



MEIGS COUNTY PREVENTION COALITION

COMMUNITY CONTEXT: Meigs County is located in the southeast region of the state and features 433 square miles of green rolling hills and rugged terrain interspersed with populated areas of great spirit and strong need. It is home to welcoming communities, schools and businesses, and several outdoor recreation opportunities. The region is also characterized by a challenged economy, high rates of poverty, chronic illness and mortality, high rates of substance abuse, and need for a greater priority on health and prosperity by residents.

LEAD AGENCY OR CONVENER GROUP

The Gallia, Jackson, Meigs Board of Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health and the executive committee serve as the conveners for the Meigs County Prevention Coalition. This group leads the membership in addressing the prevention needs of the county, including the opioid epidemic, as well as, tobacco and other drugs and suicide prevention. The main responsibilities are to plan the meeting schedules and agendas, lead the strategic planning efforts of the group, and organize community events.

COALITION MEMBERSHIP

The leadership of the coalition has, over time, made sure that the coalition membership is a broad representation of the community and that all of the key players are at the table. Members that have been recruited are professionals who work in the industry, residents who represent themselves or various constituencies and individuals who both live and work in the county. The coalition membership has representation of all of CADCA's 12 community sectors.

OPERATIONS AND PROCESSES

Participating in the coalition has many benefits for the participating members and for the organizations they represent. The coalition brings people and organizations together to focus on solving common problems that our community faces. It also assists organizations to achieve their missions by forming new partnerships and by leveraging new or additional resources by securing support, volunteers, or funding.

LEADERSHIP AND STAFFING

With guidance and assistance from the Gallia, Jackson, Meigs ADAMH Board, the coalition is led by a volunteer executive committee. The committee is comprised of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and a Secretary. All members share responsibilities to achieve the goals that are set forth by the coalition. Ideas are brought to the coalition and members with a matching skillset and passion are tasked with bringing the plans to fruition.

STRUCTURES

The Executive Committee is in place to oversee that the actions and direction of the coalition are in line with the mission and vision and the goals set by the membership. The coalition has established by-laws and is guided by the Executive Committee. The committee is comprised of a President, Vice-President, Secretary and also a staff member of the ADAMH Board.

POOLED RESOURCES

Pooling resources is one of main reasons for starting and sustaining a successful coalition. In a coalition, organizations and people accomplish together what they cannot alone. The coalition leverages the talent, finances, access to data, and access to training of other offerings of the membership to achieve its goals, mission and vision.

MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

Many organizations work within the communities in various avenues. By participating in the coalition, the resident can be the benefactor of varying programs to meet their needs. The coalition members can better understand these needs as they participate and hear from other organizations.

ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING

The coalition and the goals that are set are driven by data. This data is gathered and presented by member organizations. Most of the data we utilize comes from the Meigs County Health Department. The coalition will soon be completing CADCA's Coalition Skills and Processes for SAMHSA's Strategic Prevention Framework. Following this best practice will allow us to better plan, track, and assess our progress as a cohesive unit.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIES

The coalition will always use strategies that are evidence based best practices. The coalition will complete the SPF and will prioritize strategies and action plans, obtain the resources for the plans, implement the action plans and will ensure implementation fidelity.

COMMUNITY CHANGE OUTCOMES

In accordance with the coalition's mission statement, the strategies/outcomes for the community will be: 1) educating Meigs Countians in drug abuse prevention and providing support for related issues, 2) advocating for resources for community engagement and empowerment, 3) raising awareness of the issues surrounding addiction, and 4) reducing the stigma associated with mental health issues.

COMMUNITY CAPACITY

The coalition has provided an opportunity for organizations to come together to offer solutions to the needs of the community without the duplication of services. Several local organizations are working to provide services and programming in our local schools, and we are better serving our youth by working together.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL OUTCOMES

The coalition will seek to impact positive outcomes and changes by providing resources and education that includes increased drug, alcohol, tobacco and suicide screenings, increased referrals to mental health services, and transportation to medical appointments.

FORMATION

MAINTENANCE

INSTITUTIONALIZATION

SYNERGY

Community Coalition Action Theory- Shorter Narrative
Meigs County Prevention Coalition
Meigs County, Ohio

Community Context

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Lead Agency or Convener Group

The Gallia, Jackson, Meigs Board of Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health and the executive committee serve as the conveners for the Meigs County Prevention Coalition. This group leads the membership in addressing the prevention needs of the county, including the opioid epidemic, as well as, tobacco and other drugs and suicide prevention. The main responsibilities are to plan the meeting schedules and agendas, lead the strategic planning efforts of the group, and organize community events.

Coalition Membership

The leadership of the coalition has, over time, made sure that the coalition membership is a broad representation of the community and that all of the key players are at the table. Members that have been recruited are professionals who work in the industry, residents who represent themselves or various constituencies and individuals who both live and work in the county. The coalition membership has representation of all of CADCA's 12 community sectors

Coalition Operation and Processes

Participating in the coalition has many benefits for the participating members and for the organizations they represent. The coalition brings people and organizations together to focus on solving common problems that our community faces. It also assists organizations to achieve their missions by forming new partnerships and by leveraging new or additional resources by securing support, volunteers, or funding.

Leadership and Staffing

With guidance and assistance from the Gallia, Jackson, Meigs ADAMH Board, the coalition is led by a volunteer executive committee. The committee is comprised of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and a Secretary. All members share responsibilities to achieve the goals that are set forth by the coalition. Ideas are brought to the coalition and members with a matching skillset and passion are tasked with bringing the plans to fruition.

Structures

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laws and is guided by the Executive Committee. The committee is comprised of a President, Vice-President, Secretary and also a staff member of the ADAMH Board.

Pooled Resources

Pooling resources is one of main reasons for starting and sustaining a successful coalition. In a coalition, organizations and people accomplish together what they cannot alone. The coalition leverages the talent, finances, access to data, and access to training of other offerings of the membership to achieve its goals, mission and vision.

Member Engagement

Many organizations work within the communities in various avenues. By participating in the coalition, the resident can be the benefactor of varying programs to meet their needs. The coalition members can better understand these needs as they participate and hear from other organizations.

Assessment and Planning

The coalition and the goals that are set are driven by data. This data is gathered and presented by member organizations. Most of the data we utilize comes from the Meigs County Health Department. The coalition will soon be completing CADCA's Coalition Skills and Processes for SAMHSA's Strategic Prevention Framework. Following this best practice will allow us to better plan, track, and assess our progress as a cohesive unit.

Synergy

Synergy occurs through the combination of: pooled resources, member engagement and assessment and planning.

Implementation of Strategies

The coalition will always use strategies that are evidence based best practices. The coalition will complete the SPF and will prioritize strategies and action plans, obtain the resources for the plans, implement the action plans and will ensure implementation fidelity.

Community Change Outcomes

In accordance with the coalition's mission statement, the strategies/outcomes for the community will be: 1) educating Meigs Countians in drug abuse prevention and providing support for related issues, 2) advocating for resources for community engagement and empowerment, 3) raising awareness of the issues surrounding addiction, and 4) reducing the stigma associated with mental health issues.

Health and Social Outcomes

The coalition will seek to impact positive outcomes and changes by providing resources and education that includes increased drug, alcohol, tobacco and suicide screenings, increased referrals to mental health services, and transportation to medical appointments.

Community Capacity

The coalition has provided an opportunity for organizations to come together to offer solutions to the needs of the community without the duplication of services. Several local organizations are working to

provide services and programming in our local schools, and we are better serving our youth by working together.

Community Coalition Action Theory- Longer Narrative
Meigs County Prevention Coalition
Meigs County, Ohio

Community Context

Meigs County is located in the Southeast region of the state and features 433 square miles of green rolling hills and rugged terrain interspersed with populated areas of great spirit and strong need. The county features five villages and twelve townships. It is home to welcoming communities, schools and businesses, and several outdoor recreation opportunities. The region is also characterized by a challenged economy, high rates of poverty, chronic illness and mortality, high rates of substance abuse, and need for a greater priority on health and prosperity by residents.

Lead Agency or Convener Group

The coalition services Meigs County, Ohio. Meigs County has an approximate population of 22,678 (2020 Census). The County has a poverty rate of 15.8% with a median income of \$43,754. The unemployment rate is 7.6%. The coalition, initially formed by the Meigs Juvenile Court, started as a group to address the opioid epidemic sweeping the State. It quickly shifted to include all forms of drugs of abuse. Its purpose was to not only address addiction and recovery but to include prevention activities as well. The initial members were made up of the juvenile court, law enforcement, recovery experts, health officials and interested citizens. These members were enlisted as they were on the front lines of the drug abuse problem. The lead agency has changed over time and seems to shift with the chair position's organization. The main responsibility is to plan the meeting schedule, be the keeper of the minutes and organize the community events.

Coalition Membership

The leadership of the coalition has, over time, made sure that the coalition membership is a broad representation of the community and that all of the key players are at the table. Members that have been recruited are professionals who work in the industry, residents who represent themselves or various constituencies and individuals who both live and work in the county. The coalition membership has representation of all of CADCA's 12 community sectors. The coalition regularly reviews gaps in membership representation and continually seeks new members.

Coalition Operations and Processes

Participating in the coalition has many benefits for the participating members and for the organizations they represent. The coalition brings people and organizations together to focus on solving common problems that our community faces. It also assists organizations to achieve their missions by forming new partnerships and by leveraging new or additional resources by securing support, volunteers or funding. All members have equal opportunities to contribute to the coalition. Our dedicated group works best when our pooled resources are all working to achieve common goals. The coalition meets monthly and has separate committee meetings for various topics and events. Members are placed on an email distribution list and can follow the coalition website and social media outlets.

Leadership and Staffing

With guidance and assistance from the Community Program Coordinator at the GJM ADAMHS Board, the coalition is led by a volunteer executive committee. The committee is comprised of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and a Secretary. The leadership has been in place for over a year. All members share responsibilities to achieve the goals that are set forth by the coalition. Ideas are brought to the coalition and members with a matching skillset and passion are tasked with bringing the plans to fruition. Members are encouraged to attend coalition trainings through State (PAA and SPCA) and Federal (CADCA) associations. Our coalition members are the people in our community who are trying to make a difference – they work and live with the issues that face our community. We are the ones who are going to tackle these problems and change the outcomes for our county.

Structures

The mission is to educate Meigs County in an effort to prevent drug abuse and related issues; advocate for resources for community engagement and empowerment; raise awareness of issues surrounding addiction and reduce stigma associated with mental health issues. The vision is that Meigs County will be healthy, prosperous, successful, and filled with hope and passion to create a better future for all citizens. The coalition has established by-laws and is guided by the Executive Committee. The committee is comprised of a President, Vice-President, Secretary and also a staff member of the ADAMHS Board.

Pooled Resources

Pooling resources is one of main reasons for starting and sustaining a successful coalition. In a coalition, organizations and people accomplish together what they cannot alone. The coalition leverages the talent, finances, access to data, and access to training of other offerings of the membership to achieve its goals, mission and vision. Beyond our local coalition, we are also linked to other regional coalitions that work very collaboratively. The coalition also exists to eliminate the duplication of efforts in the community. All members are knowledgeable of all of the activities and work that occurs in the county and beyond.

Member Engagement

The main avenue of seeking/finding new members of the coalition is by word of mouth. As new community members come into play, word of mouth spreads through participating agencies to recruit. In some instances, the members seek out the coalition. Connectedness would be the major encouragement for new members to join and current members to remain active in the coalition. Many organizations work within the communities in various avenues. By participating in the coalition, the resident can be the benefactor of varying programs to meet their needs. The coalition members can better understand these needs as they participate and hear from other organizations. Most of the members work in social service organizations. Therefore, their work life consists of participating in these types of coalitions. There are challenges in activities outside of the normal work day.

The coalition plans and organizes collaborative activities to help bring all interested parties to the table. An example of one of these activities is the Drug Take Back Event. The coalition would welcome participation from any community member that had an interest in drug use/abuse. There is more work to do than members to do it. Participating members can benefit by learning of the problems in Meigs

County and having input on solutions. With this being said, there are populations of members that are not being included and could bring much to the table. For example, the business population should be sought. Their businesses are being directly affected by any social repercussions of drug use/abuse in ways such as criminal activity, employee attendance issues, work stoppage/errors due to drug use, etc. This seems to be a group that should be included. At this point, it is evident that the coalition would welcome anyone who wished to participate. The membership is few and more members need to be sought out. To improve the level of membership it may be necessary to go back to the drawing board and restructure the coalition to address today's issues. Many of them may be the same, just in greater evidence. To ensure long term membership, the mission and vision must be revisited and new outcomes explored.

Assessment and Planning

The coalition and the goals that are set are driven by data. This data is gathered and presented by member organizations. The majority of the data we utilize comes from the Meigs County Health Department. The coalition will soon be completing CADCA's Coalition Skills and Processes for SAMHSA's Prevention Framework. Following this best practice will allow us to better plan, track and assess our progress as a cohesive unit.

Synergy

When organizations come together and combine resources, knowledge, skills, and different points of view, they create something new that can accomplish more than the individual organizations could have accomplished on their own (Taylor-Powell, Rossing & Geran, 1998). There is something powerful in this partnership which researchers and others call synergy (Lasker, Weiss & Miller, 2001; Taylor-Powell, Rossing & Geran, 1998). In the CCAT, synergy occurs through the combination of: pooled resources, member engagement and assessment and planning. Synergy is evident in our coalition through the leadership team's ethos, prioritizing and fostering trusting and collaborative relationships as foundational components of the coalition and its efficacy

Implementation of Strategies

The coalition will always use strategies that are evidence-based best practices. The coalition will complete the Strategic Prevention Framework and will prioritize strategies and action plans, obtain the resources for the plans, implement the action plans and will ensure implementation fidelity. The coalition will also strive to improve its strategies and action plans through continuous assessment and quality improvement.

Community Change Outcomes

In accordance with the coalition mission statement, the strategies/outcomes for the community will be 1) educating Meigs Countians in drug abuse prevention and providing support for related issues, 2) advocating for resources for community engagement and empowerment, 3) raising awareness of the issues surrounding addiction, and 4) reducing the stigma associated with mental health issues.

Health and Social Outcomes

We need to have the inclusion of minority groups and populations within the community be identified and pursued. More training offerings such as QPR should be implemented. The coalition will also seek

changes to include increased suicide screening, increased referrals to mental health services, and transportation to medical appointments. More attendance at coalition meetings would also be beneficial.

Suicide awareness and prevention trainings as well as collaborative efforts from mental health, medical facilities to address the issues would have potential to change behavior in members of the community. Increased resources and collaboration with agencies and community/general leaders is expected. Increased attendance in coalition meetings will be a result of these efforts.

Community Capacity

The coalition has provided an opportunity for organizations to come together to offer solutions to the needs of the community without the duplication of services. Several local organizations are working to provide services and programming in our local schools, and we are better serving our youth by working together. The coalition has also played a major role in the launching of the Southeast Ohio Suicide Prevention Conference. We have worked with several local and regional organizations and other coalitions to plan and implement this conference. The partnerships formed during this planning process will bolster future programming and services in the community.