

Community Action for Safe Teens

Minutes of April 16, 2014

Meeting from 3:30 – 5:00pm @ Milford Ambulance Center

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

Minutes of February 12th accepted.

Began the meeting by watching a 20 minute video called “The Opiate Effect” which was suggested by Eric as a resource to include in our “Tool Kit”. All members present agreed that this would be a valuable tool. One of the biggest “take-a-ways” was that kids need to be taught to “think” and “feel” at a young age; also when prevention messages are put forth they should include the reality of initial use. Comment from video participant/user was “They didn’t tell me...it would feel good.” It is not easy for kids to ask for help – high school is clichy and we need to have resources for them that they feel safe obtaining.

Strategic Planning – Discussed holding a community forum with the intent of recruiting/engaging community members. Will need to secure a high profile Keynote Speaker for the event, Susan will contact Peter Kelliher of Harbor Homes to see if he has any suggestions. We will attempt to target mid – late May of the event, depending on availability of school personnel.

Drugs of concern: It appears that there is a shift occurring with the age of use for heroin within the community. In February it was primarily young adults – age 18+ using heroin, it is now being seen with the younger population.

Other: “What Would You Do?” experiential activity held at Boys & Girls Club with Mass College of Pharmacy – most of attendants were from the club and participants enjoyed it. Outside sources (parents) thought it was a good activity. T-shirts were distributed to all participants.