

**MINUTES: 1/14/2021 SPC LUNCH
12 - 1:30 PM
ONLINE OVER ZOOM**

Present:

**Melinda Bobo, SPC Chair, Priest, St. Andrew's
Aaron Preece, SPC Vice Chair
Sarah Murdock, SPC Secretary
Tessa Miller, SAFV Task Force
Sherri Redden, Sublette School District9
Diana Watkins, community member
Joey Burke, Tobacco TF Co-Chair
Eric Makelky, Principal, PMS
Angie Murphy, Psychologist and SPED, Sub1
Mandy Moffat, SAFV Task Force
Cassie Crumpton, SC Treatment Court
Matthew Daniels, business owner
Peggy Weber, Recovery community
Annie Adams, DFS
Robin Carnes, Public Health
Kaidi Rainey, BOCES
Janel Scurlock, BOCES**

**Emmy Daniels, Hope+Choice
Duke Edwards, Faith community
Carolyn Normington, counselor, PMS
David Shaw, Principal, Skyline
Jenny Arne, Counselor, PES
Klief Guenther, WHP
Travis Bingham, SCSO
Matt Murdock, Mayor, Pinedale
Hank Williams, Oil and Gas
Emi Domoto-Reilly, business
Randy Belton, Veterans, business
Janna Lee, Nurse Manager, SCPH
Ryan Grove, Physician's Assistant
Sarah Hixson, HCBH
Trisha Scott, SPC Coordinator
Robert Galbreath, Newspapers**

NOTES:

Lieutenant Klief Guenther from Wyoming Highway Patrol (WHP) attended the coalition meeting to report on the 2 New Year's Day DUI related fatalities in Sublette and Teton County.

Lt. Guenther also offered data showing where Wyoming stands in national DUI deaths, and to offer observations on the "community culture of generational permissiveness" that supports drinking and driving and DUI fatalities in Sublette County.

Both DUI drivers consumed alcohol in Pinedale earlier in the day before the New Year's Day fatalities occurred.

Data shared by Lt. Guenther:

Around 800 people per day are injured in a drunk driving crash and 30 people die a day from alcohol related crashes in the US. (NHTSA).

Sublette tops the state in alcohol related arrests, with 1400 arrests per 100,000 people (in Sublette that translates to roughly 140 alcohol related arrests in 2019.)

7.66% of the U.S. population suffers from alcohol dependency.

9.89% of Sublette and Teton residents suffer from alcohol dependency. 9.37% of Wyoming residents are alcohol dependent.

There are 84 auto crashes per week in Wyoming, 30-40% of those are alcohol related.

Lt. Guenther reported: "We have a ton of drunk drivers on our roadways. Our culture encourages alcohol use and we are not good at deterring folks from getting in a car after drinking. It is a cultural problem. In Wyoming the executive and judicial branches of government have put all their prevention efforts into punishment and it does not feel like that is working. Punishment is not changing the culture."

Discussion:

What is long term upstream prevention and how does it change the individual and the culture? Pre-school has been found to be a protective factor against substance abuse. Social emotional learning in elementary school is a protective factor against substance abuse. Supporting ADHD children with appropriate treatment is a protective factor against substance abuse. Many people drink/go to bars because they are lonely. How can we increase a sense of community here? Communities that have places for individuals and families to gather, dance, play games and make music without alcohol are a protective factor against substance abuse. Churches could collaborate on creating such a space but not sponsor it so it does not appear to be religious. We can promote ski days, sled days more. Mentoring - We need more opportunities in Sublette for kids to be mentored by older kids and adults. The Alcohol Task Force does measure slow cultural change with the biannual PNA. Every 6th, 8th, 10th, and 12th grade student answers the question: In the last 90 days were you at a social event where adults were drunk or intoxicated? 2018 PNA said that 60% said yes. Our job is to use media and policy changes to decrease that number by 2024. Is there a way we can once again offer rides home to people who have drunk too much?

Law and policy discussion: 24/7 monitoring is used in several Wyoming counties and has had a significant effect in decreasing DUI rates when counties elect to put people on 24/7 alcohol monitoring systems - like the SCRAM ankle monitor - at their first DUI. Generally in Wyoming people get 3 DUIs before supervised probation is required. Face to face visits required by monitoring give an opportunity for the person monitoring to talk about rehab and treatment with the person being monitored. Wyoming laws allow parents to buy alcohol for their own kids, which suggests that alcohol is an unquestioned part of our culture, to kids. Overserving is a problem. Mayor Murdock reported that the Pinedale town council is considering revising town alcohol policy and would consider a mandatory beverage server ordinance for liquor license renewal if there was overwhelming public support. Point systems can be used to affect liquor license renewal. Mayor Murdock reported that covid has increased bar owner's animosity towards the government and regulation. It's a tough climate to enact policy changes in. Mayor Murdock will contact Lt. Gunther and the coalition when/if Pinedale Town Council decides to discuss mandatory beverage server training. Mandatory beverage server training has been shown to decrease DUI's. Servers/bartenders reporting drunk drivers: Important to legitimize reporting while also allowing business owners to run a business and make \$\$\$. Law enforcement does not need more money for enhanced enforcement on holidays and high risk days, there are federal grants for that to pay overtime for troopers. WHP does need to be supported by the coalition with our legislators, who are cutting budgets which is decreasing trooper benefits and making it harder for WHP to recruit new troopers to keep divisions staffed. 2020 saw a huge decrease in people interested in LE careers.

Kentucky and West Virginia were mentioned as states where alcohol is less problematic. What are they doing that's working? One answer from a community member who works in West Virginia is that a lot of people in those states do not have cars.

Anyone interested in working with the Alcohol Abuse Prevention Task Force on these issues, please contact Trisha.

1:30: Adjourn formal meeting.

