**MINUTES**

**Tuesday, 7/21/20, 6:07 pm, Zoom Video Communications**

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Sector Representatives:**

Tanya Rulon-Miller, Parent Rep., Co-Vice President

Cheryl Rozzi, Youth Sector Rep and Co-Vice President

Nancy Lynott, Government Rep.

Sgt. Marangio SHPD, Law Enforcement Rep.

Krystle Stoddard, LIARC, Substance Misuse Prevention Agency Rep.

**Other:**

Georgianna Dolan-Reilly, LIPRC

Mary Ellen Adams, LIPRC

Paulette Orlando, American Lung Association, Tobacco Action Coalition LI

Sgt. Sean Cassidy, National Guard Counterdrug Taskforce

TSgt. Gabrielle Manzueta, National Guard Counterdrug Taskforce

SSG Jessica Alese, National Guard Counterdrug Taskforce

**Staff:**

Meerah Shah, SAFE in Sag Harbor Program Coordinator

Kym Laube, HUGS Inc. Program Director

1. **Approval of Minutes from June 16, 2020** motioned to accept by Nancy Lynott and seconded by Paulette Orlando.
2. **Long Island Addiction Resource Center Website Presentation.**

Krystle Stoddard, SAFE’s newly recruited sector member, gave a presentation on the Long Island Addiction Resource Center (LIARC) website. The goal of this website was to make it more user friendly for someone struggling to obtain proper care and treatment resources in their respective area, while reducing the negative stigma commonly associated with seeking help. The website lists 24/7 Emergency Hotlines; Providers listed with contact numbers, addresses, and websites, as well as the ages they serve; Recovery and Peer Services; Locations of local 12 Step Programs; Narcan trainings; Gambling Resource Center of Long Island (inpatient with grants available, outpatient they send social workers); all the coalitions in Suffolk County towns; and where Drop Boxes are located on Long Island for unwanted, unused, and/or expired medications. Resources on the website are all PDF and are printable. Kym added that this information has been given to law enforcement to hand out if they come across anyone in need of this information.

1. **Tobacco Report**

Paulette Orlando gave a tobacco report on new laws that were recently passed with the 2020/2021 budget. These laws help to deter marketing, prices, and visibility. Into effect as of today, July 21st, are: 1. Retailers cannot offer price reductions/coupons on tobacco products (have been found to entice youths); 2. Manufacturers can no longer ship tobacco products to private residences; 3. Prohibits advertising of tobacco products in exterior windows of stores 1,500 feet from schools; 4. Increases in fees and fines on tobacco products. Recent studies are showing menthol has been found to be soothing and easier to use by youths. The organization is currently working on smoke-free housing, smoke-free units in housing, and “tobacco free outdoors” to implement in parks. Their goal is to de-normalize smoking in our youths eyes.

1. **Sag Harbor Police Department Update**

Sgt. Marangio gave a report on behalf of Chief McGuire. Since March 1st, arrests are down 50%, traffic violations are down 60%, DWI’s are down by 2%. There have been 3 overdoses, and all survived. Narcan was administered to the most recent overdose victim. The most recent victim was 25 years old and was saved by a second dose of Narcan. A question arose if there are any current issues with the open container law and if they are still enforcing it. Sgt. Marangio assured that the police are still enforcing the law. With the present times in light of COVID-19, the challenge is that alcohol can now be served on the sidewalk in Sag Harbor, not only in restaurants.

1. **Social Media Report**

Meerah reported that she and Kim Covell have set up a more consistent social media schedule: Monday is for Marijuana, Tuesday is for Tobacco, Wednesday is for Wellness, Thursday is for Alcohol, and Friday is for a resource post or something fun to lead into the weekend. Someone suggested SAFE to go onto Instagram to better reach the youth. Kym and Meerah agreed with this statement and reported that they are in the midst of setting up and launching the account for the coalition.

Meerah also spoke on behalf of Eileen, who could not make this month’s meeting. At the last meeting, there was some conversation about another PSA for SAFE. Eileen is looking at August 4th at 12pm for a meeting on planning and executing for the next PSA. Let Meerah know if you are interested.

1. **Pierson Graduation Gift Update**

Cheryl reported to the group that the gifts for the recent senior graduates at Pierson High School were distributed successfully. The students were gifted a 5”x7” red and black journal made with recycled paper and an attached pen, with a quote on the cover that read, “Life is a matter of choices, and every choice you make makes you.” Karin Schroeder, Rebecca Burnside, and Cheryl Rozzi split the 73 seniors and hand delivered the journals with a wrapped red rose, generously donated by Sag Harbor Florist, to each graduate. Cheryl adds that the task was very enjoyable, though many of the students were not home so the journal and rose were delivered to someone else in the house. All of the recipients were very appreciate. Meerah added that some of the seniors posted notes of appreciation on SAFE’s Facebook page for the gifts.

1. **Prevention Education**

Kym discussed with the group about the present nature of prevention education. With regard to the curriculum normally taught at Pierson by HUGS, Inc. staff, they are typically taught in the classrooms and not meant for online teaching. A lot of other prevention curricula have not been researched to be delivered via Zoom. There is framework to do virtually, but we just don’t know how it will work since there is no data yet to prove the efficacy of online prevention learning. There are about five years of data needed to determine the efficacy of online administration of these programs. Kym reports that HUGS, Inc. should know what they are doing as an organization by the end of August, and, more importantly, what the school year will be looking like (will classes be in person, virtual, or hybrid?), and if the school will want HUGS, Inc. coming into the school in light of COVID-19.

Presently, Pierson school district is being administered LifeSkills lessons, which teaches students about the different types of substances and the effects they have on the bodies, what peer pressure looks like and why kids fall into it, and what makes kids curious to try substances. Additionally, the program also teaches skills such as refusal techniques, decision making skills, stress and anxiety coping techniques, confidence boosters, and communication skills. Some students may be able to accept these types of lesson in the classroom (should this be online), whereas others may need the classroom setting to take in and process the lesson. Kym mentioned that online classes for kids that speak about these types of topics removes the safety net that exists in a classroom to have these kinds of open ended conversations, because of the physical disconnect from the classroom environment as well as the worry of parents and family members potentially listening in on the lesson. Lastly, it can be more difficult for the teacher and the prevention educator to assess the impact of the lesson on the students virtually than in person. Kym is working to find a balance to create a comfortable virtual environment for the students for these lessons to take place.

1. **Sticker Shock and Overdose Awareness Day Update**

Meerah had a lengthy conversation with Chief AJ this morning about doing a community event on behalf of SAFE for Sticker Shock on Friday, August 28th, which is close to Overdose Awareness Day on August 31st. During Meerah’s conversation with Chief AJ this morning, he advised that COVID is hampering Shoulder Taps and Underage Stings since hanging around does not work with social distancing. Therefore, holding a Sticker Shock Event would be the most appropriate. Meerah researched purple lightbulbs – pretty affordable on Amazon – with the idea to ask businesses if they’d change at least one of their lightbulbs to purple. The idea would be to get as many businesses as possible to participate. The coalition can start asking local businesses and the chamber of commerce mid-August for their support and participation in “going purple” for the cause. This would be a good way to build relationships with local business owners. Georgianna and Mary Ellen had idea for Overdose Awareness Day and suggested asking restaurants to create purple mocktail drinks, turn their menus purple, or incorporate the purple in somehow with their regular conduction of business.

1. **Boating Laws Safety Education Update**

Kym advised that Danielle had ordered a few different items raising awareness about BWI when the coalition was going to outreach on boater safety with regard to drinking. The question of where and who would be able to distribute these items to boaters, and suggestions of Long Wharf were discussed. Long Wharf has a good amount of drinking on or near boats. It would be good to make the people aware of the BWI laws. There were discussions of whether the Harbor Master or Sunfish/boating training businesses could hand out these resources. The coalition decided that they will take the time between now and the next meeting to think of ways to best reach the boating population to effectively get out these resources and information.

**SEVEN STRATEGIES**

1. Providing Information
2. Enhancing Skills
3. Providing Support
4. Enhancing Access/Reducing Barriers
5. Changing Consequences (Incentives/disincentives)
6. Physical Design
7. Modifying/Changing Policies