

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-related activities.

Present: Petra Maddens, Florida Department of Health in Okaloosa County (DOH-Okaloosa); Emily Pickens, DOH-Okaloosa; Amanda Colwell, DOH-Okaloosa; Stephanie Wedel, Freedom Life Compass; Robert Bage, Fort Walton Beach Police Department; JB Whitten, City of Crestview; Jessica Trimboli, Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office; Ardelle Bush, Healthy Start Coalition of Okaloosa and Walton Counties; Deb Willis, West Florida Area Health Education Center; Danielle Wilson, Emerald Coast Children's Advocacy Center.

Absent: Elizabeth Smith, DOH-Okaloosa; Lynn Wadsworth, DOH-Okaloosa.

Welcome & Introductions – Elizabeth “Beth” Smith

- Beth opened the meeting and welcomed attendees. She reviewed the meeting's purpose and agenda, she also reviewed results from the Community Engagement Survey from the previous meeting in December. Responses were positive.
- Minutes from the December 6, 2023, meeting were reviewed and approved.

OCHIP Group Updates – OCHIP Champions

OCHIP Celebration Feedback

- Emily Pickens stated feedback from the event was largely positive.
- Jessica Trimboli shared Jim Bay offered his restaurant at the Fort Walton Beach Golf Course for next year, as a larger venue is needed. She also suggested a voting system be developed. Members and/or Champions can nominate members across the partnership, including a blurb about the nominee.

Group Reporting

- Jessica and Danielle shared information about the Run4Health 5K race.
 - The race will remain in Crestview and benefit the Early Learning Coalition again in 2025 since this year's event was a learning experience.
- Stephanie shared responder briefings have gone well and the Healthy Behaviors group is working on a Post-Overdose Response Team launching in July.
 - The team will include a community paramedic, law enforcement officer, and behavioral health clinician for the initial phase.
 - Emily shared the second phase will include a peer component. Since there is not an existing peer network, she will need time to partner with other agencies and Stephanie to roll out this piece effectively.
- Chief Bage and Mayor Whitten shared the Healthy Communities group has largely focused on housing and paramedicine efforts over recent months.

- The Housing Summit is scheduled for Monday May 13th as a full-day training and action planning event. Around 175 people are scheduled to attend.
- Ardelle shared Healthy Moms and Babies is gearing up for the World's Greatest Baby shower in mid-May. Around 500 attendees are expected.

International Overdose Awareness Day

- Emily opened discussion for IOAD.
 - Mayor Whitten voiced support for hosting an event in Niceville. Attendees agreed. Stephanie Wedel offered to reserve Crosspoint Church for free.
 - Jessica suggested there be a panel to discuss current programs.
 - Chief Bage encouraged an opening session that defines the problem through data. Jessica suggested a contact from the DEA attend to share statistics.
 - Others expressed a need to hear testimonials from those with personal or familial life experience. All attendees agreed this is a key piece of the event.
 - The event will be Saturday, August 31st from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. including lunch.

Action Items – OCHIP Champions

- Jessica will reach out to the DEA office to determine if someone can speak.
- Stephanie will book the sanctuary at Crosspoint Church for Saturday, August 31st.

Open Discussion – All

- Freedom Life Compass rescheduled their Spring Soiree to June 1st.
- Fort Walton Beach Police Department's monthly bike ride is May 11th. Following the route, they have an event at the Greg Chapel Family Center.

Closing – Amanda Colwell

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

Next Meeting – May 28th at DOH-Okaloosa at 10:00 a.m.

Action Items	Owners	Deadline	Status
Contact DEA local office for a potential IOAD speaker	Jessica Trimboli	Next meeting	In Progress
Book Crosspoint Church sanctuary for IOAD August 31 st	Stephanie Wedel	Next meeting	Complete
Brainstorm ideas for speakers, panels, etc. before next meeting	All	Next meeting	In progress