



Welcome to the Radford Youth Adult Partnership May 3rd 2018 Meeting

Next meeting: Thursday, June 7th, from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. in the conference room at the Radford Public Library

AGENDA: Today's meeting focused on wrapping up initiatives of the 2017-2018 ABC grant, Project Sticker Shock, and deciding the finalists for the RYAP art contest

May 3rd 2018 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. RYAP Minutes

Attendance:

Dr. Pam Ray, New River Health
Abbie Meier, RU

Samantha Wilhelmi, RU
Christina Laws, EHS

Asa McKee, NRVCS
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 May 3rd, 2018 agenda was unanimously approved with no changes after a motion from Dr. Pam Ray, which was seconded by Samantha Wilhelmi.
- III. **Minutes Approval:** The April 5, 2018 meeting minutes were unanimously approved after a motion from Dr. Pam Ray, which was seconded by Samantha Wilhelmi.
- IV. **Community Updates:**
 - a. Out of the Darkness: Samantha Wilhelmi and Abbie Meier reported that Radford University will be hosting their 3rd annual Out of the Darkness awareness walk was a success. The initial fundraising goal was superseded and nearly \$7,000 were raised. The walk's purpose is to raise funds for depression and suicide prevention research through the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.
 - b. Unity Fest: Abbie Meier reported on the success of the Radford University Unity Fest, which brought several students and some members of the community together for an afternoon of fun.
 - c. May is Mental Health Awareness Month: Dr. Pam Ray reported out on Health Department and NRVCS initiatives for Mental Health Awareness. On Thursday, May 10th, the health department will be sponsoring "wear green day" in support of mental health awareness. May 10th will also be the NRVCS "Shine a Light on Mental Health" presentation at the new Radford Center, which will provide community members with important statistics about children's mental health issues and offer a message of support and hope to the community. The event will begin at 7:30 pm.
 - d. The Face of Addiction is Mine: Asa McKee reported out the PFS "Face of Addiction is Mine" campaign will officially launch via press release on May 17th at 9am at the new Radford Center. RYAP members are encouraged to attend this event.
- 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: The April 18th student conversation focused on mental health, self-harm, and suicide. Students seemed apprehensive to talk about this topic and we not as open as in previous conversations. Kirsten suggested the coalition brainstorm how to make the room and environment safer and more open for students to share in the upcoming grant cycle.
 - b. Parent Forum: The dates of the parent forums were as follows; 4/16, 4/23, and 4/30. A text alert was sent to all Radford High School parents, flyers were placed throughout the community, and Facebook events were created and promoted, however, there was no attendance at any of the forums. Kirsten and Emily Hite, with the Radford Police Department, will instead be attending RHS sporting events and handing out information to parents about underage drinking and social hosting laws.

- c. T-shirts: The YADAPP students have designed a t-shirt to advocate underage alcohol abstinence with the slogan, "Underage drinking, Definitely not thinking!" and a "Stop! Underage Drinking!" logo. They have been ordered, but have not yet arrived.
- d. Incentives: The "I choose to be alcohol free" jelly bracelets and "Be you, Be cool, Be alcohol free" water bottles have arrived and the items were brought to the meeting for coalition members to observe. These incentive items will be used at future coalition events to promote RYAP's message in Radford City Public Schools.

VI. Art Contest: The submissions from Dalton Intermediate and Radford High School were placed on tables in the back of the room. Coalition members were given 8 sticky notes and voted on their favorite submissions from both schools. The pieces with votes will be submitted to guest judge and Blacksburg High School art teacher, Ashley Crotty, who will select a winner from DIS and RHS to have their work placed on a billboard and win a Sonic gift card. Runner-ups will also be selected and given a gift card. Dr. Pam Ray suggested that we have the winners stand under their billboards for pictures that are submitted to the Radford News Journal. Samantha Wilhelmi suggested having winners recognized in the school newsletter that goes out to parents. Abbie Meier suggested having the students recognized on the Radford City Public Schools website and having them recognized at the school board meeting as well. All contest submissions will either be displayed in the schools or at the Radford Public Library.

VII. Other

- a. YADAPP: The YADAPP conference is in July and the students attended last year are unable to commit the time for this year's conference. RHS Guidance Counselor, Pam Chitwood is working with Kirsten and last year's attendees to select new students to attend this year.
- b. Project Sticker Shock: The YADAPP students, along with Kirsten, Lena, and any other interested RYAP volunteers will be going to the of property alcohol vendors in Radford for the Project Sticker Shock initiative on wither June 20th or June 27th at 9:00am.

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 pm

Next Meeting: June 7, 2018* from 4:00-5:00 pm- Radford Public Library.

Meeting minutes prepared by Abbie Meier

*We will not be meeting in July, please mark calendars appropriately.