

Clay Counts Coalition Agenda
Wednesday, December 11, 2024
Stuart Administrative Center Meeting Room
Noon to 1:00 Lunch Provided

I. Welcome and Introductions

IN PERSON: Dana Rickley, Reagann McDonald, Matt Weller, Jayson Hood, Brett Nelson, Melissa Sanchez, Braylee Langvardt, Izzy Blackwood, Allie Martin, Sofia Gallup, Kathryn Doster-Tipsword, Erin Mellies, Melanie Musselman, Nikki Burwell, Brett Nelson
ZOOM: Samantha Schroer, Lori Martin, Rhys Baker, Abbie Hanson

II. How I Can Learn Time

- a. Grow Clay County L.I.F.T. (Lead, Inspire, Foster, Thrive) young professionals group and their upcoming strategic planning session
 - i. Kathryn Doster and spoke on what the community members ages 20-40 said they wanted with regards to community engagement
 - ii. Facebook group is now up and running
 - iii. The next meeting will be sometime in January
- b. Clay Counts Membership for 2025?
 - i. A motion was made for Clay Counts will pay \$350 to be a Business Partner in 2025; This was approved unanimously

III. How I Can Make an Impact Time

- a. YLink Report: YLink Officers
 - i. CCCHS 5th Quarter Follow-Up – They had hot chocolate and chips along with ornament painting at the last 5th quarter, which was after the first home basketball game
 - ii. Next 5th quarter is in January
 - iii. Members will attend the Mental Health Youth Advocacy Day in March or April at Topeka
 - iv. Members will also attend CADCA Mid-Year conference in Nashville
 - v. Izzy and Reagann will be on a new Upstream Kansas committee
 - 1. partnered with CADCA and Ylink
 - vi. Izzy has also been appointed to the Governor's Committee for Mental Health
 - vii. TeenMates are meeting between CCCHS and GES students
- b. Community Garden Update: Nikki Burwell
 - i. Dirt has been moved and the perimeter will be set this weekend
 - ii. Next step will be to get the gravel down and build the boxes
 - iii. Flyers/email communication will happen in January
 - iv. CCCHS art classes will provide painting of the supplies
 - v. Grand opening is scheduled to be in March
- c. Courageous Conversations Report
 - i. “Strong Sisters: A Courageous Conversation About Self Care” – Allie Martin
 - 1. Allie wants to promote and communicate the topic of women and self care, with a focus on low income/SES
 - 2. Topics: Family planning, mental and physical health wellness, routine screenings, sexual assault
 - 3. Looking at Feb. 10 at the Rex Theatre or Fairgrounds
 - 4. Childcare? Allie will look into this; We did this at the first CC (Common Ground)
 - 5. Matt will help promote
- d. Michelle Tessaro – You Matter Tour Update
 - i. Michelle was unable to attend today

- e. Local Holiday Helping Hands Initiatives: Update – Lisa Last
 - i. The Lighthouse, Clay County Law Enforcement/First Responders & Clay Center Elks hosted “Shop with a Cop” on Saturday for 50 USD 379 kids. Each child had \$100 to spend at Gibsons. As always, it was an awesome event!
 - ii. We have 130 kids participating in Operation Elf, sponsored by Justin Tadtman's Farm Bureau. As of Monday, every child was spoken for!
 - iii. Numbers of families seeking assistance this year is nearly double the number we had last year. The Lighthouse is also seeing similar trends.
- f. TeamMates Update – Lisa Last
 - i. We currently have 59 matches and about 20 kids who have been waiting for a mentor for over a year (mostly boys). If you or a friend would make a great mentor, please encourage them to contact Lisa Last to apply. We've had a few new applicants lately, so thank you for sending people our way!
 - ii. We plan to launch TeamMates in Wakefield in early spring. We are seeking at least one board member from Wakefield. If you know of someone who might be interested, please let Lisa or Jess Borgerding know.
 - iii. January 17 is our “Chuck A Duck” Mentor Appreciation and Fundraising night at half-time of the CCCHS boys basketball game. Mentors and mentees will be recognized, and fans will have the opportunity to purchase a rubber duck for \$1 to "chuck" onto the floor to try to win a cash prize. Hope you will join us!
 - iv. Mental health reps present at the meeting stated that a program like this is a need with their patients. Matt told them to get in touch with Lisa. Matt will also talk to Lisa Last about looking into a partnership with local businesses and paid time to go mentor students.
- g. Fiscal Updates: Dana Rickley
 - i. We just received \$125,000 continuation grant to continue Drug Free Communities
 - ii. We just received \$105,000 continuation grant to continue Drug Endangered Children
 - 1. Much of this is being sent on community education projects
- h. UNITE US
 - i. Unite Kansas is a coordinated care network consisting of healthcare, government, nonprofit, and other organizations. These network partners use Unite Us software to securely identify, deliver, and pay for services that address the needs of individuals within their communities.
 - ii. Free to all across Kansas
 - iii. Similar to IRIS program (which costs money) where communication can be made to help those in need
 - iv. Grow Clay County just received a \$175,000 Blue Cross Blue Shield Pathways grant that might help out with this program or others that help those in need
 - v. More communication will come in the future
- i. CCHD/CCMC funded Health Fair/Baby Shower
 - i. For anyone who is currently pregnant or will be having a baby in the next 6 months
 - ii. Hosted at the hospital on April 5
 - iii. More information to come
- j. Mike Parsons Passing
 - i. A motion was made to purchase a plant to be provided at Mr. Parson’s funeral. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. How I Can Help Time

- A. Volunteer for Teammates Mentoring Program
- B. Recruit and Bring a New Member to our Next Meeting

Next Meeting

Next Meeting: Please mark your calendar for Wednesday, January 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.*