

Communities that Care

Prevention Works. It's working Here.

Policy & Practice Change Workgroup

March 28, 2018

Present: Laurie Loisel (NWDA), Kat Allen (PFY- recording), Kara McLaughlin (GMCSP), Deb Neubauer (OTF), Lucinda Brown (Reinventing Justice), Phoebe Walker (FRCOG), Ilana Gerjuoy (PFY).

Introductions and Ice breaker

Member Updates

- Laurie:
 - Sojourner Truth School – FREE classes all over the valley on organizing for social change. Started by Andrea Avasian. www.truthschool.org
 - Drug Takeback Day -- April 28th, 10-2
 - Law Day at Franklin Courthouse – 9:30 on May 1st
 - Pizza, tours of courthouse
 - Hampshire CO – Trauma-informed communities workgroup working on an event in October. More info on that soon!

- Deb N.:
 - OTF is moving forward on exploring trauma–informed communities work
 - Progress on lack of methadone access
 - Tapestry is making progress on needle exchange and harm reduction work
 - April 6 – grand opening for NQ Recovery Center
 - Women have arrived at FC House of Corrections, settling in...lots of logistics involved in the transition
 - TJC initiative going really well; lots of great community support for TJC mentors

- Phoebe:
 - Re: trauma-informed communities:
 - work on trauma-informed care training for medical providers - pilot happening for Pioneer Women's Health
 - When methadone clinic expands, important to think about ways to be publicly welcoming

- Kara:
 - April 10th Vaping & Juuling presentation, part of collaborative parent education group. Kat and Melinda presenting at evening event after Gill-Montague Community School Partnership meeting

- Lucinda, also regarding trauma-informed practice:

- 4 hour webinar at IHR – Institute for Health & Recovery – great training, life-changing, focuses on internal culture as well as how an agency serves the community
- David Stanley available for presentations

Marijuana Policy

- Phoebe:
 - Recent 3 hour training for BOH members – draft local regs were unveiled. Phoebe is available to help towns think about this. Phoebe provided a hard copy of draft local regs that towns can choose from – many recommendations are doubling upon CCC regulations locally - a menu of options including:
 - raising minimum age included as an option – no one has done it yet but decided to include it (similar to tobacco 21) since brain continues to develop until mid-twenties.
 - “food is food” reg can apply if BOH says it is in your town...every town will need to pass something that says this. This means that edible marijuana products would be subject to inspection.
 - banning loose rolling
 - housing can ban the smoking of MJ, shouldn't try to ban growing
 - committee to address drugged driving/drug-free workplace is forming
 - Question that arose - Is CBD oil regulated the same way as THC products?
 - Hemp regulations coming soon too
- Laurie:
 - Heard that it's worth looking at the regulations in Hull and Brookline
- Ilana:
 - Shared her handout – feel free to use/adapt
 - Patriot Care to expand to recreational MJ in Greenfield
- Kara (about recent meeting and hearing in Montague re: proposed MJ business)
 - 253 Organic LLC – public hearing for site review and public outreach meeting
 - Vertically integrated – craft cooperative license
 - Proposing to use old Hallmark facility; want to open retail ASAP to help fund growing
 - They agreed to open at 9 instead of 8 to avoid the spectacle of cars lined up outside as kids go to school
 - Rick Martin sent a letter that he didn't think it would be good for students – the location is super-close to schools
 - 250 lbs of MJ/month when operation in full swing
 - Diversion-prevention: sounds like limited to ID-ing customers
- Group discussion - Can we have some kind of process where after one of these meetings someone (P&PC? CTC?) will send a letter to Selectboard with the things we would want to see in their host agreement. Would have to be done quickly!

Upcoming workshop by Phoebe Walker on working with local governments

- May 4 after CTC Full Coalition Meeting
- Generic enough to be applicable to all topics with lots of MJ examples
- Youth are welcome and could also do another one more geared towards youth
- A few possible topics that the group mentioned:
 - Stigma and public health
 - School committees
 - How do you find out more?
 - How do you get on boards...?
 - What do your taxes do (Mayor Higgins used to give this info.)

CTC Racial Justice Survey

- Sending out to workgroups – please fill out. We will keep you informed and engaged with next steps.

Set future meeting dates – every other month from now on?

Yes, group agreed that every other month is good at this point. A few months ago, the group decided to meet monthly until the Cannabis Control Regulations came out this spring – now that the regs are out, we decided to go ahead with that plan and return to meeting every other month.

In the time between meetings, we can have any subcommittee meetings that make sense and continue to work on the many varied projects that workgroup members are engaged in.

Next meeting May 23.

Meetings every other month in future Still on the 4th Wednesday, 9:30 – 11am.

Schedule for remainder of 2018:

- July 25
- Sept 26
- Nov 28 (works well – week after Thanksgiving)