



**The Clay Counts Coalition
April Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, April 9, 2025
Stuart Administrative Center
Noon to 1:00 Lunch Provided**

Attendees: Lori Martin, Matt Weller, Jaclyn Pfizenmaier, Bill Robinson, Wade Reh, Kathryn Doster-Tipsword, Tracy Myers, Andres Mata, Allie Martin, Sofia Gallup, Audrey Waid, Jeannette Collin, Melissa Petesch, Dana Rickley, Brian Martin, Braylee Langvardt, Izzy Blackwood, Melanie Musselman

Zoom Attendees: Kimberly Sanchez, Elisa Nehrbass, Ryan Duey, Marcia Campbell, Nikki Burwell, Tina Stillwell

I. What I Can Learn Time

Marcia Campbell will share on the services and needs of New Hope Ministries.

- NHP has been operating for about 6 years now (Common Ground umbrella)
- Minister to the women of Clay County through the Hope House (faith based)
 - o This is a free service to them (housing, food, etc.)
 - o This is a month-by-month service
 - o They are taught day-to-day life lessons as well as Christian values
 - o They also help them find a job, housing, etc.
 - o There are rules (random drug testing, curfew, etc.)
 - o 32 ladies have been through this program
 - 5 is the most they have had at one time, but that is not ideal
 - Children are able to come (limit is the age of 10)
 - o They are fully supported by donations only (cost is \$150/day per person)
 - Once they get a job, they agree to pay 5% back to the Hope House
 - Marcia also provided a list of supplies that are needed
- Kimberly Sanchez mentioned that Pawnee offers adult services as well such as financial literacy

II. How I Can Contribute Time

A. YLink Report: Izzy Blackwood and Braylee Langvardt

- a. Izzy and Lori attended and spoke at the agriculture conference and the BPW conference
- b. Izzy facilitated a youth panel at the Topeka Capital
- c. Izzy has been and will be in D.C. to help facilitate a fentanyl prevention plan
- d. Izzy has been selected to be a speaker at multiple national events
- e. Last year Kansas was 50th in the nation for youth mental health services. Today we are 22nd. Still work to do!



- B. Health Fair and Drug Take Back Day on 4/12/25 Plans: Dana Rickley and Team
- C. Follow Up on Friendship and Lions Clubs DCCCA Prescription Medication Safety for Seniors Program: Lori Martin and Matt Weller
 - a. Around 12 Lion's Club members attended Arielle's presentation
- D. Child Abuse Prevention Month: Matt Weller
- E. "Laughter is the Best Medicine"
 - a. Comedian coming in to perform at the Rex Theatre in association with the Clay County Arts Council
 - b. Matt will provide a "Dad Joke" tip of the week/wellness tip through Clay Counts and 379 (applying for this grant)
- F. Plans for "YOU Matter Tour" and "A Night of Hope" on 4/24/25 at 6:00 @ CCCMS: Michelle Tessaro, Matt Weller and Allie Martin
 - a. CCCHS & CCCMS students: 7:15 a.m. in CCCHS commons area
 - i. Donuts will be provided
 - b. USD 379 staff: 4:00 pm at CCCMS commons
 - i. Happy Hippie smoothies for everyone who attends
 - c. Entire community: 6:00 p.m. at CCCMS commons
 - i. L.I.F.T. will provide daycare and a meal
 - ii. Rosewood Therapy will provide services for anyone who needs them before, during, or after the presentation
- G. Plans for Hosting "Wake Up Wednesday" on 5/7/25 @ 8:00 am: Lori Martin
 - a. Hosted at the Clay County Health Department (please come!)
 - b. A breakfast and coffee will be provided
- H. Community Garden Progress and Needs: Nikki Burwell
 - a. Nikki is working on a ribbon-cutting activity date with Grow Clay County
 - b. Forever Pheasants has volunteered to plant some native grasses/flowers behind the garden
 - c. An irrigation system is being installed, so watering will not be needed
 - d. There are still 4 boxes left to be taken (contact Nikki if you are interested)
- I. Sharing of The Clay Counts Coalition's DFC 12 Month Action Plan:
 - Lori Martin, Dana Rickley, and Matt Weller
 - o This was tabled until the May meeting

III. How I Can Help Time



- A. Be a Greeter at Drug Take Back Day on April 12th 8:00 to 11:00 am
- B. Assist with "A Night of Hope" on April 24th @ 6:00 pm
- C. Be a Chef or Barista at the Friday Night Lights on April 25th 8:00 to 10:00 pm
 - a. Ylink is hoping to use the football field if it is nice (district gym if it is not)
 - b. We are looking for grillers/chaperones (reach out to Lori)

Next Meeting

Wednesday, May 7, 2025 @ Noon at the Stuart Administrative Center

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.