

WEST VIRGINIA

# PARTNERSHIP

## TO PROMOTE COMMUNITY WELL-BEING

*West Virginia's Governor-Appointed Substance Abuse Prevention & Intervention Planning Body*

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**October 16, 2009 QUARTERLY PARTNERSHIP MEETING NOTES DRAFT**  
*Charleston Civic Center (9:00 am to 3:00 pm)*

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### ATTENDANCE

**Partners:** Joe Barker, Mike Baylous, Leslie Boggess, Judy Crabtree, Jeff Estep, Michelle Foster, Bob Hansen, Sue Julian, Mike Lacy, Helena Lee, James Lee, Bud Lett, Anne McGee, Mike O'Neil, Rev. James Patterson, Dave Potters, Gig Robinson, Denise Smith, Brenda Thompson, James Vance, Gary Winter, Kim Walsh

**Proxies:** Cybele Boehm for Don Chapman; Tina Faber for Sue Hage; Amanda Fisher for Lew Holloway; Debi Gillespie for Dale Humpreheys; Deborah Gallaher for Christian Martine; Nancy Deming for Bob Musick; Jason Carlson for Angie Saunders; Susan Caperton for Rebecca Vance

**Ex-Officio Partners:** Neal Holtan (Central Center for the Application of Prevention Technologies)

**Partners Pending Appointment:**

Trish Whitelatch (Rep of CPPs in Region 1); Robin Brown (Rep of CPPs in Region 4)

**WVPRC Staff:** Kristi Adkins, Jamie Albert, Stephanie Anthony, David Bailey, Bidy Bostic, Jo Beyer, Michele Burnside, Shamus Cleveland, Wayne Coombs, Cathy Coontz, Melissa Crawford, Roy Grimes, Ed Lanham, Bill O'Dell, Laura Sarver, Tom Scott, Yetty Shobo, Steven Smith, Charles Yakubow, Andy Whisman

**Guests:** Wendy Bailey (Mercer Co.), Rhonda Cooper (Lincoln Co.); Mary Aldred Crouch (WVADAAC); Barri Faucett (ASPEN Program); Shari Johnson (Calhoun Co.); Tracy Johnson (CAPT); Steve Mason (WVADAAC); Martha Polinsky (Ohio Co.); Craig Richards (WVDHHR – Bureau for Behavioral Health & Health Facilities); Carrie Strunk (Fayette Co.); Nancy Price; Tanya Dillon-Page

**External Evaluator:** Linda Spatig

### ITEMS DISCUSSED/DECISIONS MADE

Mike Lacy called for proxies (see proxy list above), called the meeting to order, and welcomed everyone...specifically recognizing newly appointed Partners.

Partners reviewed their **July 2009 Meeting notes**. Gary Winter moved to accept the notes as presented. The motion carried.

HANDOUT: *July 2009 WV Partnership Meeting Notes*

**Communication/Procedures/Government Affairs Workgroup:**

- Michele Burnside highlighted recent Partnership appointments and reminded newly appointed folks to follow up with their oath of office and financial forms.
- Dave Potters explained the need for a small, available, representative group of the Partnership to provide advice/approval to staff and/or speak on behalf of the Partnership on matters requiring immediate attention in between quarterly Partnership meetings (for example grant opportunities, requests from the legislature or media). The CPGA WG recommends that staff consult on such matters and proceed on the advice of the Chair, Vice-Chair and one other member of the CPGA WG (or three members of the CPGA WG if

the Chair and Vice Chair are unavailable). The CPGA WG will report any such action in the previous quarter at each quarterly Partnership meeting. Potters moved that the Partnership the above mentioned structure. Brenda Thompson abstained from voting. The motion carried

### **Underage Drink Prevention Project**

WG member Gig Robinson and staff Stephanie Anthony reviewed the purpose and inclusive membership of the WG. Robinson/Anthony also highlighted some recent activities/affiliates (see notes)

HANDOUT: 7/30/09 & 10/1/09 UDP WG Meeting Notes

### **Drug Free WV Grant Program (Purdue Pharma Asset Forfeiture Funds)**

WG staff Melissa Crawford reported on a meeting of WG Chairs and other interested Partners to draft a funding plan for year 2. The group drafted categories and funding amounts. Crawford noted the County Prevention Partnership support category is intended to be open to all CPPs (not just SPF SIG funded), and the SG WG is looking for CPP input regarding exactly what this funding could be for. Michele Burnside highlighted the prescription drug abuse social marketing/media campaign progress. Mike moved that the Partnership adopt the draft categories and defer the draft funding plan to the Sub-Granting WG for further development and authority to move funding among categories. The motion carried.

SEE HANDOUT: *Drug Free WV Grant Program Draft Funding Plan Year 2*

**Workgroups:** The Chair encouraged newly appointed members to join the WG of their choice. Each WG Chair briefly highlighted the WGs. The Chair mentioned the possible need for new WG for Treatment/Recovery issues. He referred the matter to the CPGA WG.

**2009 Governor's Drug Summit / Share The Vision:** Jo Beyer called attention to flyer, which contains background, logistics, reminders.

SEE HANDOUTS: *Share The Vision Information Registration Mailer; Drug Summit/Conference Reminders*

**WV's Comprehensive Strategic Plan to Address Substance Abuse:** Wayne Coombs presented the almost final, formatted draft of the plan, which the Partnership first reviewed/discussed/approved at its fall 2008 retreat and has reviewed at each quarterly meeting since. Coombs noted a cover letter has been drafted for the Governor's approval/signature and will be added. Dave Potters moved to adopt the plan as presented. Brenda Thompson, Gig Robinson, Kim Walsh and Jeff Estep abstained from voting. The motion carried.

**Legislative Issues:** Jamie Albert reviewed the Partnership's legislative progress last year. During a cost of substance abuse presentation to an interim committee, legislators requested a bill to codify the partnership. Two bills ran, but ultimately didn't pass. Nonetheless, we expanded our relationships/awareness/support of the Partnership. Albert noted the significance of Partnership codification – solidify Partnership to transcend gubernatorial change and create legislative involvement. Albert noted that legislators have again asked for draft legislation to codify the Partnership. He highlighted the current draft noting that it would codify the Partnership as it exists in the Executive Order. It is identical to what ran last year except for the removal of language pertaining to the Partnership advising the SAPT BG. The CPGA WG removed that language, because it is not necessary. Mike Lacy moved that the Partnership support the concept of legislation regarding Partnership codification. The motion carried. Kim Walsh abstained from voting. Mike Lacy moved that the Partnership authorize the CPGA WG to work with key legislative parties on finalizing draft bill. The motion carried. Brenda Thompson was absent from room for both votes.

HANDOUT: *Draft Bill*

**Qualitative Evaluation :** Linda Spatig of the external qualitative evaluation research team highlighted their latest report.

HANDOUT: *Progress Report - October 2009 (document emailed to Partners prior to the meeting as well)*

### **Federal Grants**

**Partnerships for Success:** WV did not get this grant. Overall, we were ranked "very good." All four states who did receive focused on underage drinking.

**Programs of Regional & National Significance Applications:** WV was awarded this funding.

HANDOUT: *CSAP's Programs of National Significance Grant Overview*

### **Other Grant Project Updates (No Verbal Reports)**

**Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG)**

SEE HANDOUTS: *SPF SIG County Progress & Fiscal Updates*

## **Purdue Pharma**

SEE HANDOUT: *Purdue Pharma – Drug Free WV Grant Program Fiscal Update*

**Funding Study:** Evaluation Specialist Yetty Shobo highlighted the latest funding study report - *The Financial Burden of Substance Abuse in WV: The Healthcare System*.

HANDOUT: *The Financial Burden of Substance Abuse in WV: The Healthcare System*

**Community Corrections in WV:** Newly appointed member Jim Lees spoke briefly to the Partnership regarding the importance and success of drug courts and community corrections.

## **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) Center for the Application of Prevention Technologies (CAPT) Central Regional Expert Team**

Neal Holtan & Tracy Johnson highlighted CAPT's purpose – to maintain personal relationships with states, bring the latest prevention interventions into practice, develop assessment and training/technical assistance workplan. CAPT's primary role is to work with the single state agency responsible for substance abuse prevention (SAPT BG recipient) and provide free training and technical assistance. In WV, the single state agency is the WV Department of Health & Human Resources Bureau for Behavioral Health & Health Facilities. The CAPT system has been reorganized from five systems to one national system. The regional designations are now teams that can leverage resources from across the national system. Johnson noted that prevention specialist training has been tailored for African American pastors and delivered to 5 in WV; He also hopes to tailor the training to the Appalachian population.

## **Regional Updates**

*See Regional Reports (AT THE END OF THIS DOCUMENT)*

**Next Meeting:** Mike Lacy called for items for the January Partnership meeting:

January 15 (9 – 3 pm)

April 16

July 16

October 15

- CPGA
  - Legislation
  - Social Marketing Campaign
- Regional Updates
- SG WG Update

The meeting adjourned.

## **Reports on County Prevention Activities - Submitted by Regional Liaisons**

### **REGION 1 REPORT – SUBMITTED/PRESENTED BY LATRISHA WHITELATCH**

**1. Five SPF SIG Funded Counties:** Implementation Counties: Calhoun County, Doddridge County, Marshall County, Ohio County, and Wood County

**2. RLOs This Coming Quarter:** November 17 and 18, 2009 – Share the Vision

**3. County Updates:**

**Brooke-Hancock County (report submitted by Luann Decker):**

- July to September 2009 Accomplishments

Drop Out Prevention: A subgroup of our coalition took on a drop out prevention project. We were able to enter Hancock County Schools and collect data from focus groups. Students were asked some specific questions about their school experience. These

questions were aimed at getting other conversation going. Our regional Adolescent Health Coordinator, Dara Pond, served as our leader. All data was recorded, collected, summarized, and reported to the superintendent of Hancock County Schools.

**Red Ribbon Week:** Our coalition worked with the RAZE groups in our local school systems. We are providing informational materials, red ribbons, and announcements for every high school student in both Brooke and Hancock counties for six school days. (The daily morning announcements will include a prerecorded message from a local citizen whose life has been affected by drugs.) Our Brooke Hancock Tobacco Prevention Coalition is providing banners and newspaper announcements. The mayor of the city of Weirton proclaimed October 17-30 Red Ribbon Week. Students will have the chance to sign a commitment banner. The Brooke and Hancock middle school students will also receive red ribbons and book marks or pencils.

**Community Solutions Luncheons:** We had a community luncheon in February for agencies and citizens. It went so well that we had another, this time inviting local officials. The idea of luncheons was to present the problems and resources of our area, and get a conversation started toward a path to solutions. We are planning a follow up luncheon in January to continue the conversation and begin the planning. An exciting result of the legislative luncheon came from a local judge who is now requiring parental involvement and classes that he learned about at the luncheon!

**Calhoun County (submitted by Shari Johnson):**

-The Calhoun County Community Youth Force Coalition has had a busy summer. Our partnership has grown by a few community members, Officers were elected, bylaws have been adopted and policies and procedures are being reviewed. Our Coalition is taking formation of a 'community owned venture.' Social Hosting has become the Coalitions top priority with our October Coalition meeting planned to address possible ways to broach the subject with local authorities by way of adding new ordinances through the County Commission and the Town of Grantsville City Council. Stephanie Southall Anthony will be speaking in Calhoun to our coalition members as well as other counties on October 20th. The Calhoun Pride Team has begun working on the creation of video public service announcements and hopes to have their first production completed by mid November. Additional Activities have been the *National Night Out - America's Night Out Against Crime* and a campaign to create a greater awareness of the coalition and its efforts. On September 25th, The Drug Free All Stars came to the Calhoun Middle High School and spoke to both Middle and High School students in an assembly combining fun and education about the importance of making good choices and staying away from drugs and alcohol. Playing against the *All Stars* in a game of Basketball, the Calhoun Pride Team was joined by area law enforcement from the West Virginia State Police, the Calhoun Sheriff Department and the Grantsville City Police. This was the first event in many, many years that has involved law enforcement in such a positive light with youth. An exciting result that stems from this event is a request from local law enforcement to hold a positive peer mentoring open gym for youth every Sunday from 2-5 p.m. with volunteers from each agency in Partnership with the school Pride youth.

**Doddridge County (submitted by Terry Hutson):** "Too Good for Drugs" will start at the middle school in Dec. The FRN will be hosting a 'Healthy Workplace' program for building staff, before it goes to the State Road workers in Nov.

**Harrison County (report submitted by Carol Moscar):** The Harrison County Partnership is an unfunded, community based group in the process of reorganizing and has been meeting on a regular basis for the past year. Recently, the Partnership has decided to move forward and has begun working on their strategic plan. They have reviewed and revised their mission statement, identified common values, and will be looking at assessment data prior to setting their goals and objectives. This is a change of focus for the Partnership as previously the group looked for activities as prevention...without assessment, goals, objectives and a strategic plan.

**Marshall County (report submitted by Latrisha Whitelatch):**

- Our coalition continues to implement a variety of environmental prevention strategies, including CMCA, merchant education, and mass media campaigns.
- Since the last State Partnership, our coalition has been invited to take part in a pilot project with the WV Center for Civic Life. The purpose of the project is to increase public dialogue about underage drinking in Marshall County. The project is ongoing and will be completed in December.
- Our coalition was re-awarded the Federal Drug Free Communities Support Program grant.
- Our coalition has approved its bylaws and elected officers. In addition, we're formally adding three new members next month – a college student, a concerned citizen, and an individual involved in substance abuse treatment.
- Our coalition is in the process of identifying priorities/areas of focus in order to re-establish workgroups.
- Our coalition will work with Peter Hille this January regarding strategic planning.

**Ohio County (report submitted by Martha Polinsky)**

-Ohio County hosted the Region One RLO Legislative Luncheon on September 10, 2009. It was a great event.

- OCSAPC hosted a parent forum on September 22. The event was well attended, and a group of parents plans to continue to meet.
- Our coalition was awarded a Federal Drug Free Communities grant. We are pleased to have 5 more years of funding.
- Our coalition is relaunching the CMCA program.
- Our coalition has several billboards around Ohio County that state that underage drinking is not a game. These billboards encourage parents not to host underage drinking parties.

**Pleasants County (report submitted by Debbie Thompson):**

- Pleasants County does not have an established Coalition at this time. We plan to work with Carol Moscar, in the near future, and get something organized even though we will not have designated funding. Carol hopes that everyone involved with the Coalition will agree to have it fall under the Family Resource umbrella.

**Regional Update:**

- On September 10, 2009, Region one hosted a luncheon for legislators from our region. The luncheon included a presentation by Dr. Wayne Coombs concerning the cost of substance abuse in WV. In addition, Dr. Coombs spoke about the State Partnership. Four legislators attended, all of whom indicated that they would support the notion of putting the Partnership in state code.

**REGION 2 REPORT – SUBMITTED/PRESENTED BY ANNE MCGEE**

**Regional:** Region 2 held regional learning opportunities in July, August and September on topics such as Teen Pregnancy Prevention, Prescription Take-Back Programs and Child and Abuse and Neglect. The September RLO served as the regional prevention and health networking meeting held twice a year in Culloden, WV and over 50 people from all twelve counties were in attendance. The WV12 continues to air PSA’s on the CW network and plans to continue this year as well. Our next RLO and WV12 meeting will be held Monday, October 19 from 10-2 at the PRC. The topic for October is Juvenile Justice Services and the topic planned for December is Treatment and Recovery options in WV.

**Unfunded Counties**

**Putnam:** Putnam on Wellness held a drug summit.

**Wayne:** Wayne County FRN held a drug summit.

**Jackson County:** Awarded a Drug Free Communities Grant

**SPF SIG Counties**

**Cabell:** CCSAPP continues 2 social marketing campaigns 1)aimed at “sharing” culture for prescription drugs and 2) targeting parents to talk to their kids. Saturation Patrols by area law enforcement agencies were conducted during first couple of weekends that MU was in session. Coalition is working on community assessment and sustainability planning. Cabell drug summit is planned for January 21 and focus is on how community members can address policies, systems and norms that contribute to prescription drug abuse. Cabell is also working on setting up a Teen Court program. Coalition is continuing to advocate for bar moratorium ordinance.

**Mingo:**

- The Keep a Clear Mind curriculum was completed with over 400 students in Mingo County.
- Sobriety Checkpoints and Compliance Checks were held with the Mingo County Sheriff’s Department.
- Merchant education was held on-site at 25 retailers.
- Beer license ordinance for Town of Gilbert is on third reading and should be passed at the next council meeting.
- There are billboards in two locations in Mingo County.
- STOP has two underage drinking prevention ads on the local cable company community channel.
- Too Good for Drugs and Violence Afterschool curriculum is underway.
- Preteen/teen Issues Days are in process in Mingo County Schools.
- STOP, through Mingo County Commission, received the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Grant for an Adolescent Wellness Program for early intervention for at-risk teens.
- STOP, through Mingo County Commission, received renewal of the EUDL grant for FY10.
- Parenting Wisely curriculum training was held for implementation by a local church.
- Mingo County Drug Summit was held on September 29.
- Maternal Infant Health Outreach Worker Program (MIHOW) is ongoing.
- Crossroads Recovery Home for Women is now at full capacity with a waiting list. Recovery Dynamics staff training is scheduled for early November.

**Logan:** Logan County Drug Prevention Summit was held on Sept, 25, 2009 we had around 95 people present the topic was Prescription Drug Abuse with Dr. Michael O'Neil as speaker even tho we had low attendance everyone felt it was our best summit

**Kanawha:**

- Implemented direct mailing initiative; 15,000 Kanawha County residents received informational brochures on the partnership. CTC is beginning to compile and record response cards from those who received the mailers and responded.
- Focus for 2009-2010 grant year is underage drinking. Implementing compliance checks, merchant ed, TIPs training etc.
- Youth Involvement team revamped. 10 of 4 teen focus groups on UA drinking completed. Lots planned with teens this grant year.
- Website will have a new look Nov. 2009
- Now have a Facebook page
- TGFD training to be held 11/2/09 at the PRC 9-3
- Researching and plan to apply for a DFC grant (2010) Attended training in 10/15/09 sponsored by WV CADCA
- 2 commercials on air
- Kroger gift card fundraiser is a growing success. (\$267 collected)
- Received the largest SPFSIG allocation for 2009-2010 over \$174,000

**REGION 3 REPORT – SUBMITTED BY REBECCA VANCE; PRESENTED BY SUSAN CAPERTON**

**Barbour:** Barbour County worked on skill building and team building with middle school students at a retreat co sponsored by an area church during the summer. A back to school bash held in August had 150 attending and allowing the coalition to distribute 125 backpacks filled with school supplies. They are currently in 3 schools with prevention ed programs serving a total of 750 kids per week participating in grades through K-5. A neighborhood watch program is being developed within the Belington Community.

**Berkley:** Berkeley County is continuing to develop their new County Coalition. They are in the process of setting their by-laws and assessing the community. They are also looking to implement a program that is similar to the Children's Zone in New York that targets children in poverty and/or lacking proper parental guidance.

**Grant:** Grant County held 1 coalition meeting with a total of 5 attending.

**Hardy:** Potomac Valley Eastern Regional Resource Council: will begin in November. This coalition consists of key community members that will provide insight and motivation towards local county coalitions within the Potomac Valley. Potomac Valley Substance Abuse Task Force: Continuing to look for funding, but has raised a significant amount of money. The ultimate goal for the coalition is to provide a rehabilitation center within the Potomac Valley.

**Hampshire:** Hampshire County held 2 coalition meetings with a total of 15 people attending. The parenting fair was held and was deemed a success.

**Jefferson:** Jefferson County is continuing to implement prevention strategies in the schools through the FOCUS Coalition. They are planning more fund-raisers this year and have plans to do more Drug and Alcohol Prevention PSAs.

**Mineral:** Mineral County Domestic Violence Task Force: has successfully found a facility for battered women and men. This is a huge success due to the plethora of issues this task force has overcome. Mineral County: 2 coalitions/25 people

**Morgan:** Morgan County is planning its first "Take-it-Back" event on Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> that will focus on having residents bring their controlled and non-controlled medications to the Health Dept., which will then be properly incinerated. The Morgan County Partnership is also looking to bring in a facility based on the Healing Place of Huntington. This will hopefully address the lacking "Recovery" options in the area. They are also implementing the Too Good For Drugs and Violence

curriculum in the schools (K-12) and the Too Good For Drugs After school Program. They are also starting a new youth-driven club called Anna's Hope (which is similar to the SADD Program).

**Pendleton:** Some members of the prevention coalition (ERFRC/PIP) have agreed to attend regional meetings that are to occur in Moorefield soon. These meetings will occur every other month and it is hoped that members from the five Potomac Highland Counties (Grant, Hardy, Hampshire, Mineral and Pendleton) will participate. The purpose of these meetings is to identify common problems and to work collaboratively towards solving them. Also to address programs sustainability in the absence of future funding. CDS from these counties will also be attending to provide technical assistance. The ERFRC/PIP is in the process of hiring a full-time VISTA worker, part-time County Coordinator, and a full-time Social Services Networker (Title V). They hope to have all three vacancies filled by the end of November. RX drug abuse awareness presentations are occurring on a regular basis throughout the county. The CDS and the Adolescent Health Coordinator have partnered to present a Rx Drug Abuse Awareness / 40 Developmental Assets workshop on 10/30/09 (in Franklin). Pendleton County had a 33% buy-rate for SYNAR store inspections (tobacco) this year. The CDS and Bidy Bostic plan to provide ongoing merchant education throughout the county.

**Preston:** The Preston Caring Community Council meets on a monthly basis to discuss county concerns & issues – including prevention topics. The Preston County Health Department Prevention Partnership also meets quarterly. Both provided prevention materials at the annual Buckwheat Festival in Kingwood. Preston County had a 12.5% SYNAR buy-rate for store inspections this year. This is a marked improvement from 68% last year! This was a collaborative effort among the State Police, Bidy Bostic and the CDS.

**Randolph:** Randolph County is the new Region 3 County Liaison and Joyce Harris-Thacker from Upshur is the alternate.

Merchant Education to prevent underage tobacco use has occurred on a monthly basis this year. Those involved were the FRN, Tygarts Valley High School and Harman School Students, Randolph County State Police, Bidy Bostic and the CDS. This year's buy-rate for SYNAR store inspections was 0% (no sales)! That is down from 37% a year ago.

Randolph County held its annual National Kids Day with 350 attending the event. Activities included "Spit Seeds Not Tobacco Contest", Drunk Goggle demonstrations given by the Sheriffs Department, Rock Climbing Wall, water balloon toss and many more. A total of 75 book bags containing school supplies were passed out during the month of August. An anonymous tip line has been developed by the coalition for report suspicious activity, underage drinking and parents hosting alcohol parties. The number is 304-636-TIPS. It is sponsored by the coalition, Randolph Co. Sheriffs Department and William and Associates. Plans are underway for a Legislative Luncheon in early December.

**Tucker:** Tucker County hosted the August RLO in Parsons. Participants discussed the role, responsibilities and protocol for electing new regional liaisons. They also voted-in a new liaison and an alternate. Participants also discussed county certifications and the state-wide prevention system. The State Police, Bidy Bostic and the CDS provided ongoing merchant education this year and the buy-rate for SYNAR store inspections was 0%. This is down from 50% last year.

#### **REGION 4 REPORT – SUBMITTED/PRESENTED BY ROBIN BROWN**

#### **NEEDS:**

Wyoming County- Funding

McDowell County- We need assistance on data analysis and how to use it to mobilize the county.

Braxton County- Funding

Nicholas County- Funding

Webster County- Assistance in getting back on track

Monroe County- Assistance in getting back on track

Greenbrier County- Funding

Pocahontas County-

Mercer County-

Summers County-

Clay County-

Fayette County-

Raleigh County-

**Wyoming County:** Our Wyoming County Prevention Partnership still meets monthly, co sponsored a "Hometown Heroes Event" and offers classes to families through the HF/HC. We were denied the DFC grant, again. We participate in community meetings, Service Array and support all prevention programs in our county. We are still seeking funding because all of our members are volunteers. We can't attend special state events because of finances. We would like to be more active, but as usual funding is an issue.

**Webster County:** In Webster, while people are interested, man power is so short that prevention has taken a back burner. Behavioral Health, law enforcement, and the non-profits are all doing everything they can to keep their head above water with their required task lists. Prevention is not required by most agencies/medical fields. The exception is the Health Education Committee (of the FRN, but it is really a stand alone as well). The areas of cancer and tobacco have been/are targeted, and there is regional and state representation at the monthly meetings. H1N1 has of course taken a lot of the prevention time as well.

**McDowell County:** Other than participating in the training with DFC on Thursday, we are currently working with the local Mayors to address strategies to work towards a unified movement to reduce criminal elements in relationship to drugs. (1) We are beginning with one municipality and hopefully spread to the others to meet with pharmacists, physicians, and community to discuss the issues and look for methods for change. We have scheduled meetings with magistrates, PA, judges, mayors, and the county commission to identify opportunities for positive changes. (2) We have written flex-e grant to bring training to McDowell on SPF so that our efforts are all based on that model and to help everyone work from the same page. (3) We will be formalizing our coalition with officers, policies, etc. to make it stronger.

**Nicholas County:** We are continuing to work on limited funds, Prescription drug abuse is the number one issue at this time. The CEASE Coalition wrote a grant for \$10,000 to survey the community on what assistance they need regarding drug abuse, prior to the survey we believe that families are struggling with where to turn for help with substance addicted loved ones. We are working with the Healthy Families Healthy Children grant to work with families to promote activities that support and enhance their well-being, through the development of family skills education. We are working with our regional tobacco coalition coordinator to reduce the number of pregnant women who are smoking. We wrote a grant to do outreach and education in that area.

**Monroe County:** We currently have a Tobacco Prevention Coalition, we combine our meetings with our Breast Cancer Awareness team. The school and WVU extension have done some activities with David Bailey. One thing that was in

the plan which I thought was a good idea was to provide parents with kits to test their children for drugs. It was also suggested that if children were mandated to be drug tested, then teachers and others that have the safety of our children as a responsibility also be drug tested. There have been some comments by students about teachers using. A toll-free number students could use to report teachers and others would be helpful. Any professional having a problem with being tested probably has something to hide. If not, they will gladly agree to prove they are drug free. Children learn by example not "do as I say and not as I do.

**Braxton County:** We still hold our SAFE meeting we have went from an adult group to high school kids. We had more response from them than with the adults. We wish there was more funding available as we have had some fundraisers to bring the Save a Life Tour to the high school last year and wanted to do something for them again this year. The Save a Life Tour was a 6,000 dollar project. We also brought a Magician to the Middle school that had a program about drugs. We have not had a meeting yet this year but hope to have the first of this years meeting with the high school next month.

**Clay County:** We have a Pregnancy Prevention Task Team and we are always working in the schools for drug/alcohol/smoking prevention. We continue to work on the environmental issues with the youth, we do river clean ups and they are always highly successful except funding is the issue. I need money to pay the haulers, DEP will pay my disposal bills, but it cost to have the trash transported to the landfill, especially since we don't have a landfill in our county. I have volunteers, so funding is the issue.