

## MINUTES

**Purpose:** Engage Okaloosa County community members in a health improvement process through an open, two-way dialogue to provide feedback for each OCHIP group and ensure continuity, especially regarding substance use activities.

**Attendees:** Emily Pickens, Florida Department of Health in Okaloosa County (DOH-Okaloosa); Petra Maddens, DOH-Okaloosa; Amanda Colwell, DOH-Okaloosa; Elizabeth “Beth” Smith, DOH-Okaloosa; Lynn Wadsworth, DOH-Okaloosa; Trisha Dall, DOH-Okaloosa; Ardelle Bush, Healthy Start Coalition of Okaloosa and Walton Counties; Kylee Gallavan, Freedom Life Compass; Chief Robert Bage, Fort Walton Beach Police Department; Danielle Wilson, Emerald Coast Children’s Advocacy Center.

### Opening – Elizabeth “Beth” Smith

- Elizabeth “Beth” Smith opened the meeting and welcomed attendees. She also shared results from the Community Engagement Survey from the previous meeting.
- Minutes from the February 1, 2023 meeting were reviewed and approved.

### OCHIP Group Reporting – OCHIP Champions

- Kylee Gallavan shared Healthy Behaviors group received a presentation about substance use and opioid ‘hot spots’ in Okaloosa County.
  - The group also provided feedback for the health services and substance use rack card that is in development.
  - She shared the group will now meet monthly and hopes to leverage some of the recently announced substance use funding through the state government.
- Ardelle Bush stated the Healthy Moms and Babies group is working to increase messaging around substance use to their OBGYN partners.
  - Healthy Start recently shared a media campaign from Drug Free America to promote substance use resources for moms and babies.
- Danielle Wilson shared updates from the Healthy Children group.
  - They recently completed filming for the Handle with Care video. The video involved numerous community partners involved in the Handle with Care process. It will be shared as an educational tool once developed.
  - She added the video project has been very encouraging to the group, as Handle with Care has been an important policy improvement over the last five years.
    - Amanda Colwell agreed and shared an additional goal of the video is to leverage it as a tool to expand Handle with Care to additional municipalities in Okaloosa County.
- Beth provided updates from the Healthy Communities group.
  - She shared the Okaloosa County School District (OCSD) approached her to get Narcan in the schools. She was able to connect them to the right resources and shared this should be currently running through the School Resource Officers (SROs).

- Additionally, Mayor Whitten and Karen Brown recently spoke to OCSD about their efforts in Crestview, including their Substance Use Task Force that is currently working on an educational campaign.
- Beth shared the state is expanding the [Coordinated Opioid Recovery](#) (CORE) program. This will be done through the Department of Children and Families.
  - She stated there is additional funding coming available through the state, but it is not yet known which counties will receive the additional funding. An announcement will be made as soon as possible if Okaloosa is included.
- Amanda Colwell shared an update for the Overdose to Action (OD2A) funding DOH-Okaloosa received.
  - They are currently working on an educational campaign including billboards in 'hot spots' across the county.
  - The messaging includes [Never Use Alone](#), [iSaveFL](#), and local Naloxone distribution sites in Okaloosa County.

**Open Discussion – All**

- Kylee shared Freedom Life Compass has a rapid response van they use to assist with jail transportation, emergency street rescues, and other situations.
  - She asked if DOH-Okaloosa could assist with getting the van wrapped with messaging and contact information to better spread the word about available substance use resources.
  - Emily, Petra, and Kylee will connect about this project after the meeting.
- Ardelle stated the [World's Greatest Baby Shower](#) will be on Tuesday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at the Destin-Fort Walton Beach Convention Center. The event is for expectant or new parents to receive resources, giveaways, and education. Vendors and sponsors are still needed. [Click here](#) to register as a sponsor.
- Petra Maddens announced the [Okaloosa County Resources Fair](#) will be held on April 4<sup>th</sup> from 12:00PM to 6:00PM at Trinity United Methodist Church in Fort Walton Beach. The purpose of the event is to have on-site services readily available for residents to utilize or sign-up for. Service providers interested in registering as a vendor should use the link [here](#).

**Closing – Amanda Colwell**

- Amanda thanked attendees for participating and asked them to complete the meeting evaluation form to provide feedback.

*Next Meeting – Wednesday, June 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM at DOH-Okaloosa and via Microsoft Teams*

Action Items	Owners	Deadline	Status
Send recurring invitation for the OCHIP Champions quarterly meeting	Emily Tash Pickens	2/3/2023	Completed
Send monthly emails with OCHIP meeting details to full OCHIP DL	Emily Tash Pickens	First Monday of each month	Ongoing