup>th</sup> were accepted.

**Introductions** – Welcome new participants Allen Peck (Milford Ambulance) and Dan Campbell (Milford Police Department)!

**Strategic Planning** – Meetings will continue to be held from 3:30 – 5:00pm on the second Wednesday of the month. New meeting location is Milford Ambulance Center at 66 Elm Street, Milford NH. Thank you Eric!

**Drugs of concern:** Discussion began with drugs of concern in the Milford area. EMT's and Police are seeing synthetic marijuana, heroin, marijuana, occasional bath salt use, as well as alcohol and prescription drugs. They are not seeing much heroin use among youth, primarily adults. Marijuana is considered the gateway drug for youth and it was estimated that 95% of people that use heroin have used marijuana first. It was noted that Milford is a follower of Nashua (reported by Dan and Allen) and the coalition needs to be proactive in addressing youth substance use issues.

With regards to Drug Free Communities (DFC) Grant application, it will be considered proactive to include reference to marijuana and heroin in the narrative. The coalition will also consider developing a logic model for marijuana this year relating to the perception of harm among youth.

### Data:

1. Wes reported that the Data Workgroup has not been able to meet yet.
2. Sgt. Frost reported that the Youth Risk and Behavior Survey (CDC Survey) is the most commonly used in the country. The data specifically reports behaviors on youth age 18 and under and includes alcohol and all other drugs, as well as other behaviors. The coalition agreed that this is the data source that will be used to report baseline core measures as required by the DFC grant application.
3. Officer Campbell will provide arrest data for youth age 18 & under relating to alcohol and all other drugs; specifically queried according to the substances: alcohol, marijuana, rx drugs, heroin
4. Eric Schelberg will provide data using queries on chief complaints according to alcohol, overdoses and poisoning from the Milford Ambulance Dept.
5. Alan Peck (EMT) & Officer Campbell suggested that the % and numbers shown on the 2013 YRBS data slides was low for all substances, especially tobacco. It was noted that the data was combined for all high schools in Souhegan Valley, not just specific to Milford and we don't know if SAGE School in Milford was included – Monica will verify.
6. Data workgroup will track 2011 YRBS data as baseline for the coalition purposes.

**Logic Model/Action Plan:** Sgt. Rick Frost noted that law enforcement & emergency data is critical to assist in identifying & validating local conditions. Rick defined the Logic Model as a “simple map” identifying the Problem Statement, Root Causes, Local Conditions and Strategies to address issues.

- Problem Statement – supported by 2013 YRBS data, problem statement will be changed from “Binge Drinking...” to “Underage Drinking” on the 2014 DFC Narrative because more youth are reporting drinking in the past 30 days than binge drinking.
- Rick will create a Google Survey for the activities to send out to coalition as an evaluation tool for effectiveness

**Communication Focus:** It was agreed that the communication focus for all substances will be to support education and prevention for alcohol and other drug use by youth, including marijuana.

**Upcoming Training/Listening Events coalition members are encouraged to attend:**

- NH Listens – Drugs & Alcohol: Let's Talk @ Nashua Community College on March 19, 2014 6:00pm
  - Register @ <http://www.new-futures.org/>
- Life of an Athlete – Champions Training – March 21, 2014 – Concord
  - Register - Contact Monica at [mgallant4@aol.com](mailto:mgallant4@aol.com)

**Next Meeting: March 12, 2014 – 3:30 – 5:00pm @ Milford Ambulance Center – *new participants are always welcome!***