



ITAC General Coalition Meeting Minutes – DRAFT

DFC #SP 080803-1

November 15th 2023

9:00am at Iroquois Board Room 32

Sectors:

- 1 – Youth (person <= 18 years of age)
- 2 – Parent
- 3 – Business Community
- 4 – Media
- 5 – Schools
- 6 – Youth-serving Organizations
- 7 – Law Enforcement Agencies
- 8 – Religious or Fraternal Organizations
- 9 – Civic and Volunteer Groups
- 10 – Healthcare Professionals (Field of Substance Abuse (SA))
- 11 – State, Local, or Tribal Government Agencies (SA)
- 12 – Other Organizations involved in reducing (SA)
- 13 – Key Personnel

Call to Order Time: 9:04am

Adjourn Time: 10:00am

Recorder Name: Joanne Goellner

1. **Attendees:** Alli Pelletreau (13), Sarah Sterlace (13), Joanne Goellner (2), Tracey Karp-Theal (6), Linda Bonczyk (5).
Zoom Attendees: Mark Sterlace (8), Caitlin Violanti (10), Dawn Stover (2/11), Maura Stack (12).

2. Hello & Welcome:

- a. Tracey Karp-Theal - (Boys and Girls Club of EMW). This year the club is focusing on family oriented events vs special days. Due to COVID, communications and procedures have changed so the goal is to reconnect with parents/caregivers. Events include Paint Night, BINGO, a family dance. ***ITAC can help with their 1st family fun run & obstacle course.*** This community event will be in June 2024.
- b. Caitlin Violanti - (Violanti Mental Health Counseling). MVHC has opened a second office to be operational the first week in December, in Amherst. Now she is able to service individuals of all ages or schools in both the NT and ST and welcomes referrals. She is also looking for clinicians. Also still interested in the Celebrating Families initiative. She has met with Erie 1 regarding funding and partnering with districts. ***ITAC can help by sharing her website/promotional material and will talk via email regarding the Celebrating Families.***
- c. Dawn Stover – (Town of Marilla). Christmas in Marilla will be on December 9th. Annual event well attended by community. ***ITAC can volunteer or set up a station/activity; many options for how to participate.*** A meeting will be held Thursday 16th at 6pm. Dawn/Sarah was going to try to attend on behalf of ITAC.
- d. Mark Sterlace – (Grace in Community Church). GICC is sponsoring a free Thanksgiving Dinner for the Community on Wednesday November 22nd at 5:30pm. They have room for 125 people with 80 already signed up. Beginning the 1st of the year the church will also be promoting their new permanent space for community distribution of clothing and food. ***ITAC can help promote both of these initiatives.***
- e. Maura Stack – (WNY Prevention Resource Center). Maura is back after a leave and looking forward to reconnect with ITAC and other coalitions to see what needs we have.

3. Presentations:

- a. **YouUplift** – Linda Bonczyk (MS counselor) demonstrated YouUplift, showing what the students see, what it looks like from the admin perspective of the app and how it works. She thanked ITAC for sponsoring the program and shared that it was a positive way to build community in the MS. She will begin visiting the 5th grade classrooms soon to introduce YouUplift and encourage MS teachers to share on TVs in the classroom twice a week. She encouraged ITAC to post messages and events. Sarah tested the process during the meeting.
- b. **HS/MS Vape Sensors Update:** SRO officers unable to attend however Officer Deplato was able to give a brief update prior to the meeting. Sensors are working well. From start of school to now, a reduction in notifications and numbers. 12 students have had to go through suspension. There are still bugs to be worked out and still working on a program to address prevention/quitting. Alli shared a resource sheet

ITAC's mission is to increase awareness of and reduce youth substance use within the community & enhance communication between parents, youth, educators, & residents, while utilizing data to drive prevention efforts, promote education, & provide access to resources.

with the district from the WNY Youth Anti-Vaping Coalition. **Tracey asked if she could also get a copy of the resource and Alli said that she would send her one with the letter that accompanied it.**

4. **Building Capacity** – ITAC still has not recovered from COVID. Although some sector membership is up (ex.youth), membership and participation is down. ITAC is looking for members who share in our vision. Alli shared a flyer from Oasis/CADCA regarding an online training for capacity building that is scheduled for Tuesday Feb 27/March 5 10am-4pm. **Tracey has some capacity ideas she is willing to chat about with ITAC. Alli will connect at a later time.**
5. **Announcements:**
 - a. **Great American Smoke Out** – November 16th 3pm at the MS Dining Room. The group will unveil it's new Skip the Tobacco, Live Smoke Free billboard, coinciding with the Nov. 16 Great American Smoke Out (GASO). The billboard will showcase the students' "Smoke-free Chalk the Walk activity" hosted by Tobacco Free Erie Niagara Reality Check in partnership with ITAC and the Boys and Girls Club.
 - b. **Billboard** –The billboard is live and located on Transit by Wieland Automotive. Not sure about the bonus location. The next billboard due date is December 4th. **The Youth Coalition will come up with the idea/design concept for the next billboard.**
 - c. **Spaghetti Dinner** - January 16th at ICS/HS. 4:30-7/7:30 food by Rosina. ITAC hosting a bake sale. Connecting to our table talk initiative.
 - d. **Health & Wellness Fair** – To be held March 16th at ICS/HS. This will be the first Health & Wellness Fair since before COVID.
6. **From the Floor** – nothing shared from the floor.

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00am. **The next General Coalition Meeting: 12/11/2023 at 9:00am.**

Meeting Minutes respectfully submitted November 19th, 2023 by Joanne Goellner.