

Jefferson Township Youth Coalition, Minutes of April 25th, 2022 Meeting Zoom

In attendance: Carly Sinnott (PIK), Ashley Brown (PIK), Bill Carroll (Law Enforcement), Kristine Wilsusen (JTMAC), Heather Marsh (JTMAC), Michael Smith (Nisivoccia), Laura Brinson (Epiphany), April Tarabocchia (JTEF), Pamela Graham (JTEF), Wendy Stabile (JTMAC), Carol Punetieri (Jefferson Arts), John Williams (JTEF), Jordana Van Wolde (Community Member), Al Salzano (Community Member).

The meeting started at 5:30 pm with welcome and introductions via zoom.

Carly began the meeting by giving an overview of what JTYC has been up to for the last month. She began by discussing how the National Drug & Alcohol Fact Week went. There were announcements made every day of the week that all of the students heard about different substances. As well as, a quiz that went out to students with different questions about substances. We got about 45 responses and were able to hand out a prize to someone. Next, Carly mentioned the Trauma Attuned schools training were completed for all Jefferson Township Schools. Last, Carly highlighted how her and Ashley were about the past 2 weeks. At the Coalition Academy, Carly and Ashley were able to create a logic model which will be shown to the group in the fall. Also, the Rx Summit highlighted the importance of getting the word out about fentanyl and how important that is because of how many overdoses are occurring.

Ashley spoke next about the opportunity to place 2 yellow picnic benches in the community. The benches are from the mental health association and can be painted by youth. They are supposed to represent hope and community gathering. One can be placed at the high school and then Ashley asked the group where the other one should be placed. Carol Punetieri mentioned that Camp Jefferson would be a good place. She said the contact is Grace Rynsmith and she can introduce us via email.

Ashley spoke about the upcoming events. On April 27th Our Hopes and Dreams is at the Library from 7-8 pm. May 8th – 14th is National Prevention Week and we will be posting prevention facts every day of the week. May 15th is Hike for a Healthy Minds from 9 – 11 am for those who want to hike with others in the community. May 19th is Transitioning into Middle School from 6-7:30 pm. June 6th is the tentative date for Cannabis 101 with the Jefferson Township PD. And June 8th is The Fentanyl Factor hosted by Prevention is Key at 10 am.

Other announcements were made by coalition members. Bill Carroll said this weekend on Saturday at the Jefferson Township Police Department is Drug Take Back day from 10 am – 2 pm. Heather Marsh said that National Night Out is coming up in August. Kris Wilsusen mentioned that we need people to help read scholarships, Ashley, Carly, and Al volunteered to read them. On May 6th from 9 am – 10:30 am will be the health fair at Stanlick and Ashley and Carly will do a Footprints lesson there. May 21st will be the Block Party and Kris said we can maybe make a list so that people can come in shifts.

There was also a discussion about how we need to get a better way of getting out some of the events. Everyone is finding that it is difficult to get messaging out about events. So Ashley suggested we will send a newsletter every month with a list of events. And whenever we go out into the community we need to be trying to get emails. And maybe everyone can send a list of contacts they have so we can begin to build out list serve.

The meeting ended at 6:30 pm and the next meeting will be on Monday May 23rd 2022 from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm.