



**ISAP Meeting Minutes
September 17, 2009
LPD South Precinct
8:30 am to 10:00 am**

Members Present:

Becky Allen, MSU Olin Health Center
Pat Bednarz, Lansing School District
Mike Botke, Lansing Teen Court
Latisha Carter, Lansing Teen Court
Harriett Dean, EISD/PPS
Micki Fuhrman, EISD/PPS
Marie Hansen, Community Member
Sarah Kenney, Ingham County Health Department
Rod MacDonald, Community Member
Sharon McWilliams, Lansing School District
Carol Patterson, Cristo Rey Community Center
Scot Sexton, East Lansing Police Department
Mike Tobias, Cristo Rey Community Center
Lt. Eric Trojanowicz, Ingham County Sheriff's Office
Karen Waters, Cristo Rey Community Center
Nicole Wozniak, Lansing Teen Court

rebecca.allen@hc.msu.edu
patricia.bednarz@lansingschools.net
teencourt Lansing@cooley.edu
latisha@childandfamily.org
hdean@eatonisd.org
mfuhrman@eatonisd.org
hansenm3@msu.edu
skenney@ingham.org
retiredmac@mac.com
sharon.mcwilliams@lansingschools.net
cpatterson@crstoreycounseling.org
ssexton@cityofeastlansing.com
mtobias@cristo-rey.org
so_trojo@ingham.org
karencrcc@earthlink.net

Next Meeting: October 15, 2009 Meeting Time: TBD

I. Call to Order:

8:30 am

Interim Chairperson Marie Hansen called the meeting to order at 8:30 am and had each person present introduce him or herself.

II. New Business:

a. Cultural Competency Presentation:

Carol Patterson presented. Carol distributed copies of a personal assessment worksheet entitled Identifying the Skills and Competencies Needed in Cultural Competency and asked ISAP members present to spend a few minutes completing the worksheet. When everyone was finished, Carol asked what comes to mind regarding the phrase "cultural competence" and in what ways can the Coalition become more culturally competent.

- Mike Botke stated differences between peoples.
- Sharon McWilliams stated differences in ethnicity, class and socio-economic status.
- Sarah Kenney stated that in her work in Public Health Services at the Ingham County Health Department it is crucial to understand cultures so that clients are not offended by the worker.
- Micki Fuhrman stated that similarities are as important as differences between cultures.

Carol then asked ISAP members present to identify the skills they checked off on the worksheet where they felt they needed improvement.

- Pat Bednarz stated that adapting prevention program components for cultural appropriateness is a problem with Lansing School District's Alcohol Reduction Program. Pat stated that grant funding for the program provides a set curriculum for students in grades 6 through 12, not allowing cultural sensitivity.
- Carol stated that the same problem applied to the Teen Anger Management Program at Cristo Rey Community Center (CRCC). She stated that the computer component of the program is not geared toward participating youth. Another issue is that the program is lecture-driven, rather than providing a dialogue with the youth. She added that the Adult Anger Management Program offered through the treatment



department of CRCC is not culturally sensitive toward program participants from tough parts of town. Carol stated that these individuals indicate that intimidating others is actually one of their survival mechanisms. She stated that programs must be constantly assessed for appropriateness.

- Sharon stated that Lansing School District (LSD) recently asked the author of “A Framework for Understanding Poverty” to speak to LSD staff regarding this issue. Sharon stated that one of the author’s messages was that systems tend to operate from a middle class framework, offering didactic information to the recipient. The didactic approach assumes that “we will give you information and you will take it in”, which is not sensitive to many cultures.
- Karen Waters stated that growth stages also influence culture. She stated that developmentally, adolescents require attention and interaction. Karen stated that as she observed youth cross-culturally in school-based prevention programs for several years, it was always apparent that they require an interactive type of teaching. Karen stated that youth very quickly become bored when hearing one-way lectures about substance abuse.
- Latisha Carter stated that Lansing Teen Court’s “Keepin’ it Real” Program, for 11 to 17 year olds, is culturally appropriate for youth from low socio-economic stratas. Latisha stated that the video vignettes component of the program is interactive and culturally appropriate and that participating youth tend to respond to the vignettes.
- Micki stated that “A Framework for Understanding Poverty” would be a good tool for ISAP members in comprehending the culture around poverty. Rod MacDonald asked to have information about the book posted on the ISAP website.
- Marie observed that the discussion thus far had been about assessable, measurable work products like prevention programs. She stated that skills such as self-awareness and biases are much more subjective, and that an individual cannot just assume that they possess these skills. She stated that in checking off her own level of competency in many of the skills listed, she asked herself, “How do I know?”
- Sharon stated that she felt competently skilled when working with individuals from cultures with which she is familiar, but less so with individuals from Asian or Muslim cultures. Karen stated that substance abuse crosses all cultures but disproportionately affects some. Rod stated that we need to better reach out to all cultures.
- Mike Tobias stated that language can be a challenge to cultural competency. He stated that in giving a presentation to youth at the Lansing Refugee Center, where language barriers obviously exist, he recognized that substance abuse prevention should be available to those individuals in our geographic area who do not speak English. Mike stated that it his goal to continue building relationships at the Refugee Center.
- Marie stated that as a coalition we could more systematically work with different cultures. She stated that this discussion indicated that youth are action-oriented, and as the ISAP Coalition meetings are not, we are not teen-friendly. She stated that we still need to reach various faith-based groups in Ingham County as well. Carol asked how we should collect and record that information. Mike Botke and Karen referenced several ISAP activities over the years where members identified relationships still to be built and who was still missing from the table. Harriett Dean stated that our next agenda item would also address relationships to be built.
- Don Iacobellis asked if there might be a tag line regarding cultural competency that could be affixed to our logo.
- Karen stated that SAMHSA and the Drug Free Communities grant require that we integrate cultural competence into every stage of our strategic prevention framework. She stated that sample tag lines might be found on the CADCA National Coalition Institute’s web site, www.coalitioninstitute.org.
- Latisha stated that media has changed everything. She stated that Facebook, Twitter, and other internet media sites offer many opportunities for working with different groups.
- Micki suggested that we invite speakers from various groups to give a presentation at each ISAP meeting.
- Marie emphasized that the ISAP Coalition needs to organize Cultural Competency and Evaluation work groups.



b. Meeting Time and Date Discussion:

Marie asked ISAP members present to consider what a good meeting time would be for the ISAP Coalition. She stated that we need to determine what time of day and how often to meet. She stated that the time need not be a meal time, as we no longer have funding for food. Harriett explained that for the first four years of ISAP existence we met at the lunch hour so that members would have lunch and then miss only one hour of their work day. She stated that we switched to the morning meeting time primarily because our volunteer chairperson had a full time job with Lansing School District and could not leave the job at lunch time.

General discussion ensued regarding frequency and time of meetings. Some members present felt that quarterly meetings would be appropriate while others felt that we will lose our momentum if we do not meet at least every other month. Rod suggested that ISAP work groups meet monthly and the Coalition as a whole can share information as needed and post information to our website. Marie stated that ISAP work groups meet to address their goals. She explained that ISAP workgroups currently include: Executive, Media, Data, Youth, Family Matters, Adult Use and Community Norms. Micki stated that the Coalition in Eaton County has work groups that meet on a monthly basis and it appears to be a good model.

After further discussion ISAP members identified two models for ISAP meetings:

1. Meetings will be held once a month. They will alternate between the full Coalition for one month and ISAP work groups for the next
2. All work will take place in our work groups. ISAP work groups will meet monthly, or as needed, and the Coalition as a whole will only meet as an ad hoc committee.

Decision: Coalition members present agreed that Harriett will send all ISAP members a Meeting Wizard memo regarding our meetings. The memo will give options for how often and at what time we meet.

c. Alcohol Compliance Check Report Outcomes:

Karen Waters reported. Karen distributed copies of the ISAP Alcohol Compliance Check Report 2008/2009 to ISAP members present. She stated that a correction was made on this report and it would be electronically re-sent to all ISAP members. She said that the report members had just received identified our current rate of compliance as 89% and it is actually 90.6%. Karen explained that MidSouth Substance Abuse Commission (MSSAC) stipulates that their participating coalitions baseline alcohol compliance checks every other year. Results on alternating years are then compared to the baseline from the previous year. She stated that, as indicated by the report, these have been our results:

- 2007 Baseline Rate of Compliance: 84%
- 2008 Rate of Compliance: 90.7%
- 2009 Baseline Rate of Compliance: **90.6%**

The ISAP Alcohol Compliance Check Report 2008/2009 also details individual rates for these participating law enforcement agencies: Lansing Police Department, Meridian Township Police Department, East Lansing Police Department and the Ingham County Sheriff's Office. ISAP letters of appreciation were sent to all liquor licensees who passed their controlled buy (check) for the current compliance check baseline, and all 287 liquor licensees checked received an ISAP Vendor Education Packet. "Problem vendors" received enhanced education in addition to packets. Karen stated that vigilant efforts by our local law enforcement agencies as well as the Michigan Liquor Control Commission (MLCC) in conducting alcohol compliance checks help account for our consistently good rate of compliance.

III. Old Business:

a. Plan Review – Funding and Outcomes:

Harriett stated that this will be reported on next month.



IV. Legislative Updates:

- a. Marie Hansen reported on tobacco initiatives. Marie distributed copies of Benefits to Michigan from Adjusting its Tax Rate for Other Tobacco Products (OTPs) to Match the State's Tax Rate for Cigarettes and Proven Strategies to Reduce and Prevent Tobacco Use. Marie explained that the ISAP Coalition has advocated for raising taxes on both beer and cigarettes. She stated that the first handout indicates that making the state's tax rates on OTPs parallel the state's tax rate on cigarettes produces substantial public health benefits by stopping under-taxed, less-expensive tobacco products from serving as a gateway to cigarette addiction for kids or as an alternative to quitting or cutting back for existing smokers. Marie stated that it is a fact that for any substance, an increase in price decreases youth use. She added that Representative Joan Bauer is encouraging constituents to contact Representatives Dylan and Bishop regarding this issue. Mike Tobias stated that recent initiatives such as raising taxes on little cigars, and imposing a per drink tax as is done in the state of Pennsylvania, are encouraging to him.
- b. Mike Botke thanked Harriett for her participation in the Lansing Teen Court Summit this year.
- c. Karen stated that Mike Tobias was the recipient of this year's Michigan Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking (MCRUD) Hero Award.
- d. Marie stated that we are still in need of an ISAP Chairperson and Chair Elect. She stated that neither of these positions can be held by a staff person receiving prevention funding from MSSAC.

V. Agenda Items for October:

- a. State Substance Abuse Conference Report
- b. Mike Botke requested approximately 15 minutes to speak about Lansing Teen Court at next month's meeting.

VI. Adjourn:

10:00 am