



## Coalition Meeting Minutes

February 15, 2012

February Community Character Initiative

*Gentleness*

Next Month's Theme:

*Optimism*

### **Attendance:**

Michael Johnson, Ben Reaves, Kitt Curtis, Meg Buonforte, Derek Hoffman, Sasha, Kari Cutler, Craig Anderson, Terry Russo, Jennifer Smartt, Rob Timmerman, Morgan Marietti, Jennifer Allred, Virginia Sanchez

### **Announcements:**

- The Coalition is offering a 10 week parenting course for families with children ages 6 to 11. Childcare will be provided for children under 6 years of age. This program will begin the beginning of March and will go until mid-May. The program will either be held on Wednesday or Thursday nights. To register: contact Rob Timmerman at 801-834-6923 or [info@ssldrugfree.org](mailto:info@ssldrugfree.org) if you know of any families that may be interested in this program, please contact Rob Timmerman at [rob@ssldrugfree.org](mailto:rob@ssldrugfree.org) for more information.
- Palm Springs, Saturday February 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>- A Safe Opioid Educational Course is being offered with Dr. Lynn Webster at LifeSource.
- Villa Frenche- Hiring new parent educators- Bachelors degree in child development, family psychology, consumer sciences, etc. People interested can email [meg@cssutah.org](mailto:meg@cssutah.org)

### **Meeting Recap:**

- 1- Welcome and Introductions
- 2- CADCA 2012 Conference Reflection-
  - a. Derek Hoffman, Morgan Marietti and Jennifer Allred (Youth Advisor)- Each participant, took a few moments to discuss his/her experience at CADCA 2012 and shared their insights and thoughts regarding the various workshops they attended throughout the week. Each of the participants expressed his/her sincere gratitude for the opportunity to attend the conference. If anyone would like more information regarding the various workshops these participants attended, please contact Derek Hoffman at [derekHLifeSource@gmail.com](mailto:derekHLifeSource@gmail.com), Morgan Marietti at [morgan@ssldrugfree.org](mailto:morgan@ssldrugfree.org) or Jennifer Allred at [ycc@southsaltlakecity.com](mailto:ycc@southsaltlakecity.com). You can also view all of the presentations that were offered at CADCA by going to the

following link... <http://forum.cadca.org/?q=node/76> Password: nlf2012. You can also follow the LifeSource blog at [yourlifeforce.org/blog](http://yourlifeforce.org/blog).

### 3- Bill tracking-

- a. **SB0258-** Underage Drinking Prevention Campaign. This bill affects the Parents Empowered Campaign by putting the funds for this campaign directly into the state budget. Dan Jones and Associates has done the evaluations on the Parents Empowered Campaign and has released two reports showing the great effects this program has had in the state of Utah. This bill will be up for consideration on Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8am in Room #215 of the Senate Building.
- b. **HB0095S01-** Retail Sale of Tobacco Products. The bill now states that if a businesses retail sales of tobacco products is more than 30% of their sales then this would affect them. In SSL there are 3 new tobacco shops set-up within blocks of each other. If this bill were to pass, it would help to eliminate problems such as this. This bill will be up for consideration on Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8am in Room # 250 of the State Capitol Complex.
- c. **HB140-**Vehicle Checkpoint Amendments. Prohibits the authorization of DUI checkpoints. It has passed through the house but most likely won't pass through the Senate.
- d. **HB184-** Study of Regulatory Environment for Alcohol Policy. Rob Timmerman emailed the sponsor of the bill and proposed having a substance abuse prevention specialist on their board. The following bill will be up for consideration on Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8am in room #25 of the House Building.

These are just a few of the various bills that the coalition is following this legislative session. Attached (excel sheet) is a full list of all of the bills that the South Salt Lake Coalition for Drug Free Youth is following. We encourage each of our coalition members to view and track bills that may be of interest to you as well. If anyone has any more questions related to legislation, please email Rob Timmerman at [rob@ssldrugfree.org](mailto:rob@ssldrugfree.org)

### 4- Strategic Planning Session:

Group Discussion, led by Rob Timmerman.

For the 2012-2013 year, there are three areas that we have been asked to focus our attention on (2 of which were asked by the DFC committee):

- 1-Drugged Driving
- 2-Perscription Drug Abuse
- 3-Marijuana Prevention

- a. Parents know that their children are engaging in risky behaviors such as underage drinking and marijuana. However, most parents don't realize that marijuana is much more potent that it was back in the 60's and there is a lack of knowledge of the harm and effects of these activities. Another issue we are faced with is that parents want to be their child's "friend" and do so by allowing them to drink or smoke in their house. Here in SSL, we have seen a huge increase in parental acceptance of ATOD use and parents being "social hosts" for teen parties.
  - a. Marijuana is cheap, provides individuals with a way to escape from reality. More education is needed on the harmful effects of marijuana even though

states are legalizing it. There is also a cultural issue on whether or not a family lets their child drink.

- b. Alli Lachowsky- Looking at the 2011 SHARP data, risk factors have gone up and protective factors have gone down and that is the opposite of what we want to see. We want to focus on increasing protective factors specifically in families. Rewards for pro-social involvement have significantly decreased and that is another area that attention should be focused. If we as a coalition want to start to promote more family activities, how about we start with something small and tangible such as coalition sponsored monthly family dinners.
- c. Kari Cutler- Generational use needs to be looked at. Suggesting that we need to focus our mindset on the 80's-90's rather than referring to marijuana from the 60's.
- d. Rob Timmerman- With these things in mind, lets bring this back to the local level here in SSL and ask ourselves...But why here? Responses- Low income, peer influence, cheap, accessible, no parental consequences, lack of education, etc.
- e. Kari Cutler- I can remember back in the 1970's, they had the best ad's for marijuana prevention showing two men (who are now in their late 30's-40's) talking in their parent's basement saying how marijuana wouldn't do anything to them but yet they have no job and are still living in their parents basement. Prevention efforts need to take a new approach and not just say that marijuana is bad but they need to actually talk about the effects of marijuana.
- f. Virginia Sanchez-The Granite School District Community Center is working with the Safe Schools Department at Granite School District to include an extra session into their parenting courses that is focused on drug and alcohol awareness. There are several courses being offered at the Community Center but most don't focus specifically on ATOD prevention. By adding this extra session, this would allow the instructors to properly educate their participants on ATOD prevention as well. For more information regarding this, please contact Virginia Sanchez at [vlsanchez@graniteschools.org](mailto:vlsanchez@graniteschools.org).
- g. Promise South Salt Lake- Using the health council of the Promise South Salt Lake as an avenue for this.
- h. Discussion Continued...
  1. Terry- Suggests doing focus groups and sitting with kids and asking them about marijuana and the harmful effects.
  2. Kitt- Suggests focusing calendar on people that the kids respect and look at who influences them and put powerful stories related to drugs and alcohol use to help change attitudes of our youth.
  3. Sana-Thinks that this idea of Kitt's would be highly effective at PAL Boxing Center. She really wants the attention to be focused on where the actual issues are like at PAL. Which raises the question, how do we influence our

youth groups? Celebrities, mentors, families, etc. who has influence over the kids at the PAL Boxing Center.

4. Jennifer-how can kids like those on YCC be an influence on those kids who are at risk?
  5. Michael- something that would be really helpful would be to be both truthful and specific to adults and kids. Make sure that it is honest and informative research.
- i. Rob Timmerman invited the coalition members to continue this discussion at the strategic planning session immediately following this meeting at Kari Cutler's house.

Motion to adjourn.