



**ISAP Meeting Minutes  
November 3, 2009  
LPD South Precinct  
8:30 am to 10:00 am**

**Members Present:**

Pat Bednarz, Lansing School District  
Kath Davis, Child and Family Services  
Harriett Dean, EISD/PPS  
Lakeisha Dortch, Community Coalition for Youth  
Micki Fuhrman, EISD/PPS  
Marie Hansen, Community Member  
Don Iacobellis, Pfizer Global Medical  
Sarah Kenney, Ingham County Health Department  
Dawn Kepler, Prevention Network  
Rod MacDonald, Community Member  
Amy Moore, Ingham County Health Department  
Jim Pararella, Child and Family Services  
Peggy Roberts, Power of We Consortium  
Mike Tobias, Cristo Rey Community Center  
Lt. Eric Trojanowicz, Ingham County Sheriff's Office  
Karen Waters, Cristo Rey Community Center  
Pat Wheeler, NCA/LRA  
Andrea Yokich, Ingham Intermediate School District

[patricia.bednarz@lansingschools.net](mailto:patricia.bednarz@lansingschools.net)  
[kathy@childandfamily.org](mailto:kathy@childandfamily.org)  
[hdean@eatonisd.org](mailto:hdean@eatonisd.org)  
  
[mfuhrman@eatonisd.org](mailto:mfuhrman@eatonisd.org)  
[hansenm3@msu.edu](mailto:hansenm3@msu.edu)  
[dominic.iacobellis@pfizer.com](mailto:dominic.iacobellis@pfizer.com)  
  
[dawnk@preventionnetwork.org](mailto:dawnk@preventionnetwork.org)  
[retiredmac615@gmail.com](mailto:retiredmac615@gmail.com)  
[amoore@ingham.org](mailto:amoore@ingham.org)  
[jim@childandfamily.org](mailto:jim@childandfamily.org)  
  
[mtobias@cristorey.org](mailto:mtobias@cristorey.org)  
[so\\_trojo@ingham.org](mailto:so_trojo@ingham.org)  
[karencrcc@earthlink.net](mailto:karencrcc@earthlink.net)  
[patw@ncalra.com](mailto:patw@ncalra.com)  
[ayokich@inghamisd.org](mailto:ayokich@inghamisd.org)

**Next Meeting: December 1, 2009 @ 8:30 am @LPD South Precinct**

**I. Call to Order:**

**8:30 am**

Chairperson Pat Bednarz called the meeting to order at 8:30 am and had each person introduce him or herself. Pat called for a motion to accept the October 20, 2009 ISAP meeting minutes as published. Marie Hansen made the motion and Lt. Eric Trojanowicz supported it. The motion was accepted unanimously.

**II. State Substance Conference Summary:**

Kathy Davis presented. Kathy's main focus was on one of the three workshops she had attended: *Dealing with the Press*, presented by James McCurtis Jr. Kathy said that Mr. McCurtis suggested that prevention people keep in mind that the media gets facts wrong. He presented the following talking points:

- Remember that you are an expert.
- It will be a problem if your information is released too late.
- Go back to the media one time if your press is bad.



- Avoid being pitted against another agency.
- Stay on point. Be ready for the media to approach.
- Express empathy, not just facts, early on.
- Show competence and expertise.
- Be honest and accountable.
- Be transparent, accurate and timely.
- Do not assume that reporters have correct information.

Kathy stated that the message of the workshop was, “Proper prevention prevents poor performance.”

Kathy added that she also attended a *Trauma Workshop*. The main message of this workshop was that the effects of trauma often get labeled as a lot of other things. She stated that in her professional experience working with youth, their behavior will appear “criminal” and anti-social when they are really just flailing out and asking for help.

### **III. Teen Court Year End Report:**

This item was tabled until our next meeting. Mike previously reported he was unable to attend this morning due to a Teen Court hearing.

### **IV. Legislative Updates/Announcements:**

#### **Legislative Updates:**

Mike Tobias presented. He discussed the current status of four bills.

1. Off Premise Server Training: Mike distributed copies of a communication the ISAP Coalition sent to Commissioners Simona, Weatherspoon, Gaffney and Pobur. It states that the Ingham Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition **supports** the proposed rule change for “Off-Premise Licenses”, to add rules that establish requirements for off-premises server training programs.
2. Late Night and Sunday Morning Liquor Sales: Mike stated that this bill is pending in the full house. Joan Bauer voted it out of the Appropriations Committee to give it a larger hearing.
3. Beer Keg Registration/Tracking: Mike stated that Mark Meadows shows continued interest in this bill. It is in the Senate now.
4. Youth Amnesty: Amnesty for the intoxicated underaged person who contacts emergency services was discussed at length at our last meeting. Marie stated that Dawn Kepler had done an Op/Ed piece on the amnesty proposal for the Prevention Network September Newsletter. She stated that lawmakers had tried to add amnesty to the 2004 Minor in Possession (MIP) Law. It zoomed through the House and was not added. Marie stated that Dawn’s article focused on educating youth about what a medical emergency really is. She stated that ISAP hasn’t really taken that position yet. Harriett Dean stated that, judging from the discussion at the last MidSouth Substance Abuse Commission (MSSAC) Coordinator’s meeting; other county coalitions are all over the board regarding youth amnesty. She said that some of the other



coalition people felt, as had been brought up at the last ISAP meeting that youth would take advantage of amnesty to keep from being charged with MIP. Dawn added that the Michigan Colleges Higher Ed. Group had also discussed the topic at length. Their members agreed that the issue of alcohol poisoning, which the proposal seeks to address, is more critical than any other part of the discussion. Mike stated that the current MIP law is partially changing in that there is now possible jail time for youth. Marie stated that the law currently stipulates that if the arrested youth is compliant, the first charge of MIP is esponded from their record. The presiding judge can order jail time with the second charge of MIP.

**Discussion:** Mike informed ISAP members present that there would be a Semi-Annual Public Comment Hearing at Michigan Liquor Control Commission on December 2, 2009. Rod MacDonald suggested that ISAP members present decide what we would like to present at the hearing. Harriett suggested that we bring our ideas to the December ISAP meeting. Micki Fuhrman suggested that we support raising the tax on beer, as opposed to extending Sunday liquor sales hours, as a better source of revenue for the state. She added that raising the tax on beer by just 3.8 cents would raise 4 million dollars a year for the state of Michigan. Marie stated that raising the price of any substance has proven to reduce youth use. She stated that the tobacco industry has come up with lots of “kid-flavored” smokeless tobacco products as a cheaper alternative to cigarettes. Jim Paparella asked about ISAP advocating for generalized research on these bill proposals, and then getting behind the scene with whatever legislation is coming up. Marie suggested talking with Barb Byrum about good public policy *and* raising revenues. Rod stated that ISAP should support one legislator in supporting one bill. Mike stated that supporting a small group of legislators would also be good. Marie stated that there has never been good public support for raising the tax on beer, *unless* the revenues were to go toward substance abuse treatment and prevention, but there has always been good support for raising taxes on tobacco products. She stated that rather than advocating for legislation, ISAP should take the position of educating the public about research. She stated that this will keep the alcohol industry from “going after us”. Jim stated that we are not in any danger if we are not co-mingling funds. Generalized discussion followed regarding advocating, lobbying, and use of volunteer time. Harriett stated that ISAP members can lobby safely as individuals. Rod stated that we can educate the public and gain public support while also talking to legislators.

**Decision:** Pat called for a motion that the ISAP Coalition email legislators advocating for a raise in the tax on beer in Michigan, using the Other Tobacco Product (OTP) Parity tax law as scientific evidence of efficacy. The communication should state that the ISAP Coalition believes this is good public policy.

Jim Paparella made the motion, Rod MacDonald supported the motion, and the motion was unanimously accepted.

#### **Announcements:**

1. Mike reminded ISAP members present that the John Underwood “Life of an Athlete” activities would take place this Thursday, November 12, 2009. Mr. Underwood will start the day with a presentation to Lansing area high school athletes, followed by adult-



facilitated discussion groups, at the Everett High School Cafeteria. Further activities will take place at Pattengill Middle School and Eastern High School.

2. Mike passed around a copy of a flyer describing the *Michigan Prevention Association 2009 "Creating Collaborations for Change" Substance Abuse Conference*. The featured speaker will be Penny Norton. Mike stated that Marie will also be a speaker. The conference is this Friday, November 13, 2009 from 8 am to 4 pm, at the Causeway Bay Hotel on Cedar Street in Lansing. Mike stated that this would be a good opportunity for people who are not necessarily prevention workers to understand how prevention currently works.
3. Mike also stated that the Citizens for Alcohol Policies that Promote Health and Safety will feature George Hacker, from the Center for Science in the Public Interest, as a speaker on raising the tax on alcohol. The presentation will take place on May 4, 2010 in Lansing.
4. Jim Paparella introduced the topic of "electronic cigarettes". He stated that there are several brands of this new product, promoted by the manufacturers as a safe alternative to cigarette smoking. Jim stated that the manufacturers are also promoting cost-effectiveness as a selling point. He stated that there are presently about 6 to 8 brands of the product and they are coming out of China. General conversation regarding the actual contents and health consequences of these products followed.

**V. Adjourn and break into Work Groups:**

**10:00 am**