



THE ALL-STARS PREVENTION GROUP

(An extension of Surry County Office of Substance Abuse Recovery, focused on Substance Use Prevention)

All-Stars Meeting Report

Held from 5:00 PM to 6:15 PM, October 12, 2021

Surry County Service Center, Dobson, NC

Meeting Report

- I. Summary of Meeting
- II. Introduction with list of outcomes
- III. Participant demographics
- IV. Summary of findings with each outcome, including representative quotes, results of yes or no questions, and quantitative data
- V. Recommendations

I. Summary of Meeting:

The Surry County Substance Abuse Office held a community meeting on Tuesday, October 12, 2021 involving various members of the community representing Surry County. Ms. Charlotte Reeves, Community Outreach Coordinator, led the meeting with 27 community members present. Our presenter for this meeting was Surry County Sheriff's Office, Street Crimes Unit. Charlotte Reeves opened up the meeting and gave a brief presentation of some of the upcoming dates for volunteer opportunities for Red Ribbon Week. The theme to this meeting is to learn about what Street Crimes Unit does and what they deal with from a Substance Use viewpoint.

II. Introduction

The Surry County Substance Abuse Recovery Office held a community meeting with thirty community members on October 12, 2021. The meeting was conducted as part of the Substance Abuse Recovery Office's involvement in reducing the number of opiate and other drug related deaths and abuse in Surry County. The All-Stars have had previous discussions about the ways that Surry County Substance Abuse Recovery Office has set up a proposed "Continuum of Care", to explore ways to eliminate many impediments for those residents seeking treatment and recovery. This meeting was held at the Children's Center Main Office in Dobson, NC. The goal of this meeting is to promote discussion within our group that can extend to our community about the problem of homelessness as it pertains to substance use and mental health issues.

III. Participant Demographics

Thirty participants took part in the meeting:

- 25 women
- 5 men

IV. Participant Perspectives

Perspective 1: Charlotte Reeves began the meeting by welcoming everyone. Ms. Reeves discussed the agenda for the meeting and spoke to the group about the many areas that substance use disorder affects the community. She discussed upcoming volunteer opportunities for The All-Stars with Red Ribbon Week and Community Events.

Perspective 3: Mr. Mark Willis discussed the importance of All-Star group volunteers to our community and how we can start digging deeper to find ways to really make a change. This will involve becoming a formal coalition and having subcommittees to work on specific projects and goals. We will be working toward this early in the New Year. He noted that we have to be diligent in accomplishing common goals and to do this we need to work together.

Perspective 2: Our first speaker was Ms. Deborah Giep who is the Program Coordinator for Ride the Road to Recovery, which is our transportation program. Ms. Giep gave the number of hours that drivers have spent in the car with people travelling back and forth to treatment and the number of total miles that the program has incurred. There are obstacles they face, the biggest being the problem of communication. She also noted that they are working to resolve these issues.

Perspective 3: Sergeant Detective Brandon Johnson along with Detective Colton Haine and Detective Lance Richardson were our guests for the meeting. They make up The Surry County Sheriff's Department's Street Crimes Unit. They provided us a formal presentation about substance use in the form of a slideshow and carefully went through information about what they face daily on the streets of Surry County. They hid some methamphetamine in the room and showed us how it works to give the commands to the dogs so they could track it. Very nice presentation!

Prevention 4: Ms. Reeves ended the meeting and shared that volunteer sign ups were on the table to sign up for different locations (schools) for Red Ribbon Week.

V. Recommendations

The All-Star Prevention Group Members that were present all agreed that sharing ideas, monthly, is a great educational opportunity. Once again, everyone agrees that the substance abuse problems continue to be a major issue for those who are suffering with the problem, their families, and our County. The meeting was adjourned and will meet again in the month of November. Everyone was informed to check their email for The All-Star Prevention Group correspondence. The members were briefed that there will also be an email sent out with the October Meeting Minutes and an announcement of the next scheduled meeting date and location. Thank you to the new participants who attended this meeting. It was a great success.

Charlotte Reeves also requested that everyone check out the Surry County Opioid Response Effort Facebook page and website at surrycountycares.com.

If you have any questions, or need additional information, please contact:

Charlotte Reeves at: reevesc@co.surry.nc.us