



### **November 1, 2021 Leadership Team Meeting Minutes**

**The meeting was called to order** by Co-chair Philip Dwyer at 8:40am

**Present:** Philip Dwyer, Co-chair, Mike Cummings, Co-chair, Reini Knorr, Education Program Committee chair, Bernadette Coppola, Treasurer, Cathy Haslett, DFC Program Director Absent: Leonora Campbell, Secretary, Cristin McCarthy Vahey, Resource Committee chair and Jenn Jacobsen, Data and Evaluation chair.

**Co-chair updates:** Mike Cummings reported that Fairfield CARES was invited to participate in a virtual forum on youth mental health wellness sponsored by State Representatives Cristin McCarthy Vahey, Jennifer Leepr, and Laura Devlin. Fairfield CARES will accept the invitation and appreciates being included in the panel.

Phil Dwyer handed out the 2021 – 2022 meeting schedule and asked people to review it. The full coalition will be approving the meeting schedule at the December coalition meeting. Phil reviewed the work plan for the committees:

**Resource:** Recruitment of additional parents to serve on the coalition and raising \$ 5,000

**Educational Programming:** Implementation the DFC grant and LPC grants and other related programs.

**Data and Evaluation:** Collect and analyze data that furthers the work of the coalition.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the October 4, 2021 meeting minuets were approved as amended to reflect that Reini Knorr was present.

**2022 Fund Raising Strategy:** The Team reviewed the Coalition's Fundraising Strategy for FY 22. All Leadership members are highly encouraged to give to Fairfield CARES on Giving Day, November 30<sup>th</sup>. Coalition members will also be expected to donate to Fairfield CARES on November 30<sup>th</sup>. The goal is to achieve 100% participation by all Leadership and active coalition members. Positive Directions will be the fiscal sponsor to accept donations on Fairfield CARES' behalf. Cathy will look into options for Positive Directions to accept online donations for Fairfield CARES.

**Committees:** The membership of the three committees was reviewed. The Resource Committee will contact Tom Henessey, Tim Morris, Beth Leech, Carynn Campbell, Vanessa Montorsi, Diana Liptak and Margaret Watt to determine which committees they wish to serve on.

**Cannabis Advocacy:** Following discussion it was agreed to recommend to the full coalition to focus its advocacy work on the Town of Fairfield with the goal of educating community leaders on the impact of Cannabis on youth and the need to consider these impacts when deciding how to implement the cannabis law locally. We will not engage in statewide advocacy work.

**November Coalition Agenda:** The coalition meeting agenda will include the fundraising strategy, cannabis advocacy, possibly LGBTQ cultural competency training, and prevention messaging.

**General announcements:**

1. Hole-in-One competition on November 6<sup>th</sup> at the Fairfield Par 3 at 9am. Bring food items.
2. Fairfield CARES will co-sponsor an event on Nov 9<sup>th</sup> with Newtown Parent Connection to host "Steered Straight" at Ludlowe High school
3. Greens Farms Academy will hold an event on November 11<sup>th</sup>.
4. Cathy is working with Fairfield University to engage an intern from their public health department to assist CARES.
5. Last years annual meeting format of a business session in the morning followed by a public, celebration at night should be repeated. We should consider instituting an award for youth, collaborative and for the community to celebrate people or institutions who advance the cause of the prevention of drug and alcohol mis-use
6. Attendance at CADCA conference(s). Reini Knorr and Cathy Hazlett will register for the upcoming conference

The meeting adjourned at 10:13am

Philip Dwyer  
Temporary Secretary