



Substance Abuse Network
April 13, 2011
Marcella Bianco, Chair

Members Attending: Steve Barker, Marcella Bianco, Connie D'Antonio, Kathy Florack, Drew Itnyer, John Poli, William Radke, Nakeshia Thompson, and Kim Thomas.

I. Welcome and Introductions

Marcella Bianco welcomed everyone and introductions were made.

II. Approval of Agenda & Minutes

Motion was made by John Poli to approve the April agenda and March minutes, seconded by Bill Radke. Motion carried unanimously.

III. SWAT (Students Working Against Tobacco)

Manny Rubio, a student at Fort Pierce Central, presented on candy flavored tobacco. In 1997 Governor Chiles sued big tobacco for \$11.3 million and SWAT and TRUTH emerged from a Teen Summit that was held. Banned cigarette vending, commercials, and the use of cartoon characters. In 2003, cigarettes were required to be placed behind the counter at least 4' off the floor. The 2009 Obama Act required the FDA to regulate cigarettes and banned candy flavored cigarettes. Now there are ads and packaging that still target youth in the flavored tobacco products. SWAT conducted a tobacco survey of convenient stores. There were 75 signs hanging on the outside of 44 stores, and 34 different flavors being sold at 15 different stores. They are asking agencies for letters of support. SWAT students will be presenting to the Board of County Commission, asking for a resolution to ban the sale of it.

IV. Teen Court

Ruth DeStafney with Circuit 19 presented on Teen Court, which is a diversion program where peers are the jury, prosecution and defense. They decide the sentence for first-time misdemeanor offenses. There are sanctions that the student has to follow such as an apology, community service, extra home chores, an essay, or counseling. If the sanctions are not completed in the given time, then they receive more sanctions. The program is at FP Central High School, St. Lucie West Centennial High School, and Treasure Coast High School.

The Peer Panel Program is another diversion program. Each Panel is composed of student volunteers who are trained to hear cases. The student goes before a panel of their peers and cases are referred from the State Attorney's Office. There are two hearings, the first of which gives the youth and their family the opportunity to discuss details. They are then given sanctions and must return in six weeks with all tasks completed.

V. **Drugs in the Schools**

Drew Itnyer stated there is a lot of drugs in his school and wished there was something he could do about it. He noted there are kids selling and taking pills. He saw a Crimestoppers poster and would like to see them in each classroom. Bill Radke thought there were a bunch of posters and will check with the Sheriff's Office and Barbara Slaga to see where they are and if they can be distributed.

V. **Revised Logic Model and Resource & Capacity**

Kim Thomas presented the updated logic model. The Resource & Capacity List was tabled until the next meeting due to time constraints.