



**MEDINA COUNTY DRUG ABUSE COMMISSION (MCDAC)
Minutes of December 4, 2017**

◆ **ATTENDANCE**

• Present

David Centner – Commissioners’ Rep.
Evelyn Czyz - Township Rep.
Louis DeLoss - Township Alt. Rep.
Matt Hiscock – Wadsworth Alt. Rep.
Susan Kinney-Dillon – Brunswick Alt. Rep.
Amy Lyon-Galvin – Commissioners Alt. Rep.
Holly Phillips – Commissioners Alt. Rep.

Pat Nahrstedt - Wadsworth Rep.
Cliff Nowak - Brunswick Rep.
Kent Patterson - Police Chiefs Assoc. Rep.
Peggy Reeves – School Districts Alt. Rep.
Wally Schaedel - Villages Rep.
Robert Starcher – Medina Rep.

• Absent

Will Koran - School District Rep. (excused)
Jeff Vogel - Commissioners Rep. (excused)

• Others Present

Brian Nowak - MCDAC Executive Director
Mary Napoli – Wadsworth City Schools
Prevention Specialist
Meagan Neumann – Wadsworth City Schools
Guidance and Prevention Specialist
Joyce Walker – Wadsworth City Schools
Director Student Services

◆ **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was held in the lower conference room of the Professional Services Building located at 124 West Washington Street, Medina. Vice Chair Kent Patterson called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. After roll call, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

◆ **CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of November 6, 2017, were emailed in advance. Cliff Nowak moved to approve the minutes; Wally Schaedel seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously. The minutes will be placed on file as submitted.

◆ **PRESENTATION – WADSWORTH CITY SCHOOLS**

After introductions, Meagan Neuman provided an overview of who they partner with including:

- Wadsworth Police Department
- Salvation Army
- Bellfaire/Solutions
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters
- United Way Resiliency Grant
- Leadership Medina County
- Feeding Medina County
- Backpack Connection
- Wadsworth Drug Free Community Coalition
- Freshwater Church
- OhioGuidestone
- Hospice of Western Reserve

Meagan explained that they were able to purchase the Too Good for Drugs curriculum with MCDAC funding. This is an evidence-based, K-8 educational curriculum that focuses on positive choices and peer-to-peer social skills aspect. This gives them the appropriate language and subject matter to use.

They also offer the Second Step Program that offers props at the elementary level such as puppets and photo cards; it is also evidence-based and is for social learning focusing on listening, classroom behavior, and emotional regulation.

Jesse Weinberger spoke to grades 5-12 about the dangers of the internet and surveyed those students to collect data. She then presented the results of the survey to the parents; the results were alarming. Meagan duplicated the survey for grades 1-4; those results were also alarming including results such as 25 percent had a cell phone where they can call, text and get on the internet including unrestricted access to YouTube; 45-50 percent of the student had seen or heard R rated material on the internet. They are working to educate their students and their parents on internet safety.

Meagan then discussed Red Ribbon Week including a video she had prepared for the students; the video will be shared with the MCDAC members at a later date.

Mary Napoli briefly reviewed the following programs/events offered at Wadsworth City Schools including:

- HUDDLE
- STAMP
- Mentoring Program
- GSAT
- Project Love
- Holiday Kindness Project
- Suicide Prevention
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters
- Feeding Medina County
- Backpack Connection
- Rachel's Challenge
- Heroes for Hope
- Generation RX
- Red Ribbon Week
- Unity Day
- Bullying Prevention
- Say Something Week
- Hidden in Plain Site

Joyce Walker explained that she came from a school that did not have the support of a grant like this and she is in awe of what is done for students in the District; she thanked the MCDAC members for their support. The District adopted a new drug policy this year; it is a mandated drug testing policy. Any student who is involved in extracurricular activities (7th-12th grades), non-academic activities and drivers are required to participate. Each student is tested one time and then random testing is conducted going forward. In order to set a tone in the District, the Superintendent, Board Members, Administrators and community members were also tested. This policy is intended to provide a safe and healthy student population, to provide the students an excuse to say no to peer pressure, to provide parents options and give them support, and to keep the students drug-free long-term.

If a student tests positive, the parents are immediately informed and the student is pointed in the right direction of a rehabilitation program or needed courses based on what they test positive for. In answer to a question, Joyce stated that there are no consequences for students that are 18 years of age, however, they are provided some good life choices type of instruction.

There was discussion regarding how to reach the students who are not participating in the program and the parents' ability to volunteer to have their children tested. Consequences of positive drug test results were also discussed. Matt Hiscock stated that the testing company had reported this program had the highest volume of opt-ins that they had ever been associated with in any school program.

Kent Patterson thanked them for their good work and for presenting the information.

◆ **OLD BUSINESS: UPDATE ON FIVE-YEAR FUNDING ANALYSIS**

Brian Nowak reported that everyone has been notified of the funding changes. He's working to confirm with Gary Hubbard his attendance at the March MCDAC meeting. At that point, we will know if the Drug Task Force will be asking for an increase and what that amount will look like. Funding for the school districts has been set for the next couple of years, but how those grants will look regarding personnel will be interesting. Cloverleaf will be getting one of the largest cuts, so whether that school district will contribute towards those prevention specialists remains to be seen.

Brian stated that he had met with Phillip Titterington from the ADAMH Board and will continue to talk with him about ADAMH Board being the primary funder of treatment in Medina County, since our dollars for treatment are very limited. The question is how to better utilize our funds to be able to possibly join with the ADAMH Board in funding entities such as Robby's Place and Community Assessment and Treatment Services (CATS).

◆ **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business for consideration.

◆ **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Brian Nowak reported that he met with the Director of Behavioral Health Services at Southwest Hospital (Michael Waggoner) Mr. Waggoner oversees a program called BreakThru where patients are medically managed throughout the withdrawal period from opiates in a medical unit in the hospital. Patients are given medication to ease them through the withdrawal process prior to entering treatment.

Brian distributed minutes of the October 27 Medina County Opiate Task Force Meeting (made part of the permanent record.) He pointed out that there is an Opiate Response Team which helps people that have overdosed. Following a referral a sheriff's deputy and a counselor visits with a client and encourages the person to enter into treatment to begin the Recovery process. Brian also noted that there are three subcommittees including Prevention, Education, Advocacy and Family Support; he invited anyone interested in participating to attend as they are looking for new members. The next full Task Force meeting is Friday, March 2, 2018 and a time and location to be announced.

Brian stated that the Home & Garden Show will be held March 3-4, 2018. Volunteers will be needed to staff the booth.

◆ **COMMISSION MEMBERS GO AROUND**

Holly Phillips stated that the withdrawal period is key; The LCADA Way is now using a method called the "Bridge" which assists individuals through the critical 6-7 day period when they are going through withdrawal. They are showing good success with this program.

Wally Schaedel shared a story of Makaela Kuhar who placed second in the state in the Debate Club. He recently met Mikaela at the Medina Kiwanis Breakfast. She was a fetal infant baby and was raised by her father. She is a pre-med student. He also mentioned Kristiana Davis and was very impressed by both of these students.

Pat Nahrstedt reminded everyone that there will be no January meeting. The next meeting will be held February 5 at 5:00 p.m.

Susan Kinney Dillon noted that she will be leaving work early to attend the MCDAC meetings at the new time.

Everyone shared Merry Christmas wishes.

◆ **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Wally Schaedel moved to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Pat Nahrstedt. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

◆ **NEXT MEETING/FUTURE MEETINGS**

Meetings are held at **5:00 p.m.** in the lower level conference room of the Professional Building on the first Monday of each month except where noted. There are no meetings scheduled in January, July, or August. The next meeting is scheduled for February 5, 2018.

Future 2018 Meetings

February 5	June 4
March 5	September 10
April 2	October 1
May 7	November 5
	December 3

*Minutes provided by Rhonda J. Beck
Administrative Assistant to the Medina County Administrator*