

**LAWRENCE ALCOHOL AND DRUG ALLIANCE  
MINUTES**

**February 28, 2017**

**5:00 P.M.**

**Manager's Conference Room**

**Present:** Lisa Snyder, Project Graduation  
Ann DeGennaro, Superintendent of Schools Representative  
Susan Varga, Community Representative  
Susan Stahley, Community Representative  
Kelly Nitti, Community Representative  
Lt. Joe Amodio, Chief of Police Representative  
Jeff Radice, Superintendent of Recreation Representative  
Carol Chamberlain, Chairperson

**Absent:** Lewis Korngut, Community Representative  
Naeem Aktar, Community Representative  
Dr. David Maffei, Mayor, Council Liaison

**A. Review of Minutes**

The minutes of the November 1, 2016 meeting were reviewed. Lt. Joe Amodio made a motion to approve the minutes. Sue Varga seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

The minutes of the November 29, 2016 meeting were reviewed. Ann Degennaro offered a motion to approve the minutes. Kelly Nitti offered a second motion to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved.

**B. Grant Activity Reports**

Peer Education Training

Ann DeGennaro reported about recent activities completed by students in the Peer Education Training group.

- The student group organized a Night with Santa activity for younger children. The attendance was less than expected but those who attended had a fun evening. A positive outcome of this event was that many high risk students participated in the event. Next year the planning for the event will start earlier and it is hoped the event will return to be a Breakfast with Santa activity. There was a discussion with regard to finding better ways to advertise such events.
- The Lawrence Police Department will be sponsoring an egg hunt for the community in April. Ann DeGennaro suggested the peer trainers may be able to volunteer for this event.
- February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. In recognition, the Peer Training students have conducted a variety of activities to bring awareness to dating violence.
- The Peer Training students are coordinating with Sharese Dawes from the Mercer Council on Drugs and Alcohol to plan a two day counselor-in-training retreat.

#### Camp Fire New Jersey –

Kelly Nitti reported Count on Me Kids has been completed at Slackwood School and Lawrence Elementary School in the first grade classes.

Teens on Fire produced six public service announcements for the LADA to be aired on the BRONC radio 107.7 FM. The students wrote and recorded the announcements. The subjects of the announcements included the following:

- Vaping and e-cigarettes
- Prescription Drug Abuse
- Underage Drinking
- Heroin
- Parents Who Host
- Project Medicine Drop

The announcements will be aired for the next six months.

Camp Fire teens will be assisting with Sticker Shock in the upcoming months.

Project Graduation – Lisa Snyder said the committee planning meetings continue monthly working on the following activities:

- Mr. LHS – May 5, 2017
- Lawrence Signs of Support fundraisers
- Senior Breakfast – June 2, 2017
- Project Graduation – June 20, 2017
- Pancake Breakfast at Applebee's – March 5, 2017

#### Community Awareness

On March 21, 2017, Susan Stahley will be hosting a health fair entitled "For the Health of It" for students during the lunch hours. The LADA will have information on e-cigarettes and vaping. Other local community agencies which address substance abuse prevention and treatment will also be present at the health fair.

On April 25, 2017, Rider will be hosting a children's event day. Community organizations are invited to attend this campus event which will focus on fun activities for children.

Susan Stahley is also hosting Strive to Thrive workshops on the Rider campus. These programs will be in the form of lunchtime lectures.

Susan also is hosting "Talk About It Tuesdays" in which an informational table is set up in the cafeteria each Tuesday on a health/wellness related topic.

Carol Chamberlain provided an update on the Project Medicine drop box which has been installed in the lobby of the police department. The drop box was installed in 2014. In three years, there have been over 2,000 pounds of medication dropped off for disposal. The police coordinate with the DEA to properly dispose of the unused medications.

#### Coordinator Report

Carol Chamberlain reminded the grantees the third quarter of the current grant cycle will end on March 31, 2017. Third quarter reports will be due for submission to Carol C. by April 10, 2017. All grantees are required to submit a report of activities for the third quarter regardless if funds were spent.

#### Sticker Shock

Student volunteers are needed for the Sticker Shock project which is to be completed in the fourth quarter of the year. Camp Fire teens will be participating on spring break. A date for the program to be conducted at the Franklin Tavern will be determined.

#### Parents Who Host

Awareness activities for the Parents Who Host program are being planned. An advertisement will be published on the placemats at the US Route One Diner. Ad space has been purchased for the months April – October.

Lisa Snyder has offered to share awareness materials at the upcoming Mr. LHS event. Stickers and brochures will be provided by the LADA.

#### **C.     Upcoming Events**

Jeff Radice from the recreation department announced the Memorial Day Parade will be held the Saturday before Memorial Day. Participants are being recruited for the parade.

Summer camp educational programs are being scheduled for the recreation department summer camp which is held at Veterans Park. Guest speakers are needed.

Lt. Amodio explained the Cops and Shops program will be completed at Joe Canals. This program is funded by a grant from the N.J. Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

Sue Varga is currently attending training to become a Certified Peer Recovery Specialist. The training is being offered at the Mercer Council on Drugs and Alcohol. Sue explained the importance of peer educators in the treatment field. Sue also mentioned some Mercer County communities are beginning to implement the CARE program. CARE stands for Community Addiction Recovery Efforts. These efforts are being coordinated by recovery specialists in conjunction with law enforcement and hospital emergency room personnel.

#### **D.     Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.

#### **E.     Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Chamberlain  
Chairperson