



Alliance for Healthy Communities

May 5, 2015 Meeting Minutes
3:30–5 PM, Parkway ISC

AHC 1st Tuesdays

12657 Fee Fee Rd.
Rm A
St. Louis, MO 63146



Alliance Vision: To create a community empowered to make positive choices through knowledge, skills and resources.

Alliance Mission: Engage the community to reduce youth substance abuse and risks of suicide by raising awareness and changing community norms.

Attendance: Rod Campbell (Bridgeway Behavioral Health), Sheree Waterhouse (Manchester P.D.), Megan Schacht (St. Louis County Family Court), Dana Kerney (Valley Hope Treatment Center), Kevin Scott (Ballwin P.D.), Earl Barge (CAPY), Lori Krueger (NCADA), Kim Dressel (Wren Hollow Elementary- PSD), Ivy Cleveland (St. Louis University), Jim Meyer (Abbott Labs), Amy Weiland (The Crossroads Program), Mimi Holder (Parkway Southwest Middle School), Ken McManus (Director: Alliance for Healthy Communities)

3:30 *Substance Abuse and Sexual Violence Prevention:* Ms. Christina Meneses, Education Supervisor in the metro St. Louis YWCA Women’s Resource Center, presented an information packed overview of the Womens’ Resource Center and important aspects of sexual violence and sexual violence prevention. Ms. Meneses detailed the crisis services (24 hr. hotline 314-531-7273), available free of charge to rape and abuse victims, including hospital advocacy and survivor support.



Several points, among many, made by Ms. Meneses in her presentation-

- Alcohol and drug involvement in sexual assault typically result in more blame on the victim and less blame on the perpetrator
- Alcohol and drug abuse are often used as coping mechanisms by victims of sexual assault and other traumas
- Alcohol and drug abuse lower inhibitions in perpetrators and weaken defenses in victims

4:25 *Announcement and Introductions*

- ◇ Community Champion Recognition: **Earl Barge** was presented with AHC’s **Community Champion** in recognition of his years of service to multiple community coalitions targeting youth substance abuse.
- ◇ **AHC Monthly Topic Calendar** [please visit ahc-stl.org](http://please.visit.ahc-stl.org)
- ◇ **Community Event Calendar** [please visit ahc-stl.org](http://please.visit.ahc-stl.org)
- ◇ NCADA Program Announcements [please visit ncada-stl.org](http://please.visit.ncada-stl.org)
 - ◆ *Strike Down Heroin:* June 20, 2015, 4-6 PM, Tropicana Lanes
 - ◆ *Prevention Leadership Conference:* July 20-21, 2015, St. Charles Convention Center



4:35 *Marijuana: Facts and Advocacy* Earl Barge, director, Chesterfield Alliance for Positive Youth, presented a summary of the information he gathered in attending a marijuana policy and advocacy summit in Cleveland, Ohio. Earl’s presentation highlighted trends in (a) the “politics vs. science” of marijuana legalization, (b) the impacts on brain development, (c) trends in increasing rates of youth use in state wherein legalization has occurred and (d) issues pertaining to the dramatic increases in the potency of modern marijuana as well as the “edible” products increasingly available.

5:00 *Adjourn– THANK YOU* for your attendance, participation and support!

Next Meeting: June 2, 2015