



“Uniting the Community to Promote Positive Choices”

LCAHY COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING
Hilton Head Island High School
Media Center
6:00 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES
September 18, 2023

Attendance: Wendy Cummings, Chair (Schools/THY Cross Schools/Co-Advisor), Jim Berl (Youth Serving Organizations/HH Rec Center), Dr. Loretta Novince (DFC/LCAHY Consultant & DFC Grant Principal Investigator), Joy Nelson (Media), Caroline Thomas (Youth/THY Member HHCA), Angela Garcia (Youth/THY Member HHIHS), Jill DelGuercio (Schools/THY Advisor HHCA), David Martin (Business/Piggly Wiggly), Abigail Aves (Youth/THY Member HHIHS), Florentina Hartley (Schools/THY Advisor HHIHS), Payton Ward (Youth/THY Member Cross Schools), Cheryl Rodriguez (Parent Sector), Galen Sturup (Substance Abuse Agency/BCADAD), Tiffanie Elrod (Schools/THY Advisor May River), Ashlyn Elrod (Youth/THY Member May River HS), Erin Pawlak (Health Professional/Behavioral Wellness Group), Claudia Llambias (Schools/THY Advisor May River HS), Amber Vanhorn (Youth/THY Member/Bluffton H.S., Cindy Wasik (Substance Abuse Agency/Alateen). Staff: Laura Pirkey (DFC Program Director/THY Coordinator). Intern: Jaci Coleman (USCB).

Approval of Minutes: August 28 meeting minutes approved.

DFC Support Program Grant Updates

Dr. Novince announced that the LCAHY Coalition was awarded a DFC continuation grant for year seven, 2023-2024. She showed the map of all DFC Grantees in the United States, which is posted by the White House Office of Drug Control Policy, who awards the DFC Support Program Grant. [Click here for map.](#)

2022-2023 12-Month Action Plan Updates/Ad-Hoc Committee Assignments
(DFC Grant Year 6: September 30, 2022- September 29, 2023)

Teens for Healthy Youth

THY (HHCA): THY member, Caroline Thomas, reported that they had their first meeting and elected new officers, with 21 students signed up for the interest meeting.

THY (Cross Schools): THY member, Payton Ward, also reported that they had their first meeting and began the process of electing officers, including planning projects for the upcoming year as a group.

Both THY HHCA and THY Cross Schools utilized the THY recruitment video

THY (HHIHS): Abigail Aves announced that they are working to expand their club by reaching out to students who are involved in other clubs.

THY (May River): Ashlyn Elrod reported that they had their first meeting today, September 18, with about 15 students in attendance & used recruitment video to attract more students.

THY(Bluffton HS): Amber Van Horn presented that had their first meeting at the beginning of the school

year, elected officers, and are planning to meet again next week.

Laura Pirkey, THY Coordinator, stated she has sent out alerts for upcoming events using BAND, engaging in Suicide Awareness Prevention month at the schools and engaging in THY Instagram page. She also announced that the Hilton Head Boys and Girls Club are very interested in having THY present. Dr. Novince noted that In God's Image training materials have not been revised. However, at a reduced cost, current materials can be purchased for our faith-based schools, Cross Schools and HHCA.

Building Capacity/Sector Recruitment

Dr. Novince attended a non-profit expo at Hampton Hall to inform residents about LCAHY, solicit volunteers, and connect with other non-profits and grantors.

Laura Pirkey facilitated a brainstorming session on increasing Board membership. CIA vacancies that need to be filled include Civic and Faith-Based positions. All sectors, except for education, youth, and law enforcement could grow in number. Laura Pirkey is reaching out to Kiwanis. Wendy Cummings shared that she is reaching out to LowCountry Community Church for the Faith-Based sector and Van Landingham Rotary for the Civic sector. Jill DelGuercio is reaching out to Women's League of Voters who are interested in child/adolescent mental health. Joy Nelson is reaching out to Andrew Davis, Town of HH Marketing Director. Galen is reaching out to Camilo with La Isla Magazine. Dr. Novince asked David Martin advice about how to grow the Business sector. He stated that the only contacts he has is with small businesses on Coligny in HHI. Chery Rodriguez spoke about reaching out to parents of THY members in trying to grow the parent sector who would work on specific projects. She is working on creating a letter to send out to parents via email by THY advisors. Wendy Cummings suggested LCAHY create a video that has a consistent message to send out to organizations in order to grow sectors (including mission/vision statements, highlights of events/projects, and outcomes). Dr. Novince suggested organizing a PowerPoint to present to organizations when asked to come speak about LCAHY. Joy Nelson agreed to work on the creation of the video script and the PowerPoint.

Prevent/Reduce Access: Coligny Patrols

Wendy Cummings spoke with Sgt. Washington & unfortunately did not have any takers because they are currently stretched very thin. We are going to continue to gain interest. David Martin reported his concern saying that over the summer, he had a number of teens attempting to take alcohol from his store, located in Coligny.

Other DFC Grant Action Plan Reports

Public Health Awareness Campaign

Joy Nelson reported that radio a commercial is currently running concerning fentanyl. She plans to start working on writing a script on stress now that school is back in session to raise awareness to youth and their parents. She has updated social media pages and scheduled posts to be made about topics such as Suicide Prevention.

Reducing Access: Festival/Heritage Training

David Martin addressed the importance of providing the *We ID the LCAHY* training and signage at festivals and events such as the Heritage.

Community Outreach: Laura Pirkey asked that Board members consider signing up to staff the Bluffton PD's Safety Spooktacular event at Oscar Frazier Park on Friday, October 27th from 5:00-7:00pm (setup begins at 4pm). Dr. Novince shared that the Bluffton PD and Town are expecting around 1,000 people to attend.

Brief Introduction to the Action Plans in DFC Goal 1, Build the Capacity of the Coalition, (12 Month Action Plan (DFC Grant year 7: September 30, 2023 – September 29, 2024))

Dr. Novince presented a brief overview of several activities that the Board identified to implement:

- Increase sector representation. Recruit Coalition members from community sectors, organizations, and races/ethnicities underrepresented.
- Increase branding/awareness of the Coalition & its resources and distribute information (English & Spanish) through community sectors.
- Provide cultural competency training to reduce barriers & access to prevention information, resources.
- Identify multilingual therapists, support groups, treatment/recovery agencies.

New Business

Dr. Novince: suggested moving the November meeting to November 13th to avoid interfering with Thanksgiving Holiday breaks.

In-kind Support Documentation

Laura reminded everyone to document their in-kind hours for grant year 6, September 29, 2022 – September 30, 2023.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Next Meeting: October 16, 2023, Bluffton High School Media Center

Minutes drafted by Jaci Coleman in lieu of Recording Secretary Francine Norz Tobin's absence.