



Youth & Community Alliance of Smithtown

Substance Abuse Committee Meeting

April 24, 2017

Horizons Center Community Room

*Keeping Our Youth & Families Safe...
Physically & Emotionally Healthy & Free of Substance Abuse*

Meeting highlights:

1. Roundtable introductions were made and a recap of the last General Membership meeting, and Substance Abuse Committee meeting were discussed.
2. **“Sticker Shock” program update** – Smithtown Horizons reached out to approximately 15 stores requesting them to take part in Sticker Shock. They only received one confirmation to be a program site, which was from Uncle Giuseppe’s in Smithtown. North Shore Farms is another *possible* site.

The corporate offices of the majority of canvassed local supermarkets were given pictures of the actual *sticker*, a letter stating what the “Sticker Shock” program is, and a flyer with requested date & time. Corporate offices denied the request. Mary Ellen M. from St. Catherine’s Hospital will reach out to *Bulls Eye Distributor* on behalf of the Alliance, and Kim R. will touch base with *Kings Park Beer and Soda* again to see if they will change their mind. Kelly D. of Horizons reached out to Officer Laveglia to see if an officer is available to attend the actual Sticker Shock event. The Planning Meeting will be held on 4/26 from 4:30-6pm at the Smithtown Library.

The Sticker Shock event will take place on May 12th from 6:30-7:30 pm.

3. **Smithtown Day/Kings Park Day**- Committee members discussed having a similar event to the one that was held last year on Smithtown Day. At last year’s festival, youth volunteers handed out the social host law cards and garnered almost **300 signatures** from adults pledging to not serve alcohol to minors. Mary Ellen A. from P.R.C. suggested using the **“Cancel the Keg”** handout instead of the Social Host cards, since they are more up to date. Michael L. of the Smithtown Youth Advisory Board suggested handing out water bottles with the Sticker Shock sticker, attached. We could develop *two messages* for the day: Social Host Law and preventing underage drinking.
4. **Seasonal PSA’s**- The group is still interested in developing several PSA’ (Public Service Announcements). Some possible subjects include; marijuana (breaking down the perception that it is accepted & harmless) and vaping (another coalition did a mapping of vape stores in their area).

An email will be sent to students to get ideas about any other PSA topics we should cover. Suggestions for developing the PSA's include; making it a competition (School business Olympic teams), have the SADD club also include a visual campaign, get help from the SADD Club and tech crew, run the PSA's during school announcements, before school events, at community events such as bowling alley, and at Smithtown/Kings Park Days. Messages can also include *positive affirmations, mindfulness, or factoids about substance abuse.*

5. **Alliance Website**-The group viewed the brand new website that was developed from bullying committee suggestions. There are different sections to the webpage and each committee will have its own space. We can include resources (Talk to Prevent, OASAS, and parent corner). There can be positive messages with people holding up signs with positive messages or facts. Possibly have a slideshow of messages and announcements.
6. **Medicine Take Back**- Will work with the SCPD to coordinate an event. The police already hold Operation Medicine Cabinet. The group can also speak with Public Safety and see if they can get involved. Need to come up with a date or hold it during another event(s) (Kings Park & Smithtown Festival days). We can get community members' interested in participating by holding a raffle. We can also partner with other organizations (St. Catherine's Hospital).
7. **Future Projects**- Another Pizza Box Top project at pizzerias which have liquor licenses and complete a NOYL (Not On Your Life) campaign which works with liquor stores to uphold existing laws.
8. **Next Steps**- An email will be sent to the student's on the committee about PSA topics, the group can start to come up ideas for the website.
9. **Next general meeting will be held on May 25th from 4:30-6:00 pm at the Smithtown Library (Main Branch).**



Youth & Community Alliance of Smithtown

"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"