

Middletown Alliance March 15th Minutes

- I. **Welcome, Pledge, Introductions**
- II. **Minutes of January 18th meeting accepted by Peggy Bertorelli and John Maguire**
- III. **Old Business**
 - Alliance funded registration and bussing for middle school students from Bayshore, Thorne, and Thompson to attend the NJ Elks Path to Leadership conference on 2/6 at Ocean Place Resort in Long Branch
 - Presentation topics: social media, mental health, bullying, vaping, drug prevention, and suicide prevention
 - 49 students and 4 SAC chaperones attended
 - Feedback from Kristin Wessels, SAC: *"I wanted to reach out and thank you for funding that awesome opportunity for my leaders. Despite the obstacle the weather created, it truly was a beneficial and successful day. The kids had fun and learned a lot. (several even deleted Tik Tok before we left!!)"*
- IV. **New Business**
 - ☐ Conversation about changing Alliance meeting day and time
 - ☐ Group decided to keep meetings on Saturdays at 8:30 am
 - ☐ Alliance Leaders update
 - ☐ 5th grade cycle 2 Thompson: 110 students
 - ☐ Graduation 4/1, 4/2 from 5-7 pm
 - ☐ Alliance volunteers needed
 - ☐ Upcoming Parent Presentations in the Training Room at Town Hall
 - ☐ Current Drug Trends: Thursday, March 27th 7-8 PM
 - ☐ Social Media: Monday, April 14th 7-8 PM
 - ☐ Raising Resilient Kids: Thursday, May 22nd 7-8 PM
 - ☐ Alliance volunteers needed
 - ☐ Freeze Addiction Polar Plunge- March 23rd 10:30 AM Edgewater Beach Club in Sea Bright in honor of Dillon Rahim
 - ☐ Refreshments, door prizes, raffles, and opportunity for volunteer hours for students
 - ☐ Upcoming Narcan Training for Township employees April 30th from 10-11 AM
 - ☐ Contract with Monmouth County nurses to give the presentation- Alliance will supply information, Narcan, giveaways
 - ☐ Currently picking dates for Narcan Trainings open to school personnel and the public
 - ☐ Discussed having a Narcan training during an Alliance meeting
 - ☐ Monthly Public Service Announcements (PSAs) starting end of March
 - ☐ First topic will be vape/e-cigarette disposals
 - ☐ Additional topics discussed so far: 2NDFLOOR- New Jersey Youth and Young Adult Helpline, Bystander Intervention & Good Samaritan Law, and Signs of Overdose and how to use Narcan/Naloxone
 - ☐ Working with Middletown High School North and South SACs on prom initiative

- ☐ First planning meeting occurred on 3/10
- ☐ Parent/student contract agreement with chance to win money incentive
- ☐ Mayor/ Township Committee draw junior and senior winners, article in Middletown Matters/Minutes
- ☐ Vape Take Back campaign in April- “Spring Cleaning- Clean out your lungs!”
 - ☐ Working with Communications and our Middletown Recycling Center
 - ☐ Highlight that our recycling center takes vapes and batteries. Show residents where and how to recycle vapes along with quitting information
- ☐ Upcoming observances:
 - ☐ April is Alcohol Awareness Month
 - ☐ Will disseminate information on social media- “Tip Tuesdays”
 - ☐ May is Mental Health Awareness Month
 - ☐ Sent a program request to the NJ chapter of AFSP- American Foundation for Suicide Prevention for the in-person parent presentation “More Than Sad”
 - ☐ More Than Sad program description: 60-minute program that teaches parents how to recognize signs of depression and other mental health problems; initiate a conversation with their child about mental health and get help. This program focuses on parents and guardians of teens/youth.
 - ☐ Planning meeting on 3/28

V. Police updates

- Middletown Police Chief Craig Weber gave the following updates/stats:
 - Motor vehicle accidents are up
 - Domestic abuse is up
 - 14 DWIs to date this year

VI. 2025 Goals

- Senior Center
 - Mental health/ therapy dog events
- Increase parent attendance at events/presentations/meetings
 - Going to try and touch base with PTO/PTAs to share program flyers and other Alliance information.
 1. Friend request Facebook pages, attend their meetings
 - Also discussed attending parent stakeholder virtual focus groups; specifically, the MH/SEL group
- Programming in elementary schools through Wellspring
 - Planning meeting 4/25
- Plan a recovery event
 - Discussed having a speaker from AA, recovery/sober nights

VII. Additional Updates:

- ☐ MTPD Operational Readiness for Police Officers & First Responders Training- Alliance/OS \$ funded

- ☐ Crisis response, mental health response, OUD (opioid use disorder) and SUD (substance use disorder) response
- ☐ Had our first meeting on 1/16 to discuss. Planning next conversation after getting all finance information.
- ☐ Just released a new training with the same topics for specifically First responders. Once the police take the training/give feedback, will offer to EMS
- ☐ Wellness Wheels Uber Health Contract- Middletown Health Department
 - Utilizing Opioid Settlement funds
 - Transportation for residents who identify as having a SUD/at risk for an SUD to medical/mental health appointments.
 - List of pre-approved places
 - Handicapped accessible vehicles and trained drivers
 - Pilot around April/May once our dashboard is completed and have ride coordinator to take calls

VIII. **Questions/Concerns/Ideas?**

- Adults identifying with ADHD and using stimulants is increasing, pharmacies low on medications

IX. **Next Meeting: May 17, 2025**