



Meeting Minutes

Youth & Community Alliance of Smithtown

August 23, 2016 – 10:30 a.m.

Smithtown Public Library, Main Branch

Introductions and overview of the Alliance, Youth Bureau and Horizons Counseling & Education Center: Elaine Economopoulos, Director, Horizons – Stacey Sanders, Executive Director, Youth Bureau and Kelly DeVito, Youth Services Coordinator, Horizons

Overview of the National Guard's role: Gabriel Manzueta, Senior Airman US Air Force

Presentation on coalitions: Sean Cassidy, Specialist US Army

Presentation Key Points: displayed drug map and statistics, the role of an alliance, importance of various sectors of the community to get involved.

Highlights from the discussion after the training included: How to get parents to attend school events (maybe mandatory meetings), start empowering parents in kindergarten to become and stay involved in maintaining positive messaging, parent training, mandatory substance abuse workshops, Narcan trainings, to be wary of over saturation of programming- it may turn people away, tentative legislation regarding mandatory drug education beginning in 3rd grade, form relationships with the community we live in, back to school night- give out information or presentations, erase shame/stigma of substance abuse, focus on resiliency, comprehensive messaging throughout all school subjects on substance abuse, recognize vulnerable international students who have language barriers, give class presentations, too many vape shops in the town.

Next steps: Participants filled out surveys and signed up for various committees.

Committee Choices:

1. Social/Recreational Programs - Health & Wellness Forums/Programs
2. Community Service/Citizenship - Leadership Development - Peer Education
3. Networking – Training - Research/Needs Assessment
4. Family Life – Parenting Skills Education
5. Social Emotional Learning – Personal Resilience -Prevention Education

**Next general membership meeting: 11/3/16, from 3:30 PM-5:00 PM, location TBD.
Committee meetings TBD.**

Keeping Our Youth & Families Safe...

Physically & Emotionally Healthy & Free of Substance Abuse

“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”