**TNP Coalition Meeting Minutes**

**September 28, 2022**

**LIVE at City Hall**

**Attendees:** Diamond Sead, Andrew Fisch, Nina Chanana, Margaret Watt, Ben Fitzgerald, AnaVivian Estrella, Lisa Gregory, Jahliah Green, Kelley Meier, Anamalina Moreno, Denique Weidema-Lewis, Frank Castorina, Ginger Katz, Larry Katz, Rebecca Oliveira, Ed Milton, Dave Walenczyk, Katie Gallo, Jodi Giorlando, Nicole Hampton, Cadence Pentheny, Nick Hoffman, Jennifer Rolinson, Joanne Malinowski

1. Welcome & Intros – name, pronouns, organization or stakeholder group, early riser or night owl?

* As people arrived, we ran a slideshow highlighting accomplishments from last year. See attached.
* Diamond shared information “About TNP” - the mission, LPC and TNP Leadership Team including the City, Schools, Norwalk ACTs Collective Impact group, Behavioral Health Agencies. Asked members to subscribe to the thenorwalkpartnership.org, like and follow TNP on Facebook and Instagram.
* Additional stakeholder group: our work braids together mental health and substance misuse issues through co-leadership and co-planning with Norwalk ACTS Social-Emotional Health initiative.

1. Prevention 101 – Margaret Watt provided a brief overview of prevention 101. See slideshow.
   * Prevention seeks to affect individuals in the context of their local community and its broader environment.

* Volunteer led and limited in reality; outdated model
* Upstream work; fishpond analogy
* Individual, Community, Environment
* Planning and carried out by 12-sectors in our coalition
* Informed by the Strategic Prevention Framework (public health model) – Assessment, Planning, Implementation, Evaluation, Capacity + Sustainability and Cultural Competence
* Work is built on 7 strategies for community change – both individual and environmental
* Sustainability
  + Coordination/staff (non-volunteer)
  + Underfunded CDC DFC grant, DMHAS LPC, DMHAS SOR, City grant (HSC)
  + Marijuana tax revenue that will be coming to the City – address

1. Upcoming collaborative opportunities – Denique reviewed the following TNP initiatives:

* Data collection – 2022 Norwalk Youth Survey collected in October
  + Required data for DFC grant (Core Measures)
  + Brings new resources to multiple partners – asks youth about risk and protective factors in their lives.
  + Anonymous, confidential, youth can skip at any time, parental opt-out
  + Public use data – available to anyone who would like to access it.
* Freshman Forum – student and parent will attend panel discussion and presentation; awaiting November dates from the school district
  + Raise awareness/provide messaging and resources related to mental health and substance misuse
  + Will involve a prevention and wellness fair
  + At both high school buildings
* Data presentations will begin in January 2023 – BOE, TNP/Norwalk ACTS. Any group has the option for a data presentation.
* Johnny’s Ambassadors – providing marijuana prevention education
* Teen Nights Out – organized through Youth Advisory Board, other youth serving organization; providing low cost, pro-social activities for youth in Norwalk
* NorWALK for Mental Health – 2nd annual walk will take place spring 2023
* Conducting awareness campaigns through signage, billboards and postcards
* Norwalk Strong youth clubs begin this week – always looking for additional members
* Environmental scans – conducting these as needed throughout the Norwalk community
* Sustainability planning - continue to address this throughout our grant year

1. Marijuana – Margaret invited members to join the Marijuana Committee. Shared TNP Top 10 marijuana facts.
   * Comments from meeting participants:
   * Fentanyl – consider issues around fentanyl mixed with other drugs – will it be a concern for youth? implications for street sales
   * Consider the language being used– public used term ‘dispensaries’ versus retail outlets; mixed media messages – consistency of messaging and education.
   * Continuous messaging to youth – it is legalized for adults but STILL ILLEGAL for youth
   * A lot of providers and organizations working with youth are frustrated with lack of awareness and consequences in the community
   * Youth do not realize that we are trying to get information/supports out and that adds stressors to them; the NOT knowing
   * Lack of education as a whole – esp edibles, oils (with very high concentration of THC)
   * Last week the State (DCP/Governor Lamont) released information on public safety but not public health
   * Higher use among pregnant women in CO; using marijuana to deal with nausea and rates of stillborn births are up
   * For some youth marijuana is NOT a drug
   * Money for prevention messaging based on existing legislation- does not kick in until 3 years of state implementation
2. Resource sharing & Networking – tables set up with community flyers and pamphlets. Attendees had time to network for the last portion of the meeting. As people networked, we re-ran the slideshow highlighting accomplishments from last year. See attached.