



"To strengthen Montgomery County's commitment to our youth and families by reducing substance misuse, creating safe communities, and promoting health and wellness through collaborative community actions and education."

Meeting Minutes: July 21, 2026

Attending

Ross Wilsie (MCP P Co-Chair, NRVCS), Jon Dance (MCP P Co-Chair, VT and Re.Center), Kerry Redican (VT), Pam Ray (VDH), Phillip Norman (Child Care Aware), Gary Cody (Legal Aid), Stephanie Addikis (NRCC), Dave Andrews (VT Employee Wellness), Marti Graham (Volunteer), Mikhala Senne (NRVRC, Recovery Ecosystem), Kayla Viars (Sobrius Health), Melanie Taylor (Carilion Clinic), Dee Frith (NRVCS), Noelle Ruesch (VDH)

Welcome & Introductions: Ross welcomed those in attendance and brief introductions were made.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes: Both were unanimously approved.

Brief Member Updates and Upcoming Events

Gary Cody- Legal Aid's Annual Domestic Violence Conference in relation to the influence of Substance Abuse will be held on October 2nd in Abington.

Phillip- A free workshop; "Childcareer Pathways," coming up soon will provide attendees with possible childcare career opportunities. Also, Childcare Aware is beginning "Boost NRV" which will be a networking coalition for out of school opportunities for school aged programs.

Marti- Updates on Dolly Parton Imagination Library. Volunteers will attend back-to-school nights at local elementary schools signing children up to receive books. On September 10 @Sharkey's in Blacksburg is holding a fundraiser with a portion of proceeds going to the charity and on Sunday, December 6th Moon Hollow and Feather Bone will be hosting a fundraiser including a band.

Jon- Skyward Studios in Christiansburg has available space for any events. This office holds approximately 40 people. Also, Jon shared information on Lived Experience Network.

Noelle- Health Department is asking for feedback on areas in the NRV to send their mobile unit. QR Code will be on

Mikhala Senne- (NRV Recovery Ecosystem) Resiliency Network is offering Trauma Informed Basics. Also, they have created a booklet humanizing drug use by telling the stories of people with lived experience.

Vape Task Force Update

The task force recently met with representatives from Pulaski County Public Schools to let them know what opportunities are available to them re: programs and zoning. Next will be Radford City Public Schools.

Kerry Redican is composing a letter to Lilly Franklyn introducing her to our committee in response to her outreach. We would like to inform her of what we have accomplished and what we will hopefully collaborate with her on soon.

Next Meeting will be held on August 18th at noon in-person at Skyward Studios (37 W Main St, Christiansburg). Vape Task Force will be held just before at 11:30 AM. <https://skywardcoworking.com>