**Van Buren County SAFE Coalition**

**October Meeting Minutes**

**Location: VBCH Community Services Center**

**Tuesday, October 21, 2014**

**2:00 pm**

Meeting called to order by Melissa Daugherty at 2:00 p.m.

**Members Present:** Heidi Bainbridge – DFC Coalition Director, Rhonda Carter – Other/Community Member, Julie Chapuis – Schools, Melissa Daugherty – Youth Serving Organization, Lee McIntosh – Law Enforcement, Kris Rankin – Parent, Ginger Shaw – Youth Serving Organization, Kim Siegfried – Other Organization, Janine Vermazen – Other Organization

**September Minutes approved by:** Ginger Shaw **Second:** Julie Chapuis

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| **Topic:** DFC Update– In Packets   * Melissa shared that they are in everyone’s packets. Ginger asked if they are the same ones that were emailed out and Melissa said yes they are. Heidi shared that they were emailed early this month and will probably continue to be sent out early since the Van Buren Community School Board wants it earlier now. She said the update has a dual purpose of updating coalition members and the VBCSD Board about what is going on with the grant and the coalition’s initiatives.   **ACTION STEP:**None |
| **Topic:** YLC Update   * Melissa shared that Red Ribbon Week is next week. She shared that at VBHS the YLC members have already begun to hang red ribbons on campus and down the highway today. The YLC members will be doing more activities during the week including peer teaching, more ribbons, a pledge wall to be alcohol/drug/tobacco free, dress up days, passing out candy with drug/alcohol safety tips on it for kids and parent bags with info in them at the trick or treat event in Keosauqua, a scary hallway and a writing contest at the elementary school and the prize for that is a private lunch with several of the High School YLC girls.   **ACTION STEP:**None |
| **Topic:** Rx Drug Take Back Event – Update   * Lee shared that they had two community members drop off about a pound or less of medications. He said it was disappointing, but depending on the meds it was still good to hold the event. He shared that he has talked with the Sheriff and Chief Deputy about a drop box in the sheriff’s office and at this time they are not open to having one there because it cannot be supervised well enough and they do not want people putting things in it that do not belong in it, such as sharps. He said that he and some of the other reserve officers have been discussing setting one up in another location that would be better supervised and would get a better response. Rhonda asked if you could make one side of the box visible to see what is being put into it. Lee said he did not think that would be possible as they are supposed to be able to do it anonymously. He also pointed out that it will take two officers to remove and dispose of the medications. Julie asked about Hospice Services being able to facilitate the disposal of the medications because of their detailed procedures and protocol. Lee said he was not sure and shared a story of a lady bringing in Fentanyl patches from her deceased husband. Heidi shared that someone in Keosauqua last time brought a large bag of meds from her deceased husband. Heidi said she wondered about holding our own Rx Take Back Days in conjunction with the pharmacy if the coalition and sheriff’s reserve cannot facilitate a permanent drop box. She said the coalition needs to explore some of the other options it can take to reduce the availability of medications to the youth in the community. Lee shared that Clark County was taking their returned meds to a cement factory for disposal, but then they ran into the problem of sharps being put in their drop box and the cement company would no longer incinerate them. He also said he is not sure that Van Buren County has enough medications to dispose of to warrant the purchase of an incinerator for the county. Ginger shared that she believes that Lee County Sheriff’s Office is getting an incinerator. Heidi shared that the coalition and sheriff’s office might be able to partner with them to purchase it and use it. Heidi said she knows of a few counties in Iowa that have their own incinerators already, but none close to Van Buren County. Ginger said she will keep the coalition updated on this possibility. Heidi shared that when the coalition receives more guidance on the new regulations from the DEA that will help the coalition to decide its next steps on how to deal with this issue in Van Buren County. She said the coalition will keep on this and continue addressing how these meds can be disposed of safely. Lee asked if the kids are talking about pharm parties or abusing medications in Van Buren County. Julie shared she does not hear of the parties, but she does hear of individual misuse so education and removal of the medications are still important. Heidi said she is interested to see what the IYS shows about medication abuse in Van Buren County. She said it will be interesting to see if it has changed since the last IYS in 2012. Heidi said the coalition has also discussed holding drug education training for the staff at the schools since it has been a long time since one of these had been held. She said it would be good to hold in both districts so teachers can look for signs of abuse and know the steps to take to address the problem if they see one.   **ACTION STEP:** Continue addressing the issue of removing unused and expired prescription medications in Van Buren County  **By Whom:** All Coalition Members  **By When:** As Needed |
| **Topic:** OTC Literacy Forum – Update   * Heidi shared that the coalition held an event on Tuesday of last week. She passed out folders with information from the event for coalition members to look over. She said that at the event speakers from national agencies came in and gave a presentation on the dangers of over the counter and prescription medications and on a new curriculum that Scholastic has created to be used in Elementary Schools. She said it is four 45 minute lessons that teachers can administer in their classrooms on medicine safety. She said that she has talked with the teachers at Van Buren Community Schools and they are planning on implementing the curriculum this spring in the 6th Grade. She shared that it goes along with one of their science lessons very well. Heidi said that she will be meeting with the Harmony District tomorrow and discussing the possibility of implementation there. She said she will also be getting a hold of Dr. Blair as he had expressed an interest in the program and potentially teaching a lesson of the program for the coalition. She said she also wants to meet with Larry Thomas to see if it is something he is interested in participating in. Heidi said that if anyone is interested in the materials for other groups to let her know because she has resources that can be used. She said it is for the 5th & 6th grade age groups, but can be used in other formats besides schools to educate children. She said that she shared it with Kathy Burchett, the home school assistance coordinator, and she is going to be sharing it with home school parents that have students at that age range to use with their students as well. Heidi shared that Kitty had mentioned adding information at the end of merchant trainings to educate merchants on what they should be looking for with the sales of medications and the possibility of abuse. Melissa asked if the information could be provided in a hand out to all the merchants in Van Buren County. Everyone agreed this would be a good idea and Heidi said she believed that it could be done. Julie said after it was made up it could be given to the Chamber of Commerce to be distributed to the local merchants. Lee commented that the information would be useful in the clinics – he said it could be provided to the patient when they are prescribed the medications by the nurse or doctor. Melissa and Heidi said even the posters would be good in the clinics that give good information for the patients.   **ACTION STEP:** Continue the work of educating the community with the information that the coalition has & develop new formats to share it with the community  **By Whom:** Coalition Staff and Members  **By When:** As Needed |
| **Topic:** Iowa Youth Survey   * Melissa shard that Heidi started those today and will be finished by next week. Heidi shared that they are actually scheduled to be finished by Friday. She said that it went very smoothly today at Van Buren Elementary school with the 6th graders. She said the computers worked and the students did well with the survey. She shared that Harmony will be done tomorrow and Van Buren 8th & 11th graders will be done on Friday. Heidi shared it takes a little while to get the state data back, but because the coalition is a drug free communities grantee we do a supplemental survey that asks the core questions for the grant because the state does not get them exactly the way the federal government wants them. So, the coalition will have the supplemental survey information back pretty quickly from the coalition’s evaluator. This way the coalition will have an indication of what the counties numbers look like; especially in the core measures. Julie asked how she can access the information from the 2012 survey. Heidi shared that anyone can get the county (not district) information at this link: <http://www.iowayouthsurvey.iowa.gov/images/2012_County_reports/89.Van%20Buren.pdf>   She also shared that members can look on the coalition web site on the About SAFE page and click on the Iowa Youth Survey Trended Data to see a comparison of percentages and information for the years that the coalition has IYS data for the county.  **ACTION STEP:** None |
| **Topic:** Hospital Initiatives   * Heidi shared that the coalition has been trying to begin working with the hospital on some new initiatives, but due to the change in leadership that has been difficult. She shared that she has now had a meeting with Mr. Brownsworth, the new CEO, about those initiatives and he gave her some good recommendations for next steps. She said the three initiatives the coalition will be working with the hospital on are: collecting data from their Epic System for the purposes of assessment of the issues being seen in the Van Buren community (it would not be patient specific but numbers of patients dealing with substance issues) – she said that she will be setting up a meeting with Chris McEntee to discuss how that information can be shared with the coalition; Implementing the Screening and Brief Intervention with referral to treatment program – the coalition staff will be having a conversation with the director of nursing about what that might look like, what they have in place now, barriers to implementation and determine if the coalition wants to bring the state in to help with a discussion about implementing it at the hospital - she said there is an entity at the Iowa Department of Public Health that can come in, provide information, train staff, share how to implement SBIRT, etc – she does not want to bring them in until the coalition knows for sure that the hospital is interested in beginning to use this program though; Prescription Monitoring Program – Heidi will be meeting with Kay, director of nursing, about this program as well – during that meeting they will discuss if it is being used by the doctors and if so how it is working for them and if not then why are they not using it – Lee asked what this is – Heidi explained that it is a state wide data base that physicians can check to see what medications their patients have been prescribed to prevent prescription abuse – it addresses the prescription medicine abuse issues in the community – Lee pointed out that Epic may track that, but Heidi pointed out that is only local not state wide – she also shared that if patients cross state lines then it is not track able either because there is not a national data base.   **ACTION STEP:** Meetings with hospital staff  **By Whom:** Coalition Staff  **By When:** November Meeting |
| **Topic:** Prevention Conference   * Melissa shared that there is a flier in the packets with information on the upcoming prevention conference. Heidi shared if anyone is interested in this the coalition is willing to support a couple of people attending this by paying for registration costs for members who do not have the funds to pay for the conference. The coalition would ask that the members report back at a coalition meeting about what they learned and what could be implemented on the local level. Just let Heidi know if you are interested in this opportunity. Julie asked if this would be a good opportunity for Sara Spouse – Heidi said yes and that she would ask her about it. Heidi asked if the team for Safe & Supportive Schools would be attending – Julie said yes and shared that Chuck Banks, Greg Jones, Mary Thomas (as a parent), Amanda Schiller and herself are the members of that committee.   **ACTION STEP:** Let Heidi know if you are interested in attending the conference  **By Whom:** All coalition members  **By When:** October 28, 2014 |
| **Topic:** SAFE Home Pledges Completed   * Heidi shared that there is a sheet in the packets that contains the historical information about the SAFE Home Pledges including this year’s data. Kris shared that the coalition chose not to work with Harmony again this year due to no response. She said that there were 212 Elementary Students, 264 Middle/High School Students, with a total of 286 families that signed pledges. She pointed out that she did a lot of cleaning out of the list for students that are no longer attending the Van Buren Community Schools so there was not as much false carryover as years before. She shared that numbers are lower this year and Heidi pointed out that enrollment declined as well this year so the numbers are on par with the district. Rhonda asked what the pledges were and Kris shared that the parents pledge to talk to their students about being substance abuse free and commit to not serve alcohol in their homes. She also shared that those names are put into a directory that other parents who have signed the pledge can access to let them know if their child is having issues with substance abuse.   **ACTION STEP:** None |
| **Other Business:**   * Safe & Supportive Schools – There is information in packets about this initiative and Van Buren Community Schools was selected for this state wide initiative. She shared the Mr. Banks, Mr. Jones, Mrs. Chapuis, Ms. Schiller and Mrs. Thomas are the team for the district working on this initiative. She said it includes ways to look at the climate in the district and ways to make students feel safer, more supported and more connected in the school district. She shared that they will be attending a two day training this week to learn more about it and there is a session for them at the prevention conference. She said that in November she will be asking Julie to share what she has learned and how the coalition can support this initiative. She said the coalition will work closely with this group and help them with data and assessment that the coalition already has a good foundation and ground work done in this area. She said there are definite connections to substance abuse work in this initiative. Julie shared that the second year groups are focusing on mental health issues and training in that area after dealing with climate issues. She feels that it is timely and something for them to focus on. * Future Funding – Heidi shared that the coalition is looking into other avenues of funding for the coalition for the coming years and as new RFP’s come down the coalition staff will share those with the coalition members and make sure to have the coalition’s approval of the next steps that will be taken for funding the work of the coalition. * Rhonda asked about the multi unit housing non smoking program and how that can be implemented in her area Melissa and Ginger shared information with her about people she can contact about implementing it in Lee County. |
| **Work Groups:**   * Heidi asked that during work group time members of the groups review the work plans for their group, address upcoming work that needs to be done by November, and designate a chair person. * Heidi passed out packets and allowed members to join the groups they were interested in. The work groups for this year are Hospital, OTC/Prescription Medication Safety, Worksites & Industry, School Climate, Social Host, Near Peer/Parents. |

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, November 18, 2014 at2:00 pm at Van Buren County Hospital Community Services Center Conference Room.

**Meeting Adjourned:** At 3:00 p.m.

\*Meeting minutes are only a summary of the meeting. For a recording of the full dialogue of the meeting you may contact the coalition office.