

Alabama SPAB Quarterly Meeting

May 11, 2022

Members Present:

Seyram Selase (Chair), Agency for Substance Abuse Prevention
Elana Meriweather (Co-Chair), Medical Advocacy and Outreach
Bruce Kimble (Secretary), Alabama Department of Corrections
Erin Burleson, ADMH Prevention Consultant
LaTasha Moore, ADMH
Eden Griffin, OMNI
Tommie Sanders, Wellstone
Emi Brooks, East Alabama MHC
Sam Griggs, CED MHC
Brandon Folks, ADMH
April Knight, Northwest MHC
Staci Wilson, South Central MHC
Shai Markris, AltaPointe
Candy Gaff, SpectraCare
Jana Kirkland, Mt. Lakes MHC
Vandlyn Pierre, Drug Education Council
LTC Tom Warner, National Guard Task Force, Montgomery
Kenna Young, PRIDE of Tuscaloosa
Cedric Leonard, Compact 2020
Shalandra Rogers, ADMH Prevention Consultant
Mariyam Javed, Pharm-D MPH, HIDTA
Carie Wimberly, Addiction Prevention Coalition

I. CALL TO ORDER: The SPAB/AEOW Meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Seyram Selase, Chair.

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Agenda – motioned by April Knight
Seconded by Tommie Sanders

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes were sent out. Thanks to Bruce Kimble.

Minutes – motioned by Tommie Sanders
Seconded by Staci Wilson

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Updates from the Office of Prevention – Per Brandon Folks, Epidemiologist position with ADMH will be announced soon. Chris Sellers, Behavioral Health Analyst will be “serving in the gap” until the position is filled.

Looking at moving into a Central Data repository base format at the Website.

The NPN conference will be held virtually in August. Looking ahead in 2023, the Office of Prevention will be calling upon providers for some assistance and some presentations at this conference.

Ms. Moore stated that she was beginning with the Monday (May 9th) event Strengthening Community Resilience Substance Misuse and Overdose prevention. Ms. Moore went on to state the topic was proclamation signing and press release. Ms. Moore stated that Tuesday, May 10th event was prevention of substance misuse and promoting mental health Youth Webinar, from NPW 2019. Ms. Moore stated that May 11th (at the time of this meeting) a suicide awareness presentation “Suicide Awareness – Everyone Plays a Role” was provided. Ms. Moore stated that on Thursday, May 12th that a presentation “Talent Pipeline – Enhancing the Prevention Workforce and Ice cream social” was held. Ms. Moore went on to report that on Friday, May 13th The event “Prevention is Everywhere” was held, featuring a walk around the capital using the “Drunken Goggles” which simulates the disorientation during intoxication.

Chair Selase reported that, due to the pandemic, the SPAB had elected to remain with the current officers (Chair Seyram Selase, Co-Chair Elana Merriweather, Secretary, Bruce Kimble) in place until the pandemic had “eased up” and meeting could be held in person. Chair Selase went on to state that at the next meeting, he, as Chair, would be calling for elections.

New Business – Chair Selase asked for anyone who could speak to the Alabama Statewide Survey. Mr. Brandon Folks stated that Satavia participated in an interview with local news stations, Mr. Folks stated that he would speak to this on Satavia’s behalf. Mr. Folks stated that the Statewide Student Survey was “back on.” Materials are available on the ADMH website.

V. PROVIDER UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chair Selase announced that ASAP has received a grant from the Ford Foundation in relation to Opioid Response efforts. Chair Selase related that this particular grant was concerning the Faith Based Support Initiative program, modeled on the R.O.S.S. program. However, Chair Selase went on to state that this was a faith-based initiative, training faith-based individuals to become Peer Support Specialist. Chair Selase reported that this program’s first event was held in Oxford, Alabama. Chair Selase stated that the goal was to get 30 “faith-based” community leaders to sign up for the program, and the total number was 35 individuals to be signed. Chair Selase stated that the next event for this program will be held on June 24th and 25th at the Johnson Legacy Center in Huntsville, Alabama. Chair Selase went on to state that this event would be for Region 2. Chair Selase went on state that the Region 3 (Montgomery area) date would be September 22nd and 23rd. Chair Selase went on to state that the Region 4 (Mobile area) event would be December 8th and 9th.

Cedric Leonard with Compact 2020 Shelby Co., reminded the Board that this weekend is the Mental Health Walk, raising money and awareness for mental health and substance abuse issues. Mr. Leonard went on to state that the event will be at Pike Road and go from 8:30 until 12 noon on Saturday, May 14th.

Brandon Folks then asked for an update regarding the Alabama Coroners Association Conference. Chair Selase related that ASAP was asked to present at the Coroners Conference in Gulf Shores Alabama.

The National "Take Back Day" was a success. Several providers discussed anywhere from 16 to 836 pounds per location.

LTC Tom Warner of the National Guard Task Force addressed some of the issues encountered with regard to the "National Take Back" day. LTC Warner reported that he feels that the issues are on the way to being resolved.

VI. ADJOURN MEETING: Seyram concluded the meeting at 10:34 am.

VII. NEXT MEETING: August 3rd – 10:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Bruce Kimble MS LPC-S AADC ICADC-D
SPAB Secretary