

## **Minutes of the State of Prevention Advisory Board – May 9, 2018**

The quarterly meeting the State of Alabama Prevention Advisory Board was held at the Social Work Department of UAB on May 9,2018

The meeting was called to order by Chair Seyram Selase at 10:00 AM. After a brief word of introduction, and welcome, all members in attendance, as well as members joining by conference call, were introduced.

### **Members in-person Attendance**

In attendance at the meeting was Seyram Selase, *Chair*, Dr. Annice Yarber-Allen, Deegan Malone, Carie Wimberly, Gerald Douglas, and Bruce Kimble.

### **Members in Attendance via Conference Call**

Joining the meeting via conference call was Elana Parker Merriweather, *Co-Chair*, Vandlyn Pierre, Gloria Howard, and Ebony Crews.

### **ADMH Staff in Attendance**

Beverly Johnson, Director of the Alabama Department of Mental Health Office of Prevention, Ashley Robinson, Lauren Blanding, Catrina James, Tafeni English, and Charon Douglas.

### **ADMH Staff in Attendance via Conference Call**

Brandon Folks, Ashley Hudson, and Necole Driver.

Chair Selase recognized Allen Miller, Shelby County District Attorney, as well as the Executive Director of Compact 20/20.

Chair further recognized Dr. Scott Bettie of the Department of Social Work at UAB, who were hosting the meeting of the SPAB. Dr. Bettie made a brief remark in relation to the social work department at UAB, as well as one of welcome to the SPAB committee. Dr. Bettie went on to announce that the Social Work Department would be moving to a new facility in the near future.

Chair Selase presented that minutes of the last SPAB meeting to the SPAB committee for approval. After a few minutes of review, Gerald Douglas moved to accept the minutes, and the motion was seconded by Elana Parker Merriweather. The motion carried.

Chair Selase then recognized Beverly Johnson, Director of the Alabama Department of Mental Health Office of Prevention. Ms. Johnson provided updates of the Office of the Office of Prevention initiatives, as well as the office of Preventions' upcoming initiatives.

Ms. Johnson reported that the Office of prevention attended the Opioid and Marijuana Workshop that was held at Sanford University on 3/13/2018, as this related to the areas of focus of substance abuse prevention. Ms. Johnson related that multiple providers and Coalition partners were in attendance.

Ms. Johnson went on to report that the Office of Substance Abuse Prevention attended, and presented at the ASADS Conference. Ms. Johnson related that the Office of Prevention presented two workshops at the ASADS conference, Prevention Ethics, which is a requirement for the Prevention Certification (24 in attendance) as well as a course on Substance Abuse Prevention Strategies (28 in attendance).

Ms. Johnson reported that the Officer of Prevention attended The National Heroin and Prescription Drug Summit, April 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> in Atlanta Ga. Ms. Johnson related that changed in Behavioral Health marketing strategies and campaigns were discussed, as well as two resource links:

[www.crisisnextdoor.gov](http://www.crisisnextdoor.gov)

[www.CDC.gov/rxawareness](http://www.CDC.gov/rxawareness)

Ms. Johnson went on to report that the DAWN (Drug Abuse Warning Network) would also be reinstated.

Ms. Johnson reported that the Office of Prevention attended the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) Opioid Summit on April 27, 2018 in Montgomery, Alabama. Ms. Johnson stated that this summit featured a panel discussion of the Co-Chairs of the Alabama Overdose and Addiction Counsel:

Dr. Scott Harris of the Alabama Department of Public Health  
Ms. Lynn Beshear, Commissioner of the Alabama Department of Mental Health  
Steve Marshal, Attorney General of the State of Alabama

At this summit that would be relevant to prevention was a presentation by Ashley Crumpton of Compact 20/20, relating to replicating thriving community coalition.

Ms. Johnson announced that the DMH Office of Prevention is currently developing a partnership with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) as well as Google Maps. Ms. Johnson went on to relate that this would be a pilot program for the development of drug disposal locations, as well as a method by which these locations could be located. Ms. Johnson reported that Epidemiologist Catrina James is currently working with the DEA and Google Maps to develop a nation-wide data base of disposal sites located at law enforcement locations across the state.

Ms. Johnson reported that the Office of Prevention is currently involved with some coordinated efforts through the Alabama Suicide Prevention and Resource Coalition (ASPARC) to provide QPR training to recognize the warning signs of suicide. Ms. Johnson went on to report that the Office of Prevention has identified the first site for these trainings, Northwest Alabama Mental Health Center in Jasper, Alabama. The Office of Prevention would be working through the Garrett Lee Smith Grant and with the Alabama Department of Public Health to coordinate efforts providing the QPR training.

Ms. Johnson reported that the Office of Prevention is currently making an effort to expand the focus of services within the older population, as well as looking into data relating to the older population. Ms. Johnson went on to related that a conference call was held with JBS International, a contracted technical assistance provider with SAMSHA, to discuss strategies related to older populations.

Ms. Johnson reported that the due date for budgets to be submitted to the Office of Prevention was 4/30/2018. Ms. Johnson went on to report that this deadline

did not apply to the Opioid State Targeted recipients (CURES grant recipients). These budgets have already been received to prepare for year two STR funding opportunity to begin 5/1/2018.

Ms. Johnson reported that the quarterly provider meeting was held on April 19<sup>th</sup>, and the internal staff meeting of the Office of Prevention was held on April 20<sup>th</sup>. Technical assistance and site visits are ongoing.

Ms. Johnson reported that the Alabama Department of Mental Health, as well as the Office of Prevention is currently reviewing the Alabama reporting procedure system, known as ASSIS. The ASSIS system, the system in which providers report and do the billing for provided services. Ms. Johnson reported that this system is in need of some revision. A review was conducted, and it was found that the majority of the demographic information was marked “unknown.” Ms. Johnson reported that a plan of action to address this issue was submitted to the office of information and technology. Ms. Johnson went on to state, as a result of the review, it was found that the issue was provider specific. As a result, the DMH will be working with the specific providers to correct this issue.

Ms. Johnson reported that the Office of Prevention attended the Peer Educators of Jacksonville State University Town Hall Meeting on March 14<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Johnson stated that the theme of the meeting was a “Think Before You Drink” initiative for spring break. Ms. Johnson related that there were 20 participants at the meeting.

Ms. Johnson reported that a new prevention provider has been identified. Ms. Johnson stated that this provider was South Central Alabama Mental Health Center. South Central MHC provides services to Conecuh County, Covington County, and Escambia County.

Ms. Johnson announced extended prevention provider services with Aletheia House, with “The Pride of Tuscaloosa County” and in Bibb County.

Ms. Johnson reported a Block Grand PFS (Partnership For Success) relating to Behavioral Health Disparities training was conducted on March 7<sup>th</sup>, in Montgomery, Alabama. Ms. Johnson reported that the object of this training was to articulate the relationship between cultural competence, behavioral health disparities and the SAMASHA Framework (SPF). Ms. Johns reported that this was to describe a way in which to identify populations experiencing behavioral disparities using primary data collection methods to local disparities, apply the enhanced nationally appropriate culturally and linguistically appropriate service class standards, utilize logic models to evaluate strategies addressing the local behavioral health disparities, and apply what has been learned through these efforts to reporting for funding. Ms. Johnson reported that the focus would be underage drinking in 8 counties.

Ms. Johnson reported that “fatal Vison” day was held on March 16<sup>th</sup> in Lowndes County and included the Black Belt Coalition, the Lowndes County Superintendent of Education, High School, Middle School, as well as the Juvenile Probation Office.

Ms. Johnson related the initiative involving prescription drugs, the Office of Prevention has identified a marketing strategist to help with this initiative, Copper Wing, meeting on May 10<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Johnson recognized Nicole Driver who reported that quarterly reports have been submitted for the SPF/RX “take back” event on April 28<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Johnson recognized Community Engagement Chair, Executive Director of Compact 20/20, as well as the District Attorney of Shelby County, Allen Miller. Mr. Miller reported that the Community Engagement Committee has decided to focus on the 41 Judicial Circuits in the State of Alabama that currently had Drug Courts. Mr. Miller stated that the efforts should be a local as possible, and the Judicial Circuits would be a start.

Ms. Johnson related that there are two subcommittees that meet on a quarterly basis, The Mental Illness Coordinating Subcommittee and the Substance Abuse

Subcommittee. Ms. Johnson stated that if anyone is interested in serving on these committees, they should see her.

Ms. Johnson recognized Ms. Carie Wimberly of the Addiction Prevention Coalition. Ms. Wimberly related that the Addiction Prevention Coalition was a 10-year-old, nonprofit organization in Homewood, Alabama with a focus in offering prevention services in 20 high schools. Ms. Wimberly stated that, through the Drug Free Community Grant, this Coalition was utilizing the “Pride Survey” in these school systems. Ms. Wimberly went on to state that this Coalition was also working with UAB in relation to strengthening family training, and provide workplace seminars.

Dr. Annice Yarber-Allen announced that the Prevention Certificate program at AUM currently had 5 students entering into an internship program, finalizing the certificate.

Chair Selase announced the upcoming CACA training in Orlando Florida for July 15<sup>th</sup> through 19<sup>th</sup>, as well as the National Prevention Conference on August 15<sup>th</sup> through 30<sup>th</sup>.

The next meeting of the SPAB was scheduled for August 8, 2018.

Respectfully Submitted by Bruce Kimble, SPAB Secretary