



## **South County Bridges Coalition Meeting January 5, 2024 | Edgewater Public Library**

**\*Please help yourself to lunch!\***

*South County Bridges to a Drug-Free Community is one of four prevention coalitions dedicated to reducing substance misuse within Anne Arundel County. We are parents, students, teachers, police, healthcare providers & many others who are committed to changing the culture of drug and alcohol use among youth & young adults.*

### **Welcome & Introductions**

→ *Attendees- Leslie Beers, Bridges & ASAP Coalition Coordinator; Ashley Ramsey, AACDOH Prevention Coalitions Coordinator; Jess Brian, Serenity Sistas Inc.; Brian Washington, MD Counterdrug Program; Ryan Marani, MD Counterdrug Program; Danielle Williams, MD Counterdrug Program; Amanda Dicken, Project Chesapeake Outreach; Justin Noel, AACDOH SADD Coordinator; Jim S., Community Member; Leslie DeJesus Brooks, Bay Community Health; Tracey Cherry, AACo Partnership for Children, Youth, & Families; Marte Birnbaum, Pathways Luminis Health; Bree McMorrow, AACDOH OMPP Coordinator*

◆ **Total attendance = 12**

- *Change in meeting location from Southern District Police District to Edgewater Library to provide more neutral ground and gain more awareness*
- *Back to Basics—using CADCA Guide to Building Drug Free Communities, do a coalition inventory next meeting (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities)*

### **Our Goals**

- Decrease underage drinking, prescription drugs & marijuana usage
- Educate & provide education to parents, youth & community members
- Provide media advocacy
- Implement awareness activities
- Ensure liquor establishments check for ID & pass compliance checks

### **New Ideas to Reach Our Goals / Community Concerns**

- *Concern- legalization of marijuana, how it relates to teen use and prevention*
- *Capacity Building—looking for ways to reach the community*
- *Partner with other organizations that have education/training resources- Bay Community Health provides a Teen Mental Health & First Aid training course (full day training)*

### **Partnership Updates**

→ Department of Health

- ◆ *Justin Noel, SADD Coordinator - November Conference was a great success with over 70 youth participating; Mini-grant has gone through all its funding but groups are still requesting the peer-to-peer training even without the financial incentive*
- ◆ *Bree McMorrow, OMPP Coordinator - Academic detailing providers AND pharmacists, largely in Southern AACo this past quarter, has been going very well*

→ AACoPD Southern District - *No updates available*

→ Edgewater Library - *next month hosting a Narcan Training prior to the meeting*

→ Safe County Alliance & AACo Liquor Board - *upcoming meeting between the Coalitions & Liquor Board to discuss collaboration*

**Community Meetings & Engagement**

→ *Looking for groups to conduct Listening Sessions with (questions about alcohol and substance use, availability, accessibility, perceptions of harm and consequences), need groups of adults and youth*

**Opportunities for Awareness & Education**

→ *New Resource- "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens"*

**Other**

→ *House of Addiction event to be held March 13-14 for all AACPS in-school field trip and a family/community session at Marley Station Mall – very excited to take this event to the next level and make it more accessible to AACo.*

→ *Decision made to continue holding the meeting hybrid, Zoom link [bit.ly/SoCoBridgesMeeting](https://bit.ly/SoCoBridgesMeeting)*

**Thank you all for coming!**

**Next Meeting February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 @ 12:30pm**

**We will be hosting a NARCAN TRAINING followed by our regular Coalition Meeting!**