

Vermont Drug and Alcohol Coalition

February 28, 2007
Pavilion, 12:30-2 pm

Rescheduled Quarterly meeting at ADAP: To be held Thursday, March 22nd, 2:30-4:00 pm at VT Dept of Health, Shepherd Room, 2nd floor. (Please note, the meeting was rescheduled from Jan. & Feb.)

Mission Statement: The Vermont Drug and Alcohol Coalition exist to continually improve access to quality prevention, intervention, treatment, enforcement, and recovery services and programs for all Vermonters.

Attendance: Debby Haskins-PX & IX, Ken Liberto-TX, Patrick Martin-PX, IX & Recovery, Patty McCarthy-Recovery, Marie Holtman-TX, Jeanice Garfield-PX, Dawn Jorgensen-PX., David O'Brien- Treatment, Joan Lenes-Legislator and formerly representing Prevention/Coalition.

- 📞 Part of today's discussion was about moving the Coalition goals forward and hiring someone to write a grant, which would support a part time coordinator for the Coalition- specifically for Public Relations. The group unanimously voted to use some of our funds to hire someone to begin the process. Debby will begin the process, and all decisions will be made by the officers.

Legislative Assignments & VAMH: Ken reported that the Governor's budget is quite late this year, and was only recently shared. Mental health received 11%, substance abuse received less than 1 % . Although the last four years the Governor's budget has supported DETER, little real progress will be made as substance abuse goals erode. It would seem that with the 3 Federal Grants that ADAP has received is impacting the decisions Legislators make, once the grant money is gone will the good work that has progressed be diminished?

Jo Romano: ADAP prevention consultant: walked us through a mini process of systems change. We discussed who was missing at the table: youth voices, business/work force, faith based community; it was suggested that at the next meeting we all invite other sectors. Reminder that the legs of the Coalition are P(revention) I(ntervention), T(reatment), E(nforcement), and R(ecovery)- PITER and that if someone joins us they should be from one of these sectors. The Coalition represents the bigger picture, and offers evidence based research.

- Educate legislators, provide consistent information to Legislative Committees
- We need to provide consistent attention to the substance abuse problems in VT.
- We need to present a universal and consistent message
- Need a system for information dissemination, regular communication
- Getting key specific messages about who we are and how to reach us
- Any plan needs to be a living plan, and we continue to build on it.
- Free survey process at: www.surveymonkey.com
- We need to see ourselves as a business and to market ourselves as such
- Business cards, logo (we used to have one designed by Sarah Munro)

- Need a web site to disseminate messages
- PASSION.

F.O.R.-Day at the State House: March 30th, Friday. All welcome.

Minutes from the January 2007 meeting were accepted.

Treasurer's Report-Jeanice Garfield; as presented: Balance is \$3048 .00.

**March 15th - State House Cafeteria- view the HBO Addictions Video & light dinner,
from 4-5:30 pm**

March 30th is Recovery Day at the State House

April 3, 2007-Legislative Day for VDAC

April is Alcohol Awareness Month.

2007 Important Dates:

Coalition Meeting Dates:,

March 28 at the Pavilion -12:30-2:30 pm @ the Pavilion, 4th floor,

April 25th @ Dept of Liquor Control, May 23rd, place TBA

LEGISLATIVE DAY –Tuesday, April 3rd, 2007

**VDAC 2007 Priorities
P.I.T.E.R.**

Prevention Priorities: A commitment to sustain the existing Coalitions

Intervention Priorities: A commitment to sustain existing Student Assistance Professionals, and to increase the # of SAP's by 5. (This would increase capacity so every High School would have a counselor a minimum of 2 days per week.)

Treatment Priorities: To maintain existing service capacity, and to increase the # of Detox beds by 3 in every County

Enforcement Priorities: To change the DUI laws to include penalties for drugs.

Recovery Priorities: A commitment to sustain the existing Recovery Centers,
To increase Transitional Housing Beds by 24 beds.
To increase the peer led support services, e.g. Wit's End Parent Support Groups.

Thanks to Marie for taking the minutes. Errors are mine: Debby Haskins