



Wood County Prevention Coalition Meeting Minutes - September 11, 2015

In attendance: Patrick Raymer, Zepf Center; Tamme Smith, Lucas County Sheriff's Office; Katelyn Ybarra, Lucas County Sheriff's Office; Isabella Mancuso, Otsego Schools student; Dan Mancuso, Bowling Green Police Division; Angela Patchen, Project Aware; Bill Ivoska, coalition evaluator; Warren Fauver, Wood County Educational Service Center (WCESC) Community Learning Centers (CLC); Frank Aravay, Ohio Traffic Safety Office; Greg Van Vorhis, WCESC; Jennifer Vanlerberg, WCESC; Phil Snyder, Arrowhead; Emily Cornish, WCESC; Jason Born, Sterling Bridge Wealth Partners; Brooke Harrison, BG Manor Nursing Home; Lori Fox, PathStone; Mary Short, Penta Career Center; Tonya Lentz, WCESC; Lorrie Lewandowski, Wood County ADAMHS Board; Nikki Schroeder, PathStone; Linda Logue, WCESC; Jane Lingenfelder, WCESC; Tom Clemons, ADAMHS Board; Rich Schmidbauer; Wood County Juvenile Court; Kyle Clark, WCESC; Susan Spencer, WCESC; Melissa Notestine, WCESC; Dick Edwards, Bowling Green Mayor; Francesca Leiss, CRC; Sara Adas, CRC; Samantha Goudie, CRC; Lisa Myers, Wood County Committee on Aging; Tony Grotrian, Operation Save Our Kids; Milan Karna, Wood County Prevention Coalition; Tony Coder, Drug Free Action Alliance.

Introductions – (Led by Kyle Clark)

Tony Coder, Drug Free Action Alliance – Considerations of Legalization in Ohio (presentation):

- ResponsibleOhio will spend approximately \$7.5 million in television advertising over the next couple of months
- Legalization became a topic in 1996 with the passage of California Proposition 215. That proposition was pushed by California marijuana activist Dennis Peron, who wanted to use the medicinal properties of marijuana to give comfort to HIV patients. The ballot initiative won 55.5% of the vote through compassion
- Currently, 23 states plus the District of Columbia have medical marijuana available
- Cannabidiol (CBD) – Helps with epilepsy. Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) causes seizures, but CBD helps control it.
- Epidiolex, a medication created by GW Pharmaceuticals, is in stage IV of the FDA process as a treatment option for seizures and consistency of dosage, and under research conditions. It is expected to be on the market early next year
- "There are absolutely compounds in marijuana, I believe, that have medicinal value," said Coder. "CBD may be a miracle drug. We have a problem with the whole plant. We don't think you need to smoke a joint to get the benefits of these compounds."
- In states where measured, less than 5% of all patients have life-threatening issues. More than 90% use it for "chronic pain." The average cardholder is a 32-year-old white male with no history of chronic illness and a history of substance abuse.
- "I would have done anything in the world for my mom, who had cancer," said Coder. "That's not what this is about."
- Coder called ResponsibleOhio a monopoly: "We're going to be the puppets to these 10 individuals"
- There currently is a big fight in Butler County because the proposed marijuana farm allowed by Issue 3 will be within 2 miles from a school
- "Sometimes parents don't make the best decisions for their children, especially when there is drug abuse in the home," he added.
- In 2007, Colorado roadway fatalities involving operators testing positive for marijuana represented 7.04% of the total traffic fatalities. By 2012, that number more than doubled to 16.53%
- "There's a much larger homeless population. Homeless people are migrating to marijuana." Older homeless people are going out for medicinal marijuana and younger homeless are going for recreational marijuana
- Colorado was promised \$107,000,000 in tax revenue, and the actual total tax collected was \$63,414,883
- Two hundred fifty (250) tons of marijuana need to be sold to raise Ohio's predicted \$554,000,000 in taxes. Those taxes can only be collected on recreational use marijuana. That translates to 43 joints to every person in the state "This (tax collection amount) is an absolute fabrication."
- "We're a decriminalized state, which means you can have a hundred grams, and the most a police officer can give you is a \$150 fine," said Coder, who added that Responsible Ohio's argument that it will relieve burden on Ohio prisons is also overstated, if not false. Less than 1% of Ohio's prisoners are in for marijuana possession

Rich Schmidbauer- Parent Project:

- Parent Project is a program offered by the Wood County Educational Service Center, and Rich Schmidbauer serves as one of the facilitators.
- "It's the greatest program that I have ever seen," he said.
- "The number one thing I have seen to combat it is Parent Project," he said. "It delivers real-life help and tools to parents of high-risk kids. I'm convinced that all of the parents that I've worked with love their kids but don't know what to do or handle certain situations."

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- Some attendance to the parenting class is from some referrals, while other attendance comes from advertising in local newspapers and/or various community bulletin boards. However, due to low registration this fall, the session that was scheduled to begin Sept. 10, was cancelled.
- “One of my ideas (is that) I don’t see it happening a lot at the elementary level,” said Schmidbauer. “I’m convinced that this is one of the things we can do to prevent issues at a later age.” Why are we not delivering this program before it blows up?”
- “It’s designed to reach parents that are already in trouble, but I believe that if we reached parents before their kids were in trouble, we could prevent a lot of these problems,” he continued. “It helps parents stay on top of a variety of things, and the earlier we start, the better. I’m wondering how we get the program, or the message expanded to get this message to parents of younger kids. I don’t think it’s too much too soon. I think it’s an exact fit.”
- There also is an issue with finding facilitators who are available to work for two to three hours in the evening once a week for 10 weeks. The current program requires four facilitators: Two for the Parent Project program, and two for the teen component, called Why Try, which runs concurrently.
- Kyle Clark, director of the prevention education program at the Educational Service Center, said that Parent Project has a younger-age program. A committee will be created to look at it, or to look for another research-based program to implement.
- Lorrie Lewandowski, spoke about the work of the Wood County Task Force that was instrumental in bringing Parent Project to Wood County in 2003. Lewandowski stated that getting parents to attend is the most difficult part of the equation. Once they attend the class, they realize the value. She recommended advertising more by placing flyers in pediatrician and dentist offices.
- “This is a good program for everybody, whether your kid is destined for juvenile court or not,” said Schmidbauer.
- Tom Clemons, director of the Wood County ADAMHS Board, said that, “the emphasis will need to be reaching out to more families. Focusing on families more and more is going to be the key to prevention, and also to treatment.”

Teen Institute:

- The Teen Institute Retreat will be held Oct. 17, at Sidecut Metropark.
- Kyle Clark encouraged the coalition to think about how to tie Wood County youth more into this coalition and coalition business, and how to empower our teens to talk to other youth about the marijuana issue and other work of the coalition

Roundtable:

- Lorrie Lewandowski - The Wood County Opiate Task Force will hold a town hall meeting Oct. 22, at 7 p.m. at Cedar Creek Church, 29129 Lime City Rd., Perrysburg. The presentation will include discussions with local law enforcement, state and local resources, and local survivors of addiction. It will also provide information on how people can get help.
- Greg Van Vorhis – Three podcasts have been recorded, and two have been posted. The first episode is Tony Coder’s full presentation and follow-up discussion that occurred at this meeting. The second episode will feature the interview with Coder that was conducted following the Sept. 11 coalition meeting. The podcast can be found at: <https://wcprevention.wordpress.com/podcasts/> or <http://www.podcastgarden.com/podcast/wcpc-7780> or <https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/wood-county-prevention-coalition/id1042306157?mt=2>
- Tonya Lentz – North Baltimore High School will hold its annual Fifth Quarter event after the football game Sept. 18. Fifth Quarter is a popular drug and alcohol-free activity after the football game that is held every fall.
- Angela Patchen – Youth Mental Health Training dates will be announced soon.
- Lisa Myers – The Suicide Prevention Coalition has announced that Bill Konigsberg will speak at First Presbyterian Church, 126 S. Church St., Bowling Green, on Sept. 21, at 1 p.m. Konigsberg is the author of the books Openly Straight and The Porcupine of Truth. His presentation will be part of the Trevor Project Awareness Tour. Founded in 1998 by the creators of the Academy Award-winning short film Trevor, The Trevor Project is the leading national organization providing crisis intervention and suicide prevention services to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) people ages 13-24.
- Frank Aravay, of the Ohio Traffic Safety Office, said that drug-related accidents are happening more and more in Ohio. “It’s in the area,” he said, adding that the web site noissue3.com has a lot of useful information about the proposed legalization issue, including a 14-page fact book.
- Tony Grotrion is an area community member who lost a grandson in August, 2009, to a heroin overdose. He talked about proposed House Bill 249, also called The Good Samaritan Bill, or Aaron’s law.

The next coalition meeting will be held Oct. 16, from 8:30-10 a.m. at the Wood County Educational Service Center.

wcprevention.wordpress.com (soon to be wcprevention.org)