



YSAC Community Education & Outreach Committee meeting  
August 16, 2016, 2:30 – 3:30 Pm  
Yates County Public Health conference room

YSAC Mission: To engage, advocate, inform, and bring awareness of alcohol and other substance abuse issues through education, prevention, enforcement, and treatment to build a healthy, safe, and substance abuse-free community.

Members present: Idelle Dillon, Maria Gray, Karen Hadley, Annmarie Flanagan, and Kathy Swarhout

1. Education projects:

- Kathy reported that she will send an email to Mike Ballard at the Council on Alcoholism & Addictions regarding information about the Channing Bete booklet that the Steering committee has agreed to order for distribution to Yates families at various events. The booklet is called "Talking to your Teen or Preteen about Making Healthy Choices". This booklet includes information about relationships, domestic violence, school responsibilities, and drug prevention.
- Yard signs – Valerie Gardner has returned 40 yard signs to Public Health for sale or distribution. The Media committee will make the decision if more signs will be ordered.
- Window signs – The Community Education & Outreach committee members have started distributing signs about marijuana. The decision was made to start this educational campaign with marijuana since it is a gateway drug for so many people who chose to use drugs and advance to more serious drug use. Parents need to know the dangers of marijuana use and how it can affect their children.

Maria has contacted businesses in Penn Yan, Patty has contacted businesses in the Branchport/Kinney's Corners/Keuka Park area, Karen has contacted businesses in the Dundee area, Kathy has contacted businesses in the Dresden area, and Idelle has contacted businesses in the Rushville/Middlesex area. Annmarie has supplied the laminating sheets and Kathy laminated the signs for distribution. The committee agreed to keep the message with marijuana for a few months and move the signs around with the various marijuana messages for the businesses. In late fall - November, we can do an alcohol information campaign on the window signs, since alcohol is the most common drug of choice in our community. Idelle has agreed to gather the information for the signs since she already has the template for putting the signs together and Annmarie and Kathy will laminate them for distribution.

2. Announcement

- Due to a heavier workload, Annmarie has decided to step down from the Steering Committee of YSAC. She will continue to serve on the Community Education & Outreach committee, however. Someone else on the Committee will need to step up to serve on the Steering Committee now.

3. "Too Good for Drugs" educational program ( a K-12 program from the Mendez Foundation) – Idelle spoke about the program she will initiate in the Penn Yan and Dundee Schools this year. She will begin in the Penn Yan Elementary School in September (K-5) and then pick up the Dundee School grades (K-4, 6-8) in January. At some point she will also pick up the Penn Yan Middle School grades 6 & 7. Since Idelle is already doing so many other programs, it may be necessary for someone else to be hired as an educator for this program.

\*Annmarie has agreed to write a grant to the Greater Rochester Foundation to cover the cost of hiring an educator. Idelle suggested contacting Ontario County to learn from their experiences in hiring a school educator for drug prevention programs.

4. Idelle reported working at other projects –

- The Girls' Club at school
- The after school program at Rainbow Junction
- A program at Keuka College directed at students who have committed infractions in the College policies regarding substance use – normally a 6 hour program is reduced to a 1 hour program since the infractions have occurred on campus. Students acknowledged that drugs such as Ecstasy, Adderol, and LSD have been used in some situations on the College campus.
- An Active Parenting class will be held in Dundee on Wednesdays from September 28<sup>th</sup> – November 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Presbyterian Church from 5:30 – 7:30 Pm. These sessions are open to parents of elementary – high school students and are free and open to the public for anyone in Yates County.
- Idelle also spoke with parents of athletes at the fall sports meeting in Dundee

5. Speakers- there is a need for anyone who is informed about drug abuse to make presentations to area businesses and service clubs to talk about the signs & symptoms of drug use. Annmarie has agreed to supply the information to share.

6. Idelle reported that Lauren Snyder has contacted her regarding an idea to use the Dundee Youth Center building to offer role-playing groups as an educational experience on the dangers of drug use.

Scribed by Kathy Swarhout  
8/16/16