

Mahanoy Area Drug and Alcohol Prevention Coalition Meeting Minutes

November 7, 2011

Attendees: Andrea Caulfield, Kate Orsulak, Cathy Stone, Diane Rowland, Lisa Broomell, Trinna Delia and Jennifer Kern, Heather Yarnitsky (Berresford), Pam Wetzels, Casey Moyer, Christine Evancho, Selene Shagen and Lisa Sewell.

Pays Survey: This survey was given to 6, 8, 10, and 12th grade students. The survey was conducted during Mentoring at school on October 19. We do not have the completion rate; however, it seems the majority of students did take the survey.

National Drug Take Back: On Saturday, October 29, 2011 from 10am to 2pm at the Mahanoy Area Police Dept./Borough Building the drug take back was held even with the bad weather (snow). Flyers were distributed with students prior to this event. Even with the poor weather, it was reported that there was one full bag of old medications dropped off at this location.

Safe Trick or Treat: The Coalition had a table at this event, which was held on Sunday, October 30, 2011 from 5pm to 7pm. Due to the weather the event was moved from the stadium to the gym. Colleen Rhoades and Andrea Caulfield were at the table. With the help of funding from Prevention Partnership, we gave out trick or treat bags, magnets, lollipops, literature and candy. Thank you to all who donated candy to this event. Also, the SADD club helped to pack up the 500 bags that were given out at this event.

Red Ribbon Week Activities: Heather Yarnitsky (Berresford) conducted activities/lessons with Elementary students in her classes relating to Red Ribbon Week with materials supplied by Diane Rowland. Andrea Caulfield, Cathy Stone and the SADD club distributed Red Ribbon Week Materials, as well as hung posters, banners, and ribbons. During this week there was also a speaker for 9th grades students.

Alternative Activities: There is some grant money with Prevention Partnership in order to run an alternative activity that targets middle/high school students so they are not using drugs or alcohol. Due to Red Ribbon Week, the Halloween activities, and the Dressing of the Evergreens, Cathy will address this with the SADD club for ideas as well. Nancy looked into rental costs of the balloon bounce. We continued to toss ideas around for this event. Projected time frame is April 2012.

Student Program: Diane found a video related to bath salts for us to preview. We can possibly use this for a mentoring day in which the students would view the video and then have a discussion about this assisted by SADD club members. Diane also reported that the Junior Advisory Board is looking to do some sort of education for students in grades 9-12. Christine is looking for her contact re: Safety on Campus.

Next Meeting Date: January 9, 2012 at 2:30pm in the High School LGI Room. Check for any email information until then. Have a Safe Holiday and Happy New Year!