



Welcome to the Radford Youth Adult Partnership March 1, 2018 Meeting

Next meeting: Thursday, April 5th, from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. in the conference room at the Radford Public Library

AGENDA: Today's meeting focused on the current and upcoming ABC grant cycle events that include the February student conversation, T-shirts, parent forums, and art contest.

March 1st, 2018 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. RYAP Minutes

Attendance:

Abigail Meier	Kathy Kenley	Loren Beasley
Samantha Wilhelmi	Catherine Fae	Lynn Burris
Kirsten Smith, facilitator		

- I. **Welcome, Introductions, and Announcements:** Coalition facilitator, Kirsten Smith, welcomed coalition members to the meeting and introductions were made.
- II. **Agenda Approval:** The March 1st, 2018 agenda was unanimously approved with no changes after a motion from Abigail Meier, which was seconded by Lynn Burris.
- III. **Minutes Approval:** The February 1st, 2018 meeting minutes were unanimously approved after a motion from Lynn Burris, which was seconded by Samantha Whilhemi.
- IV. **Community Updates:**
 - a. Take Back the Night: Abigail Meier reported that on April 4th at 7:00 PM, Radford University will be hosting a Take Back the Night event. This foundation offers support and fundraising opportunities to those against sexual violence in all forms and supporting survivors in their healing. If you would like to learn more about this event, please contact Abigail Meier at ameier6@radford.edu.
 - b. Radford High Schools: Lynn Burris updated the coalition on recent safety concerns that have been happening in the community and at schools. There has been an increase in concern amongst the students that has resulted in general distress and fear. Catherine Fae brought up that the students who come to the library after school are also expressing concern in the way of general anger and mistrust with the administration. Based on these rising matters, the coalition brainstormed the idea of training students to lead dialogues about issues happening in school in order for the students to have the opportunity to discuss their worries in a safe place. Lynn Burris has offered to mention this at the next school board meeting.
- V. **ABC Grant:** Kirsten Smith reported on the progress of the VA ABC Education and Prevention grant, which has been awarded to RYAP for 2017-2018.
 - a. Student Conversations: Kirsten Smith and Samantha Wilhelmi reported on the second student conversation that had taken place at the Radford Public Library from 2:45-4ish Wednesday, 2/28. Dr. Pam Ray and Samantha Wilhelmi volunteered to help facilitate the conversation amongst the students while Kirsten Smith and Mariam Shelton record the conversations. There were 23 students representative of 7th through 12th grade at the event. The topic of this conversation was on safety. Kirsten and Samantha shared that the students were very willing to talk and share what they perceived to be happening in their school. The next student

conversation is scheduled for 3/21 with Rachel Scott, Abigail Meier and Taylor Holsinger. Catherine Fae reported that the library will be holding a Jenga Challenge that day with a guest police officer and suggested that the coalition plan these events together to increase participation. The coalition agreed with this idea and will be in touch with Catherine closer to the event to choose a topic dependent on what the youth are talking about around this time.

- b. Parent Conversations:** Per the ABC grant, the coalition is responsible for planning three parent forums with the topics of “social hosting, underage drinking, and high-risk drinking” that must occur within the span of a month. Based off the availability of the library meeting room, the coalition selected the dates of April 16th, 23rd, and 30th from 5:30-6:30 PM. Incentives for attendance will include a free meal and childcare. The coalition will be seeking volunteers for these nights to help set-up, break-down, and to help with childcare/youth and planning. Because prom is the third weekend of April, the coalition decided that both underage drinking and social hosting should be the topics for the first parent conversation on April 16th. To sign-up for help volunteering for any of these dates, please e-mail Kirsten Smith at knsmith@nrvc.org. (Lynn Burriss and Catherine Fae have volunteered for set-up on April 16th and Abigail Meier has volunteered for set-up April 23rd).
- c. Art contest:** Kirsten reported having reached out to the art teachers at Radford High and Dalton Intermediate about the upcoming art contest. Per the ABC grant, the theme this year will be *creative depictions of the negative consequences of underage drinking* and both a high school and middle school winner will be chosen to have their work on a billboard. The art contest will be introduced to the students during the third week of March, submissions will be due during the 3rd week in April and the final winner will be chosen at the April. After RYAP reviews all submissions and chooses a top 5 from the middle school and a top 5 from the high school, an art teacher from Blacksburg High School will judge the final winners. The two billboards will display the winners’ artwork during the month June. The coalition decided that having a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prize will encourage more participants and decided on Sonic gift cards (\$50, \$25, \$15, respectively). The coalition will also offer the judge a gift card to Hobby Lobby for offering her time to choose a winner for the contest.
- d. T-shirts:** In the 2017-18 ABC grant, there was a budget set aside for T-shirts to be designed and used to distribute during sporting events in the fall. Kirsten Smith asked permission and for the support of the coalition to work with the YADAPP students from Radford High School in designing these t-shirts. This request was unanimously approved after a motion from Abigail Meier, which was seconded by Loren Beasley. Once these t-shirts are designed and ordered, the YADPP students have offered to distribute them during the upcoming soccer games and to wear them during Project Sticker Shock in April.

Meeting adjourned at 4:57 pm

Next Meeting: April 5, 2018 from 4:00-5:00 pm- Radford Public Library.