



THE ALL-STARS PREVENTION GROUP

(An extension of Surry County Office of Substance Abuse Recovery, focused on Substance Use Prevention)

All-Stars Meeting Report

Held from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM, November 9, 2021

Historic Courthouse, Dobson, NC

Meeting Report

- I. Summary of Meeting
- II. Introduction with list of outcomes
- III. Participant demographics
- IV. Summary of findings with each outcome, including representative quotes, results of yes or no questions, and quantitative data
- V. Recommendations

I. Summary of Meeting:

The Surry County Substance Abuse Office held a community meeting on Tuesday, November 9, 2021 involving various members of the community representing Surry County. Ms. Charlotte Reeves, Community Outreach Coordinator, led the meeting with 22 community members present. Tonight's meeting went a little different than others, because we just wanted to have discussion about Red Ribbon Week and have some discussion amongst the group. Charlotte Reeves began the meeting and gave a brief presentation about the success of Red Ribbon Week.

II. Introduction

The Surry County Substance Abuse Recovery Office held a community meeting with twenty-two community members on November 9, 2021. The meeting was conducted as part of the Substance Abuse Recovery Office's involvement in reducing the number of opiate and other drug related deaths and abuse in Surry County. The All-Stars have had previous discussions about the ways that Surry County Substance Abuse Recovery Office has set up a proposed "Continuum of Care", to explore ways to eliminate many impediments for those residents seeking treatment and recovery. This meeting was held at the Historic Courthouse in Dobson, NC. The goal of this meeting is to promote discussion within our group that can extend to our community about the problem of substance use disorder and mental health issues.

III. Participant Demographics

Twenty-two participants took part in the meeting:

- 17 women
- 5 men

IV. Participant Perspectives

Perspective 1: Charlotte Reeves welcomed every and announced that tonight will be a short meeting with no guest, just group discussion. She first introduced Ms. Deborah Giep to give a short update on the Ride the Road to Recovery program.

Perspective 2: Our first speaker was Ms. Deborah Giep who is the Program Coordinator for Ride the Road to Recovery, which is our transportation program. Ms. Giep gave the number of hours that drivers have spent in the car with people travelling back and forth to treatment and the number of total miles that the program has incurred. There are obstacles they face, the biggest being the problem of communication. She also noted that they are working to resolve these issues. She shared examples of how the drivers speak to the clients that use their services.

Perspective 3: Ms. Reeves discussed the agenda for the meeting and spoke to the group about the many areas that substance use disorder affects the community. She discussed how successful we were for Red Ribbon week and thanked everyone who contributed to the cause. She asked the group to think about ways that we could have improved the event.

Perspective 4: Next, we opened the floor up to general discussion of the All-Stars. The discussion was about volunteering in the area that you have a passion for and where your strengths lie.

Perspective 5: Mr. Jamie Edwards spoke up and noted how there was great diversity in the room. First, he called out some people and announced what agency or non-profit they were from. Each one introduced themselves and spoke. This included Elizabeth Wright representing the Redemption House, Regina Propst representing Insight Human Services, Karl Singletary representing New Horizons, New Beginnings, Wendy Odum from Birches Foundation and Melissa Hiatt from United Fund of Surry.

Prevention 6: Mr. Edwards made the connection that we need to make more effort into getting to know each other and learning about the services each of us offer to fully utilize or recommend these services to others.

Prevention 7: Melissa Hiatt introduced herself as the Executive Director of the United Fund of Surry and offered to help any non-profit in the room in any capacity.

Prevention 8: Ms. Reeves thanked everyone and ended the meeting. She announced that we would take the month of December off due to the holidays and would meet again in January to start more work on our coalition efforts.

V. Recommendations

The All-Star Prevention Group Members that were present all agreed that sharing ideas, monthly, is a great educational opportunity. Once again, everyone agrees that the substance abuse problems continue to be a major issue for those who are suffering with the problem, their families, and our County. The meeting was adjourned and will meet again in the month of November. Everyone was informed to check their email for The All-Star Prevention Group correspondence. The members were briefed that there will also be an email sent out with the November Meeting Minutes and an announcement of the next scheduled meeting date and location. Thank you to the new participants who attended this meeting. It was a great success.

Charlotte Reeves also requested that everyone check out the Surry County Opioid Response Effort Facebook page and website at surrycountycares.com.

If you have any questions, or need additional information, please contact:

Charlotte Reeves at: reevesc@co.surry.nc.us