



**Town of Smithtown
Youth & Community Alliance**

Substance Abuse Committee Meeting

**July 25, 2017
Horizons Center Community Room**

*Keeping Our Youth & Families Safe...
Physically & Emotionally Healthy & Free of Substance Abuse*

Meeting highlights:

1. Roundtable introductions were made and a recap of the last General Membership meeting, and Substance Abuse Committee meeting were discussed.
2. **Committee Project Updates-**
 - a. **The Sticker Shock** event was held on May 12, 2017 at BullsEye Beverage and Uncle Giuseppe's (both in Smithtown). There were 10 student Alliance volunteers and several adult volunteers at each location. 1100 community education stickers were placed on alcoholic beverage cases. A de-briefing was held after the event and several suggestions were given if we decide to hold another event.
 - b. **Smithtown Day- Cancel the Keg** petition signing - 11 student Alliance volunteers were educated on the Social Host law and Cancel the Keg hotline. They went out during the street festival and spoke with adults about the law and hotline. **377 adults then signed a petition that they would not serve alcohol to minors.**
 - c. **The Pizza Box Top Program** planning meeting took place on 7/20/17. There were 15 student Alliance volunteers and several adult volunteers in attendance as well as the SCPD. The group discussed the importance of working together as a community to deter underage drinking. The Pizza Box Top event will be held on July 28th at the following pizzerias: Monte's, Buona Sera, MeMa's, Ciro's, and Gino's. Mama Sbarro's will have their staff put stickers on and Branchinellis donated pizza for the planning meeting.
 - d. **Website**-The group looked at the updates made to the website and a video that one of the youth members made on opiates.
 - e. A **Narcan Training** will be held at the *General Membership meeting on 8/29/17*. Community Action for Social Justice will hold the training. Discussion also took place regarding future planning for a Medication Take Back and an Ugly Truth event. It was suggested to hold an Ugly Truth event at the Senior Center since there has been accidental overdoses from medications. Officer LaVeglia stated they she hosts several presentations for the Senior Citizens already and we might be able to coordinate this event there as well.
 - f. The **Not on Your Life (NOYL)** campaign is on hold temporarily.

- g. Future **Public Service Announcements** (PSA's) - the group discussed a public service announcement about how "We need to do more." Pam F. discussed how we are the leading county in the state with drug overdoses. Ideas of places to run a media campaign were the DMV, bus stops or on the radio. Posters from *Talk to Prevent or Combat Heroin* can be used. A monetary donation can help with costs. The Alliance would need approval from the DMV before putting up posters there.
- 3. **Other Ideas-** Pam F. has also been to the SC Legislature (Public Safety and Health Committees) and believes we should be pro-active in attending meetings and making a difference regarding evidenced based programs in schools. They should be comprehensive K-12. There are barriers to this because of administration change and not being supported by the State DOE.
- 4. Chris (a M.S. student Alliance member) discussed how he learned about substance abuse in health class *and he would listen to a police officer if they taught him more about it.* He has not seen much e-cigarette or vape use in school.
- 5. **Future Projects-** Barbara S. discussed how Horizons Counseling and Education Center has a negative stigma associated with it. The group discussed holding a community open house. There could be a theme and activities like painting pumpkins about the different activities that are available through Horizons, Youth Bureau, and Alliance. A Community Education Series can also be developed if community members want to learn more about various topics. We can have the open house this fall. Alliance members can volunteer to help out.
- 6. Suffolk County Police Department 4th precinct will be holding **National Night Out** on 8/1/17 from 4-8 pm at the Target Store in Commack (Vets Hwy).
- 7. **Next General Membership Meeting** will be held on August 29, 2017 from 4:30-6:00 pm at the Smithtown Library (Main Branch).



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"To promote the health and wellness of our young people; mobilize schools and communities; and utilize resources to create and sustain an environment where destructive decisions and substance abuse are reduced"