



# Montcalm Prevention

COLLABORATIVE

One County. One Cause.

## Montcalm Prevention Collaborative Minutes

January 12, 2022, 1- 2:30 p.m.

*Zoom Meeting Only*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86434070933>

Attendees: Amy O'Brien, Jodie Faber, Scott Lombard, Leslie Kinnee, Randi Schafer, Jeff Wilhelm, Esther Combs, John Kroneck, Naomi Hollaway, Michelle Blasczynski, Michelle Hilliker, Danielle Dershem, Tara Allen, Cari O'Connor, Lori Faber, Sarah Surna

**1) Introductions – J Kroneck**

**2) Welcome New and Returning members**

**3) Consent Agenda – Cari O'Connor, J. Wilhelm support, Approved**

- **Approval of Agenda**
- **Approval of 9.8.21 Minutes**
- **Approval of Board Nominations**
- **Approval of 2022 budget**
- **Approval of Action Plan**

**4) Public Comment - none**

**5) Subcommittee Overview – Amy O.**

- a) Presented an overview of the Prescription Drug and Medication Disposal Team, Montcalm Youth Wellness Team, Vaping Team, and Communication Team and the way people could get involved and make a difference. Also presented for discussion were graphs showing Michigan youth substance use; past 30-day use of alcohol and marijuana for youth in Montcalm County in the 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grades; e-cigarette (vaping) statistics in Montcalm County, Michigan and Nationally; comparisons of a variety of e-cigarette devices with the amount of cigarette equivalent; and a slide displaying the dangerous misperceptions that lead youth to believe that vaping is harmless. AO noted that a group of kids from GHS will be attending a CADCA conference in National Harbor, MD for leadership training and the strategies they can utilize to make changes in their schools and community.
- b) Michelle B. noted that she has found that 9 out of 10 kids at GHS that are using illegal drugs get them from home and their parents. She has found that the potency of Dab pens, in particular, is scary and has caused kids to have seizures and other adverse reactions that led to ambulance calls. She added that e-cigarette devices are easy to hide and often shared between students. She said that she has seen many kids that are now addicted to the nicotine and marijuana (THC) properties in these devices. GHS is still implementing many of the vaping policies and procedures put in place by the Vaping

Work Team. There is renewed interest in establishing a county-wide vaping team. MPC will follow up. D. Dershem volunteered to help with this.

- c) John K. added that MPC hopes to do a youth summit in the future that would educate youth on substances, resources etc. He also noted that the Montcalm County statistics were taken from the MiPhy survey done every two years by county school districts and the importance of participation by schools. Cari O. suggested that we put together an email about what MiPhy is, why it's important, where they can get further information, as well as the slides presented with MiPhy data in the PowerPoint to send to Penny Dora, Stephanie O'Dea and Cari O'Connor to distribute to the county Principals and to other school administrators.
- d) Esther C. has some questions/concerns about why there is only Greenville representation on the Montcalm Youth Wellness Team currently even though kids from other districts were part of the team in the past. She recommended we reach out to Audrey Fleming regarding issues with the youth population. Amy O. and Jodie F. explained that COVID challenges including Zoom meetings instead of in-person mtgs., conference cancellations, graduations, no Project Success in the schools to develop leadership teams were the biggest reasons. The plan is to contact schools and other youth organizations to get a list of kids that they believe would benefit from such a group.

#### **6) Sustainability Plan update - Coordinator**

- **Next Steps – NCA Presentation by Jodie and Randi at March 9 meeting**
- a) As part of their participation in the NCA Jodie and Randi developed a Sustainability Plan that they will present to the full board at the March meeting.

#### **7) New Year Reminders/information**

- **2022 Meeting Schedule – J Kroneck**
- **In-Kind forms** – please fill one out for every participation in MPC activities for the previous month. We will need one every month and members will receive a reminder. **Can be done online at [www.montcalmprevention.org/About](http://www.montcalmprevention.org/About)**

#### **8) Round Table - How can you help? What do you need from us?**

- a) Tara A. was interested in the possibility of bringing Narcan vending machines to Greenville and Howard City areas like Grand Rapids area has.
- b) Lori F. is personally interested in seeing MPC work on Alcohol and its harms. She wishes she had known the dangers of alcohol use when she was younger so that she might have made better decisions as an adult. She hopes MPC could give youth and adults the tools to avoid the same outcome that she had. She feels that both middle and high schoolers especially need more education on this subject.
- c) Esther C. thought it was important to include and teach why ACES could answer the question, "why would they decide to use".
- d) Jeff W. brought up the fact that he has access to many locations around the county where Team meetings could be held if we needed access to more meeting space outside of the Greenville and Stanton areas. Jeff noted that he has found that many parents are worried about some of the harmful Tik-Tok challenges. Most were unaware of what these were. Randi S. gave an example.

#### **9) Adjournment**

Next Collaborative Meeting: **March 9, 2022 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. TBD**