

(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 6:00 PM, April 12, 2022 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
	Casey Lowe
Business	Jennifer Sinacore, Coldwell Banker Advantage
Media	
School	
Youth Serving Organization	Tamera Veit, Surry Friends of Youth
Religious Organization	
Law Enforcement	
Civic/Volunteer Groups	
Healthcare professional or organization,	Kora Ledezma and Rosa Miranda, Surry Medical
individual or organization licensed to provide	Ministries
physical, mental or behavioral health	Maggie Simmons, Juan Sanchez - Surry County Health
services.	and Nutrition Center
	Joshua Boyles, Easter Seals
State, local government agency	Charlotte Reeves and Jamie Edwards, Surry County
	Office of Substance Abuse Recovery
	Mark Marion, Surry County Commissioners
Other Organizations	Michelle Hopkins and 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, April 12, 2022, involving various members of the community representing Surry County. Ms. Charlotte Reeves, Community Outreach Coordinator, led the meeting with 16 community members present. Today there will be a presentation by Surry Medical Ministries to explain their agency and how the All-Stars can better understand this resource for our community.

#### II. Introduction

The Surry County Substance Abuse Recovery Office held a community meeting with sixteen community members on April 12, 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**

Eleven participants took part in the meeting:

- 12 women
- 4 men

# **IV. Participant Perspectives**

- **Perspective 1:** Charlotte Reeves welcomed everyone and announced that tonight will be a short meeting along with group discussion. She first welcomed all members back and thanked them for their continuous collaboration.
- **Perspective 2:** Furthermore, Ms. Reeves elaborates on the efforts of community outreach with the Easter egg hunt at Fisher River Park organized by the SCOSAR office that occurred April 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10am to 1pm. Ms. Paula Sheets described the outreach that occurred at the event such as talking to community members, handing out brochures, the good Samaritan law, and the distribution of candy bags to the youth. She also talked about the transportation program and the overall kids and parent focus of the event.

- **Perspective 3:** Charlotte Reeves expands on the youth outreach effort with rides. This event occurred on April 23<sup>rd</sup> known as Dobson Spring Folly at Dobson Square Park.
- **Perspective 4:** On April 25<sup>th</sup> through April 29<sup>th</sup> Surry Central Addiction Awareness week will be occurring. This is a weeklong outreach effort to the youth. This was an idea from schoolteachers for the All Stars and SAO to be involved and help students. Activities such as chalk art, essays on the topic of substance misuse, creating posters with the prompt of faces of addiction, and just overall activities surrounding the awareness of substance misuse.
- **Perspective 5:** Next, Ms. Reeves mentions the April 30<sup>th</sup> youth outreach event, Surry Friends of Youth Fishing, which occurred at Westwood Park. The event had wildlife officers, fishing licenses included for the event, and had hot dogs and fishing activities.
- **Perspective 6:** Ms. Paula Sheets spoke about the importance of talking to our community members, especially parents. She stated that she has been working to go out into the community and give brochures to parents. She also speaks a lot on the Good Samaritan Law, especially to young people. She also often informs people about the Ride the Road to Recovery Transportation Program.
- **Perspective 7:** Jamie Edwards introduces recovery surveys where he emphasized the need for the All-Stars Prevention Groups assistance in getting surveys out to current users and or people in recovery.
- **Prevention 8:** Furthermore, Ms. Reeves focuses on review on upcoming events for the following month. She mentions Kelly Teague coming to meet with us to initiate the first to becoming a formal coalition. She will attend our May meeting and will stay the following day for our first leadership board meeting from 9-12pm May 11<sup>th</sup>. During this leadership board meeting we will work on this such as confirming our bylaws and the strategic planning framework for the next 18 months.
- **Perspective 9:** Charlotte opens the floor for members feedback and concerns on any events coming up and on future coalition efforts.
- **Perspective 10:** Rosa Miranda, Surry Medical Ministries healthy coordinator elaborated on current status of SMM and who and how they treat patients. She also informed the All-Stars members on the free rapid covid tests they offer in their office. She described the requirements that would have to be met in order for someone to be a patient at SMM. This is a great resourse for community members who do not have insurance and need medical care.
- **Perspective 11:** Peace fest is a community outreach event hosted by interact and Mount Airy Rotary on Monday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. The events consisted of Mount Airy High School students and staff where food and crafts were offered.
- **Prevention 11**: Charlotte then mentions the next scheduled meeting being held May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 5 pm where updates and future coalition efforts will be continued.
- **Prevention 12:** Ms. Reeves thanked everyone for attending the meeting and participating in the discussion and activity regarding the importance of 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 May. 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 April 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 <u>surrycountycares.com</u>.

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

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