



**Clay Counts Coalition Agenda
Wednesday, November 13, 2024
Stuart Administrative Center Meeting Room
Noon to 1:00 Lunch Provided
November is “NO Drink “NO”vember”**

I. Welcome and Introductions

IN PERSON: Melissa Petesch, Dana Rickley, Jeanna Fancella, Karra James, Allie Martin, Michelle Tessaro, Paul Tessaro, Allie Lohrmeyer, Melanie Musselman, Bill Robinson, Bethany Phillips, Nikki Burwell, Lisa Last, Matt Weller, Wade Reh, Brett Nelson. **ZOOM:** Elisa Nehrbass, Audrey Waid.

II. Gratitude Luncheon

III. How I Can Learn Time

Celebration of Funding and Accomplishments

Members shared what they are most proud of concerning Clay Counts. Lori presented each member with an “I Make A Difference” document and asked members to share it at their work or at home.

IV. How I Can Make an Impact Time

A. YLinK Report: YLinK Officers

YlinK members were not able to attend today.

1. Follow Up on Fight Addiction Night

There was a good turnout for this. Students painted pumpkins for the CCHD. An inflatable jousting ring was also available.

2. Plans for “Sing Your Own Song Night:” December 6th 9:00 to 11:00

This will be held following the first home basketball game for CCCHS. Chaperones and Hot Chocolate Baristas are needed. Talk to Lori if interested.

B. Community Garden Update: Nikki Burwell

We are still waiting to get the perimeter up. A professional landscaper will be doing this in the next few weeks. Many donations of time, money (over \$10,000), and resources have been given to get this up and running. There will be 12 garden boxes. Two blessing boxes (food and books) will also be added along with seating. On April 12, YlinK members will paint the garden boxes.

C. Follow up on 10/23 Drug Take Back Day Report: Lori Martin

66 gallons of “stuff” was disposed of during this event. 25 units of Narcan were also given out.

D. Courageous Conversations Report

1. Follow Up on “What is Addiction, and Why Can’t I Stop Doing This?”: Lori Martin

Eric Martin from Pawnee spoke. About 45 people attended, including two church youth groups.

2. Family Movie Day: Sunday, November 17th 2:30 Rex Theatre

a. FREE Showing of “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever”

b. Call to Action “Holiday Red Backpack Tree”

The public will be invited to take a slip from the tree, purchase that item, and bring it back to the CCHD. These bags are housed at Common Ground. Some have already been distributed to young children who have been taken from the home, which was the purpose of the bags.

c. Hosts are Needed to Welcome and Distribute Backpack Tags

3. National Suicide Survivor’s Day Coffee: November 23rd at 9:00 a.m. at Pawnee Mental Health

Pastries, coffee, and support will be provided for anyone struggling. Hosts are needed for this event. Talk to Lori if you are interested.

- a. Poster Distribution Help
- E. Clay Center Elks Lodge Holiday Sides Giveaway
Monday, Nov. 18 4-6- pm. 48 holiday side bags will be available. One per family, and there are no income guidelines.
- F. Michelle Tessaro – You Matter Tour
This is designed for a Christian audience, but there is a public presentation available. Michelle would like to bring this presentation to Clay Center. Heather spoke to about 150 students the last time she was here. Look at youmattertour.com. This could be a future “Courageous Conversations” presentation. This would be a presentation for all, not just for kids. Matt will check into using the CCCHS auditorium on Thursday, April 24. A motion was made for Clay Counts to donate \$1,200 for this presentation and was passed with a unanimous yes vote. It was also discussed to have a local mental health professionals presentation earlier that day at the Clay County Events Center.
- G. Shop with a Cop is Dec. 7
- H. Farm Bureau – Justin Tadtman is hosting Operation Elf
There are already more than 80 families who have requested help with this. Community members can choose items to purchase at his office (not ready yet, date TBD by Lisa Last).
- I. Fiscal Updates: Dana Rickley
Year 2 for DFC began Oct. 1, 2024. We have received an additional \$125,000. Year 2 of DECK is \$105,000. A suicide prevention grant is \$35,000.

V. How I Can Help Time

- A. Volunteer for Teammates Mentoring Program
- B. Recruit and Bring a New Member to our Next Meeting
- C. Serve as Host at 11/17 Movie Day and 11/23 Courageous Conversations Coffee At Pawnee
- D. Dig In” and Help with the Community Garden

Next Meeting

Next Meeting: Please mark your calendar for Wednesday, December 11th at Noon at the Stuart Administrative Center with Lunch Provided

Our Mission: *The Clay Counts Coalition exists to promote social, physical, and mental well-being for the residents of Clay County, emphasizing reduction of youth substance use and to foster a thriving environment in which to live, learn, and play.*