**Van Buren County SAFE Coalition**

**April Meeting Minutes**

**Location: VBCH Community Services Center**

**Tuesday, April 15, 2014**

**2:00 pm**

Meeting called to order by Melissa Daugherty at 2:00 p.m.

**Members Present:** Heidi Bainbridge – DFC Coalition Coordinator, Randy Besick – Business Community, Kitty Bogle – Youth Serving Organization, Rhonda Carter – Other/Community Member, Julie Chapuis – Schools, Melissa Daugherty – Youth Serving Organization, Lydia Heald – Student, Emily Jester – Student, Kris Rankin – Parent, Abby Rider – Student, Ginger Shaw – Youth Serving Organization, Mary Ann Williams – Other Organization

**March Minutes approved by:** Ginger Shaw **Second:** Mary Ann Williams

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| **Topic:** DFC Update – In Packet & Emailed to Coalition Members* Melissa shared that the DFC update is in the packet and was emailed out last week.

**ACTION STEP:** None |
| **Topic:** YLCAlcohol Awareness Month Activities* Abby Rider introduced herself and shared that this month is Alcohol Awareness Month. She shared that one of the activities that the YLC members are doing this month is Sticker Shock. During this activity the YLC members will place stickers advising adults to not purchase alcohol for minors. She said this will be done at local businesses and they will place stickers on alcohol in the coolers and in open areas. She said while they are there they will also do an environmental scan that evaluates how many and what types of signs are in each business. She shared they will be visiting Keosauqua, Birmingham, Douds, Milton, Bonaparte and Farmington.
* Emily Jester introduced herself and shared that she and a few other YLC members will be going to Douds Elementary School and doing a peer teaching session with the 5th grade students about alcohol awareness and helping them to write letters to seniors encouraging them to stay drug and alcohol free during the graduation season.
* Lydia Heald introduced herself and shared that the seniors this year will actually also receive in their letters packet from the coalition the letter they wrote to a senior when they were in 5th grade. She also shared that another group of YLC members are making a video about a person waking up in a field with no idea of how they got there. Then it will have quick shots of the previous evening of them remembering what had happened and who had influenced their choices during the events of that evening. This video will then be presented to all of the students at VBHS during their lunch times in the lunch room. She shared the actors in the video will all be YLC members and the script has been developed by YLC members too. Lydia also shared that Libby King, Emily Jester, Faith Murphy, Cassie Johnson and Lydia had attended a conference on April 1st at Kirkwood College with a presentation by Kevin Sabet (the co-founder with Patrick Kennedy of the Project for Smart Approaches to Marijuana) on the 7 Myths of Marijuana.

**ACTION STEP:** None |
| **Topic:** Town Hall Meeting Recap – Our Community. Our Health. Our Future.* Abby shared that the event well. She shared that Cassie Johnson was the emcee for the event, Beverly Walsmith of the Iowa Tobacco Prevention Alliance did a presentation on the dangers of tobacco products for youth, Officer Jason Marlow did a presentation on the dangers of alcohol use by minors and Faith Murphy and Lydia Heald did a presentation on marijuana’s impact on the adolescent brain. She said that it was good, useful information that was shared. She said that the turnout was low and she had expected more to attend as it involved youth and the whole community. The people that attended gave good feedback through the surveys that the participants filled out before and after the event. Heidi passed around copies of the results of the surveys.
* Heidi shared that overall they were very good. She said people gave good feedback and that people learned something and there were a few people interested in more information and becoming involved with the coalition too. She also shared that there were 43 people in attendance at the event and that attendance was split about half and half between adults and youth. She said there were a few recommendations for future events and the coalition will look at those and consider them for the next event it puts on. She said the neat part for her about the event was the way that it was situated with two round table questions presented to the audience to be discussed at their table and then a presenter on the drug that those two questions addressed. Abby pointed out that the adults and youth sat together so it was not an adult against youth they were able to shared their thoughts and opinions with each other. She also shared that her step dad, Sheriff Dan Tedrow, learned a lot from what Abby was able to share with him during those discussions. Heidi said that the coalition kept the recorded answers to those questions and they will be used to help the coalition to lead further discussions on these drugs and topics in the future.

**ACTION STEP:** None |
| **Topic:** Letters to Seniors Project * Heidi shared that the YLC members will be helping with the 5th graders writing their letters to seniors this year. She shared that every year 5th graders write a letter to a graduating senior asking them to be drug and alcohol free. Included in those packets are a letter from the coalition encouraging them to be safe during graduation, a letter from the Sheriff encouraging them in their future and a letter from the school congratulating them on their success. These packets are passed out each year to the graduating seniors. Heidi said that this year is really exciting because the coalition has done this project every year since the current seniors were in 5th grade. So, this year will be the first year that the coalition will be able to return their letters to them. She said the coalition has saved a copy of these letters every year and this year the coalition will give the seniors back the letters they wrote in their packets. She expects the students will enjoy reading them.

**ACTION STEP:** None |
| **Topic:** SAFE Scholarship Review* Heidi asked for volunteers to review scholarship applications for the SAFE Scholarship that started years ago with a donation from a coalition member to be used solely for scholarships for graduating seniors who had been members of YLC. She shared that every year the coalition does scholarships if it has graduating seniors who are YLC members. In the past normally the coalition only receives one application and that student is awarded the scholarship. She shared that this year though there are four applications for the scholarship. Heidi shared that she and Melissa should not be the reviewers as they work with the students so she is looking for three volunteers to help with this process. Ginger Shaw, Kitty Bogle and Mary Ann Williams agreed to help with this review. Heidi asked that they return their scores by mail or email by May 1, 2014.

**ACTION STEP:** Review Applications and score them and return scores to Heidi**By Whom:** Ginger, Kitty and Mary Ann **By When:** May 1, 2014  |
| **Topic:** City of Keosauqua – 175th Birthday Party Request* Heidi shared that she received a call from the chamber last week and they are holding a 175th Birthday Celebration for Keosauqua over the weekend of July 4th and wondered if the coalition would be willing to put on a teen dance during this event. She asked if the coalition would be interested in this event. She did share that the coalition cannot fund it with coalition dollars and the chamber is willing to work on the finances for it. She said it would include chaperoning the event and putting it on. Abby Rider suggested that Colton Putnam’s dad might be willing to DJ the event as he DJ’s other school events. It would be held Saturday Night, July 5th. She asked if anyone would volunteer to participate in this event. Attendees said as the date gets closer they might be able to commit to it. Melissa suggested sending out an email to all members asking them if they would be willing to participate in this event. Heidi said yes that is a good idea.

**ACTION STEP:** Send email to all coalition members asking for volunteers to chaperone and put on the dance**By Whom:** Heidi**By When:** ASAP  |
| **Topic:** Compliance Check Update* Heidi shared that the results for the most current alcohol and tobacco compliance checks are in the packets. The March 15th alcohol compliance had 100% compliance by all businesses that were checked. The tobacco checks were also 100% compliant in March. Julie noted that two of her students in the Work Experience Program noted on their resumes in the bulleted items that they had been trained in the Merchant Alcohol Training Program and that they have passed a compliance check. Heidi shared that a large number of people have been trained in the past month. Melissa asked for the next training dates – Kris shared tonight and tomorrow morning and June 17th & 18th.

**ACTION STEP:** None |
| **Topic:** Faith Based Sector – Filling Position * Heidi shared that the coalition used to have two faith based members on it, but both of those members have now moved away from Van Buren County. So she is looking for ideas on how to recruit faith based members to the coalition. Julie shared that Pastor Mosier has retired from the church in Douds so maybe contact that new pastor. Kris mentioned the Stockport Christian Church and their active youth group. Kris mentioned she has a contact for the Zion Church so maybe she can get the contact information for that new minister. Heidi said she will check into the Stockport pastor.

**ACTION STEP:** Contact the new pastor at Zion and Contact the Stockport Pastor**By Whom:** Kris and Heidi**By When:** ASAP |
| **Topic:** Work Group Time* Heidi shared she would like everyone to break into their work groups and do some work today. She shared that the hospital group will not meet as there is no new administrator yet. She said she has updates for the Drug Free Worksites, Near Peers and Parents.
* Heidi shared that the coalition packet also contains the most recent coalition newsletter for everyone’s information.
* Randy asked about whether or not work has been done with the school on a comprehensive drug free worksite policy there. Heidi said she met with Dr. Ewell and asked about it and Dr. Ewell said she would check on it and see if it can be done. Since that meeting she has not heard back from Dr. Ewell.
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| **Other Business:** * Mary Ann shared that she would like to ask the coalition to sponsor a wear blue day for Child Abuse Prevention month this month. Heidi said that she would work with the YLC group to do this by the end of April. She said she will send out an email announcing the day so that it can be advertised. Heidi shared that Child Abuse Prevention Month is advertised in the newsletter as well.
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**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, May 20, 2014 at 2:00 pm at Van Buren County Hospital Community Services Center Conference Room.

**Meeting Adjourned:** At 2:50 p.m.

\*Meeting minutes are only a summary of the meeting. For a recording of the full dialogue of the meeting you may contact the coalition office.