(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 6:30 PM, October 11, 2023 Historic Courthouse, Dobson, NC

# Mission: To reduce youth substance use by promoting awareness, enhancing understanding, and changing perceptions of substance use in Surry County through public advocacy.

Sector	Attendee for Meeting
Youth, under 18 years of age	
Parent	Melissa Mundy Paula Sheets
Business	Lenise Lynch, Hampton Inn Jennifer Sinacore, Coldwell Banker Advantage
Media	
School	
Youth Serving Organization	Tamera Veit, Raven Lowe, Jaimi Scott, Surry Friends of Youth
Religious Organization	
Law Enforcement	
Civic/Volunteer Groups	Nicole Frost, Volunteer City of Elkin Amber Atkinson, Northern Hospital
Healthcare professional or organization, individual or organization licensed to provide physical, mental or behavioral health services.	Julie Cooke, High Country Health Josh Boyles, Easter Seals
State, local government agency	Charlotte Reeves, Jaime Edwards, Surry County Office of Substance Abuse Recovery
Other Organizations	Michelle Hopkins, Regina Propst, Insight Human Services Wendy Odum, Birches Foundation

## **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 11, 2023, at 5 pm, involving various members of the community representing Surry County. Ms. Charlotte Reeves, Community Outreach Coordinator, led the meeting with 9 community members present.

#### II. Introduction

The Surry County Substance Abuse Recovery Office held a community meeting with nine community members on Tuesday, October 11, 2022. 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 Historic Courthouse 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 substance use disorder and mental health issues.

# **III. Participant Demographics**

Thirteen participants took part in the meeting:

- 7 females
- 2 males

## **IV. Participant Perspectives**

- **Perspective 1:** Charlotte Reeves welcomed everyone and announced that tonight will be an update and preparation for Red Ribbon Week. She first welcomed all members and thanked them for their continuous collaboration.
- **Perspective 2:** Furthermore, Ms. Reeves elaborates on the efforts of community outreach with the upcoming Red Ribbon Activities in October and noted that we have volunteer signup sheets for each school and activity.

- **Perspective 3:** Ms. Reeves gave an update on the Strengthening Systems for North Carolina Youth (SYNC) workgroup and shared that there would probably be some overlap in efforts with community work. She announced that we will be having a SYNC group meeting on October 20.
- **Perspective 4:** Next, Charlotte provided information about the planned activities for Red Ribbon, each school and in general what our goals are. She also discussed which agency is volunteering to present at each school. She stated that schools are participating in essay contests and that she is working to finalize donations for the prizes.
- **Perspective 5:** Next, Paula Sheets gave an update on the community work done by the All-Stars in packaging Red Ribbon supplies and delivering items to all elementary schools in Surry County. Thank you to Paula Sheets and Melissa Mundy for helping me to deliver the materials to all elementary schools in Surry County.
- **Prevention 6:** Surry Friends of Youth representative Raven Lowe and Tamera Veit gave information about the events for Red Ribbon and how they plan to work with us. They are also both All-Star members.
- **Prevention 7**: Lenise Lynch discussed the events planned for Red Ribbon and the activities that the Rotary is sponsoring. She also informed the group about the Red Ribbon Community Event that will be at Riverside Park on Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup> from 2 pm to 6 pm.
- **Prevention 8**: Jamie Edwards announced that SCOSAR would be offering a Certified Peer Support Specialist Training in November. He provided information about the training and how to sign up if anyone is interested. The meeting dates are in person at the Surry County Office of Substance Abuse Recovery Conference Room and are schedule for:

## November 17, 18, 21, 22, and 23 from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm

- **Prevention 9:** Lastly, Ms. Reeves opens the floor for general discussion regarding the All-Star Prevention Group involvement in Red Ribbon. She also welcomes any opinions or concerns of the members.
- **Prevention 10:** Ms. Reeves thanked everyone for attending the meeting and participating in the discussion and activity regarding the importance of Red Ribbon Week and prevention work in our community and ended the meeting.

## 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 October. 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 September Meeting Minutes. The next scheduled meeting will be in SCOSAR's newly renovated conference room in the basement of the Historic Courthouse. 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 <a href="mailto:surrycountycares.com">surrycountycares.com</a>.

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

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