

WASP Monthly Coalition Meeting May 14th, 2024

This meeting was virtual only. Katie Wargo, Denise Williams, Mike Dorsey, Chelsea O'Neil, Desi Thomas, and Justin Noel attended.

After introductions, Katie presented an FY 24 overview, highlighting the coalition's significant achievements and progress.

Capacity building for WASP has been a challenge, but we plan to work on it in FY 25. The coalition meetings only averaged about 5 attendees per meeting. We plan on having more "lunch and learn" style meetings.

Safe County Alliance has had difficulty getting buy-ins from bars, restaurants, and package goods stores. Everyone is willing to get tips trained but does not comply with all the rules regarding becoming part of Safe County Alliance. Many chain restaurants have their Tips trainer, and many establishments don't want Narcan training or kept on their premises. On the brighter side, Tips training is up from last year, and we have a great relationship with the current liquor board, constantly promoting us. They do have a problem with 4 County coalitions vs 1. We are still looking to do more Needs Assessment surveys. Getting people to commit to the 90-minute time frame for a \$10.00 gift card is very hard. The Church of Severn Run is hosting two next week.

SOS is growing significantly with the interactive House of Addiction. We plan on hosting 2 next year at Marley Station Mall. We are also making it mobile to take to different locations and schools. We are currently booking for the 2024/2025 school year.

Upcoming events: The My Life Mental Health Fair will be held at the Heavenly Vision Church in Hanover this Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The celebration of the Coalition at the end of the year at Pip Moyer in Annapolis will be held on June 18th from 11:30 to 2 pm. Caliente Grill is serving lunch.

Dignitaries, community members, and resources have been invited. Mayor Gavin Buckley will give the opening talk. We will honor and present awards to establishments that passed all compliance checks, and this year, Shining Stars awards to teens who stand out with prevention.