

Meeting Minutes
Levy County Coalition Against Tobacco
July 12, 2011; 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm
Capital City Bank – Chiefland, Florida

Agencies and Members in Attendance:

1. Levy County Health Department	Kristina Zachry
2. Levy County Health Department	Swain Strickland
3. Levy County Health Department	Barbara Locke
4. Levy County Health Department	Janet Hart
5. Suwannee River AHEC	Manette Cheshareck
6. Community Member/SWAT Parent	Boyd Belnap
7. Community Member/SWAT Parent	Cheryl Belnap
8. CMS SWAT Advisor/Chair	Mary Phillips
9. CHS SWAT/Youth Advocacy Board Member/Co-Chair	Ansley Pentz
10. CMS SWAT/LCAT Secretary	Emma Belnap
11. CMS SWAT	Katy Belnap
12. Guest Speaker/ Nature Coast Insurance	Reid Fleming
13. Guest/ Nature Coast Insurance	Sarah Hart

Welcome, Introductions, and Updates:

The meeting was called order by the Chairperson, Ms. Mary Phillips. Handouts included the current meeting agenda and the meeting minutes from May 24th, 2011. Emma Belnap motioned to accept the minutes with no changes and Ansley Pentz seconded the motion.

Manette Cheshareck stated that the Suwannee River AHEC will be holding the next Quit Smoking Now group sessions August 2nd through September 6th from 1:30pm – 3:00pm at the Capital City Bank in Chiefland and at the Santa Fe College Davis Center in Archer from 5:30 pm -7:00 pm. She had cards and posters that she gave out to be put in the health department. She then stated that AHEC had statewide core funding that was zeroed out. They do receive some federal funding and she was thankful to say that the tobacco funding stayed the same and that she is offering training for Quit Smoking Now facilitators and that there are positions available at AHEC. The training is extensive - requiring shadowing a 6-week cessation class. If anyone is interested, please contact Manette.

Kristina Zachry stated that Marion and Gilchrist County schools are now smoke-free and now that the precedence has been set by surrounding counties. It will be nice to show this to our School Board. Angie Phillips and Carol Jones are members on the School Health Advisory Council and Kristina will be getting together with both of them to discuss tobacco free schools in Levy.

Kristina announced that Pat Matthews will no longer be employed by the UF Child Abuse Prevention program due to cuts and that Mrs. Matthews would not be able to continue coming to the LCAT meetings or be able to serve as general editor for the website.

Swain Strickland has chosen a group of SWAT members who have shown superior leadership skills. They will be the forefront for policy changes. As for now, Swain is calling them "Team X". The students are working on coming up with a title for their group.

Katy Belnap stated that she had a lot of training and fun at the SWAT summit that took place in June.

Kristina Zachry informed us that the Levy County tobacco program took about a \$40,000.00 cut and that it may affect the summit for this year but overall, she feels that the funding situation will be all right.

Kristina Zachry stated that instead of the two minute motivator she would be showing a presentation on the new tobacco warning labels and showed how the labels have changed from 1964 to present.

The new labels will start in September 2012 and they will have a 1-800 number to a quit line included on each label. The labels will be larger, covering 50% of cigarette packages and 30% of smokeless tobacco packaging. It is projected that there will be a reduction of 213,000 tobacco users by 2013.

Guest Speaker:

Mr. Reid Fleming with Nature Coast Insurance spoke about tobacco users and the rate increase they have. He stated that it's not just for smokers but for "tobacco" users. If a person wants to apply for a health or life insurance policy and have used tobacco within the last 24 months they will be charged more for their policy and can be denied a policy.

He stated that if a person has other medical issues going on such as COPD, diabetes, and so forth they would not be a good candidate to insure and if they can get insurance it is going to cost them. He gave an example of a 45 year old male with a 20 year term life insurance policy @ \$300,000.00. The cost per month for him would be \$48.00. For a tobacco user that is the same age and for the same term and amount of coverage, the cost is \$159.00 a month. For health insurance, a person that does not use tobacco, the charge is \$243.00 a month and for a tobacco user the charge is \$304.00 a month. Mr. Fleming went on to say that a urine and blood sample can be obtained to see if there is any evidence of tobacco use and that they can obtain past medical records.

Barbara Locke asked what would happen if a person quit tobacco use for 2 years then re-applied for a policy. Mr. Fleming stated they could re-write a policy and would require a doctor's note.

Kristina Zachry asked about group policies: if they are 100% tobacco free and did not hire tobacco users, are there any discounts in place? Mr. Fleming stated that there are not any in place at this time, and thought that was a good question and could be looked at in the future with companies.

Mr. Fleming stated that cigarettes are the cause of fatal house fires. Mr. Fleming and Sarah Hart then proceeded to take questions from members. Upon leaving Mr. Fleming and Mrs. Hart both took pamphlets on AHEC and the Quitline cards that they can hand out to their clients.

Mr. Boyd Belnap went over the new appointed members' responsibilities for future agendas on the webpage. A handout was given to members to review these responsibilities.

Kristina Zachry passed around a draft of the membership packet for all to view as she showed a presentation on the packet and spoke about the agenda for the next meeting. She stated the following 3 strategy plans will need to be completed at the next LCAT meeting:

1. Smoke free multi unit housing
2. Candy Flavored Tobacco
3. Tobacco Free Schools

Kristina Zachry stated she plans to attend the Landlord and Realtor's meeting that Mr. Bob Williams spoke about that is to be held in August.

Mary Phillips stated that she will be e-mailing out the by-laws prior to the next meeting.

The meeting ended @ 5:45 pm