

West Hartford Prevention Council
Regular Meeting
Thursday, June 8, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.
Elmwood Community Center Room 22

MINUTES

1. Roll Call: Present; Nordia Napier, Gretchen Levitz, Carl Shields, Howard Dashefsky, Chris Dutton, Kelly Waterhouse, Susan Walsh. Absent: Jessica Evans, Bob Macca
2. Approval of Minutes: Minutes from May 11, 2023 were approved unanimously.
3. Old Business
 - a. Connecticut Suicide Advisory Board: Carl attended the meeting on update of 2020-25 plan. State of CT World Voice Life available online, copy distributed for review and various materials shared.
 - b. Meeting with Helen Rubino-Turco, Deb Poulon, Liz Buzinski and Carl Shields. Discussion regarding job description for Prevention Coordinator. Discussions regarding disparity of service between high schools and needs within each system including police, education, elderly and social services. Clarification on when to call 211 Mobile Crisis and how DAT is utilized.
4. New Business
 - a. Gretchen Levitz accepted nomination for position of secretary
 - b. Clarification regarding MOA and Wheeler Clinic.
 - c. Prevention Coordinator: role and priorities
 - d. Conard and Hall co-occurring clinician availability.
 - e. Clarification regarding DATT and Conard High School
5. Standing Reports
 - a. Social Services: Kelly Waterhouse reported that new social worker was hired and will report following Monday. Social worker will report to social services not Department of Health. Discussion of opiod settlement a nd usage of funding.
 - b. Public Health: Susan Walsh: Narcan, QPR, outreach and training especially during the summer. immunizations by September. Wheeler clinic newest prevention brochures were shared. Celebrate West Hartford – Public Health will share table with Prevention Partnership. Disaster Behavioral Response Network.
 - c. Police: Joe Hopkins discussed substance abuse and issues of violence between students. Discussion regarding how cases are referred to JRB and how

they are reflected in WHPD stats. Community Policing Bike Patrol focused on center, parking garages and parks. Center issues.

d. WHPS- no report provided

e. YSB (The Bridge): Chris Dutton - school based counseling will continue this summer. Group mentoring and Hillcrest will continue and SYEP status at issue for summer youth employment due to budget cuts. Clinics are fully staffed and back to immediate openings available at the clinic.

f. Prevention Partnership Coalition- Kelly discussed grants that have been released and that some are in the process of being applied for. Discussed potential topics to include in grant applications including community-wide training. There will be a booth shared by Health and Social Services at Celebrate West Hartford.

6. Public Comment-Rebecca Seaton provided information on resource on social conflict and in-person conflict intersection - Dr. Caitlin Elsaesser - YouthCAN project at UCONN.

Adjournment- Motion was made to adjourn. It was unanimously passed.

Next meeting Thursday September 14, 2023

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