



April 17, 2024

Agenda		
Agenda Topic	Presenter	Duration (minutes)
Introductions/ Icebreaker	Anne & Everyone	10
Ongoing Projects/ Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guernsey Prom April 13th - Spring Show- This Friday April 19th - Senior Walk and Talk- Mondays @ 1:00pm - Wheatland Prom- May 4th - Graduation Yard Signs - Dimensions Tobacco Free Groups - INDEPTH/ N-O-T on Tobacco 	Travis, Anne & Everyone	15
Update of School Collaborations	Anne	5
Suicide/Mental Health Data, Interventions and Discussion	Everyone	30
Next Meeting: Wednesday May 15th at Noon		

PLATTE COUNTY CARES COALITION MEETING MINUTES

April 17, 2024

Members Present: Lisa Montoya, Brooke Gudahl, LaRon Eller, Paige Tolle, Tori Kittell, Christi Parrish, Lexi Bookout, Isabel Rieker, Jenni Webb, Jen Raser, Essie McCall, Travis Sylvester, Anne Petroski, Christina Mangan, Jackie Angle

Introductions:

Coalition members introduced themselves and the agencies that they represent (if applicable).

Ongoing Projects/ Events

Guernsey Prom- April 13th

Platte County Prevention provided a banner/photo backdrop for Guernsey-Sunrise Prom that was held last Saturday. Travis shared a photo of the backdrop to the coalition. The backdrop was at the entrance of the prom and was well received by students and staff.

Spring Show This Friday April 19th:

Platte County Prevention will have a booth at the Platte County Spring Show at the Agriplex this Friday. Platte County Prevention will focus on distributing Deterra bags and encouraging attendees to get rid of unneeded medications.

Senior Walk and Talk:

Senior Walk and Talk Events are Mondays from 1:00-2:00pm at the Agriplex and running through May 20th. The focus of these events will be mental health but will also feature different agency representatives who will speak to participants regarding the services that are available at their agency. All are welcome, however, the focus population is Platte County

Senior Citizens over 65 years of age. Anne handed out flyers for this event and asked coalition members to please share.

Wheatland Prom:

Platte County Prevention will be providing a sign/photo backdrop for Wheatland prom scheduled for May 4th. Travis showed coalition members the graphic design created for the banner. The banner/photo backdrop will be provided in addition to props in hopes of encouraging engagement with the banner.

Graduation Yard Signs:

Anne reported that Guernsey-Sunrise has already given her Senior Photos and that these signs are in the production phase. Anne will be receiving Wheatland Senior pictures asap and will get them to Travis for production asap.

Dimensions Tobacco Free Groups:

Anne reported that she completed the Facilitator Training for the Dimensions Tobacco Free Group program. Anne is looking at possible starting dates for this program. Dimensions would be adult tobacco cessation group classes. They would be provided in a hybrid format so that participants could attend in person or via Zoom.

INDEPTH/ N-O-T on Tobacco:

Anne said that she had recently completed on-line facilitator training for the INDEPTH/ N-O-T on tobacco. Anne provided coalition members with a handout about the INDEPTH classes. Anne has offered to provide classes for both Wheatland High School and Guernsey-Sunrise. Guernsey-Sunrise has agreed and will be making referrals for all students caught vaping or with vaping paraphernalia at school.

Update on School Collaborations: Anne stated that she met with administrators from both school districts to discuss upcoming collaborations for this next school year. Both school

districts have confirmed continued D.A.R.E programs in all schools with the supplemental Rx drug use lessons and More than Sad (Suicide Prevention curriculum). Guernsey-Sunrise Schools plan to expand the Catch My Breath curriculum to more grades and Wheatland Middle School is interested in the Catch My Breath vaping curriculum as well.

Suicide/Mental Health Data, Interventions and Discussion:

Coalition Members looked through the data resources handed out by Anne. Data sources included PNA data, National statewide suicide rates, and WDH data and reports. Coalition members discussed various data that stuck out to them. Wyoming continues to have one of the highest suicide rates in the nation. Coalition members reported that they believed that isolation plays a factor as well as Wyoming's cowboy up mentality and the stigma that surrounds mental health concerns. In looking at the PNA data, Platte County students reported lower than state average in suicide attempts but was higher than average in suicidal ideation and bullying. There was a discussion about bullying and the definition of bullying. Coalition members agreed that helping schools address this would be a priority as well as helping parents talk with their children about mental health and bullying. Coalition members also feel that having activities for youth that are not all about sports would also be helpful. Platte County has the second highest rate of suicide per capita in Wyoming according to the WDH data.

The coalition also discussed suicide rates among our veterans and how we could assist with increasing awareness of the current services already available to our veterans. Essie McCall from Volunteers of America also informed coalition members about the veteran specific resources that are available through the VOA. The coalition discussed the stigma that surrounds mental health and suicide and talked about how conversations with various groups can help normalize these topics. The group also talked about how to reach parents that need this information but who would not attend parent-teacher conferences or trainings. One of those methods could be distributing HOTL handbooks to several public locations where all parents go- medical offices, libraries, post offices, etc.

Next meeting will be Wednesday May 15th at Noon in the Conference Room at the Platte County Attorney's Office.