

MINUTES

Purpose: Engage Okaloosa County community members in a health improvement process through an open, two-way dialogue to reduce the impact of harmful events such as pedestrian injuries, older adult falls, and substance use and to reduce the housing burden.

Attendees: Emily Pickens, Florida Department of Health in Okaloosa County (DOH-Okaloosa); Lauren Hobbs, DOH-Okaloosa; Beth Smith, DOH-Okaloosa; Robert Bage, Fort Walton Beach Police Department; JB Whitten, City of Crestview; Tim Gibson, City of Fort Walton Beach; Jason Fulghum, Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office (OCSO); Amanda Colwell, DOH-Okaloosa; Jennifer Edwards, West Florida Area Health Education Center; Elliott Kampert, Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioners; Shawn Nickel, NWFHealth Network; Melissa Garza, Emerald Coast Association of REALTORS; Ryan Mims, DOH-Walton; Chance Leavins, City of Crestview; Stevie Wolfe, Oxford House Inc.; Katrina Coker, Emerald Coast Association of REALTORS; Shannettra Francis, City of Niceville.

Opening – Elizabeth “Beth” Smith

- Beth opened the meeting and welcomed attendees.
- Minutes from the March 21, 2024, meeting were reviewed and approved.
- Beth shared Community Engagement Survey results from the previous meeting. Attendees reported their opinions were heard and the collaboration was a strength.

Action Plan Updates – Robert Bage and JB Whitten

Post-Overdose Response Team Updates

- Emily Pickens provided an update on the post-overdose response team being developed in the Healthy Behaviors OCHIP group. She encouraged interested persons to attend the May 2nd meeting at Crosspoint Church in Niceville from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Okaloosa Walton Housing Summit

- Melissa Garza provided a brief update about the Housing Summit for new attendees.
- Emily Pickens encouraged members to review the recently published Okaloosa County Attainable Workforce Housing Strategic Plan.
 - Elliott Kampert provided an overview of the plan's strategies.
 - Emily shared the Housing Steering Committee briefly discussed developing a media-based public education campaign following the Summit. This strategy overlaps with a strategy accepted within the plan. The Affordable Housing Advisory Committee will also be involved in the development of the campaign.
- Emily opened discussion regarding the development of the campaign.
 - Melissa stated the campaign should include educational pieces to combat key issues and include tailored messaging for different entities (i.e. public safety, local government, etc.).
 - Emily asked attendees if their agencies would be willing to participate.
 - Jason Fulghum will coordinate with OCSO, the Cities of Crestview and Niceville will assist, along with the Emerald Coast Association of REALTORS® (ECAR). Members then discussed other agencies to include:

OCSD, other municipalities, chambers of commerce, United Way Emerald Coast, and other non-profits.

- o Chance Leavins stated the campaign should include 2-3 key points, then can be tailored by agency as needed. Using shared branding should not be an issue.

Action Items – Robert Bage and JB Whitten

- Emily will obtain more information from TPMA regarding a successful campaign they executed in another county recently. She will share with the PIOs.

Closing – Emily Pickens

- Emily proposed canceling the May meeting as it would immediately follow the Housing Summit and there would be little time to complete action items or prepare. Attendees agreed the Housing Summit can serve as the May meeting.
- Chief Bage shared Fort Walton Beach Police Department will host a Touch a Truck event on Saturday, April 20th at the Fort Walton Beach fairgrounds.
- Mayor Whitten encouraged members to attend the Healthy Children OCHIP group's Run4Health 5K race on April 20th beginning at 8:00 a.m.

Next Meeting – June 20th at 9:00 a.m. at DOH-Okaloosa

Action Items	Owners	Deadline	Status
Share details of Housing Summit	Emily Pickens	Ongoing	In Progress
Coordinate with PIOs to develop media campaign following the Summit	Emily Pickens	6/30/2024	In Progress
Review Okaloosa County Attainable Workforce Housing Strategic Plan	All	6/20/2024	In Progress