



**Clay Counts Coalition Agenda**  
**Wednesday, April 17, 2024**  
**Stuart Administrative Center Meeting Room**  
**Noon to 1:00**  
**Lunch Provided**  
**April is Alcohol Awareness Month**

**Welcome and Introductions**

- Tracy Myers, a Grow Clay County rep, was a guest today.
- Members in Attendance: Quinn O'Hara, Heather Tremblay, Jaclyn Pfizenmaier, Audrey Waid, Kelsey White, Paul Tessaro, Wade Reh, Dana Rickley, Lisa Last, Matt Weller, Ryan Wilson, Lori Martin

**How I Can Learn Time**

- Raegann McDonald and Izzy Blackwood will share on "What's Happening with YLink"
- This is state choir day, so they were not able to attend. They will present in June.

**Lisa Last, Local Youth Survey Results**

- *Lisa shared data from the Kansas Communities That Care (KCTC) survey (grades 6, 8, 10, 12)*
  - *Families do have to opt in to take this survey during enrollment (it used to be that they had to opt out, so numbers are a bit down)*
    - *Still, we had 83% student participation this year.*
  - *Data looks good and progress has been made, especially in the substance abuse areas.*
    - *Alcohol usage went from 7.6 to 2.5 percent*
  - *Numbers went up in student safety concerns and is being addressed. This is higher than the state average.*
  - *Bullying reports have gone up slightly this year as well.*
  - *Concerns about hurting yourself data was higher than the state average in both 6/8 and 10/12.*
  - *Parent model questions is not asked on the survey.*
- *This is the data that Clay Counts Coalition uses to receive their grants, so students taking the survey is really important.*
- *Jaclyn said Bully Prevention might be a good option for Clay Counts to look into speakers, programs, etc. moving forward based on the data.*
  - *Audrey asked if we should be looking into middle school options more than high school based on the data.*

**Tracy Myers, Clay Counts**

- *June 6 is "Night in June" to help families get back on Medicaid*
  - *Possible because of a grant. A free meal will be provided and games/prizes will be available as well.*
  - *Goal is to get information out to families for services that can help with this (includes parents, grandparents, kids, guardians, etc.).*
  - *Lisa and USD 379 nurses will be in attendance to help. Head Start will be in attendance as well.*
  - *Tracy will send information to the district to send out to parents.*
  - *Tracy is getting T-shirts made. If you would like to donate towards this, contact Tracy and send your logo for the shirt.*

**Red Balloon Day – Wake Up Wednesday May 1**

- *Clay Counts will host Wake Up Wednesday at the Health Department at 8 a.m. All are invited to attend.*
- *Red Balloon Day highlights the National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children's effort to help children who are at risk of suffering physical or emotional harm as a result of legal and/or illegal drug use.*
- *We are pairing this with our Drug Take Back day.*
  - *Anyone can bring their expired prescription and exchange it with Narcan packets.*

**April is Alcohol Awareness Month:**

**Why is alcohol awareness month important?**

Alcohol addiction and abuse is not only a considerable burden on government spending, it also claims thousands of lives across the country each year. Some notable statistics on alcohol addiction include:

- More than 65 million Americans report binge or heavy drinking in a one-month period, which is more than 40% of those who drink alcohol
- Last year, there were 10,511 alcohol-impaired driving fatalities, totaling 29% of all traffic fatalities.
- Teen alcohol use kills 4,700 people each year, more than all illegal drugs combined.

#### ***How I Can Make an Impact Time***

- Healthy Children/ Healthy Communities Fair on June 6<sup>th</sup>: Kathryn Doster Tipsword
- Drug Endangered Children Day: May 1<sup>st</sup>
  - A. Wake Up Wednesday at Health Department
  - B. Drug Take Back
  - C. Narcan Distribution
- Blessing Box Project: Alessia Corrales and Heather Tremblay
  - *Blessing boxes are actually lending libraries, so there are fewer around than we thought.*
    - i. These were built by the CC Rotary club, but it is up to the individual organization to keep them up to date.*
  - *Most of the boxes are empty, and they are not registered with the organization.*
  - *Heather is going to work on moving these over to become actual Blessing Boxes, at least during certain times of the year.*
    - i. This starts with her contacting organizations in charge of each box.*
  - *This would cost approximately \$75 per box each time they are refilled, so this cost would need to be addressed.*
  - *Heather provided a map of current boxes that are in and around town.*
  - *Clay Counts agreed to move forward to help with this project. There were no objections from the coalition.*
- Courageous Conversations Update: Lisa Last and Lori Martin
  - Follow Up on “The Fentanyl Crisis in Small Town Kansas “by Jenni Ebert
  - Do we continue this Series? If so, what topics shall we address?
  - *It was decided to take a summer break and look into doing another big night annually in the fall. We will talk more about this at the next meeting.*
  - *Quinn talked about the need to address misinformation in the news media and social media and how to spot these. This might be a discussion topic in the future.*
- Matt Weller Update
  - *If you have any information you want shared on the Clay Counts social media or website, please sent it to mattweller@usd379.org*
- Michelle Tessaro is offering to take head shots of all Clay Counts Coalition members on April 22 and 23 between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.
  - *Please bring clothing or items that showcase what your role in the community is (for whom are you the voice?)*
  - *Michelle’s phone number is 630-0750.*
  - *We will then use these photos to create a photo collage to be used on social media and website.*

#### ***How I Can Help Time***

- I. Chaperones are Needed for Ylink “Saturday Night Lights” Street Party on 4/27/24.
- II. Coalition Members to Hand Out Graduation Gifts at Graduation Rehearsal on 5/9/24.
- III. Recruit and Bring a New Member to our Next Meeting

**Next Meeting:** May 8th 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.**