

**Adolescent Addictions Task Force
Professional Advisory Group (PAG)
Monday, April 24, 2006**

Present: Co-Chair Shari Wells-Weiss, Deputy Commissioner Katherine G. Cusano, Terrie Atwood, Terry Cole, Michele Fletcher, Michael Kettle, Melinda Kmetz, Dave Nemeec, Nikki Paterson, Andrea Reale, Tina Slocum, Marie Sullivan, Alan J. Wilmarth, Reita Pullis - Minutes

Excused:

TOPIC/DISCUSSION	ACTION
Co-Chair Shari Wells-Weiss called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m., followed by introductions around the table and the reading of the Mission and Purpose Statement of the Task Force.	Informational
<p><u>Grant Requests:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary Whittaker, Alan Wilmarth, Tonya Brown and Jessica Booker wrote and submitted a grant request in a timely fashion for the SAMHSA Adolescent Addictions Services Specific Case Management Model. The BCMHD would be the lead agency and subcontract to Community members UHSH, Catholic Charities and Lourdes. If we receive the grant, we are eligible for free SAMHSA training for having chosen to use their model. This extremely competitive grant (about 17 will be awarded throughout the Country) amounts to \$300,000 for three years. Katie received a letter acknowledging timely receipt of the grant request. • Terry Cole, Katie Cusano and Lynne Esquivel applied for a small media advocacy grant for up to \$9000.00. WBNG matched us for over \$9000.00 and BCMHD received the grant. • Ms. Cusano has received a lot of feedback regarding the NIH grant for which we have until 2008 to apply. • STAP received a five-year prevention and case-management training grant for \$75,000. • Lourdes Youth Services' Student Assistance Program received a Methamphetamine Prevention and Awareness grant that will provide training initiatives. 	Informational
<p><u>Appointment of New Chair or Co-Chairs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michele Fletcher volunteered to Chair AATF meetings if someone could be available when she is not. Marie Sullivan agreed to Co-Chair in Ms. Fletcher's absence. Although today is Shari's last day as Chair, she will remain a member of the AATF. 	Informational
<p><u>Steps Toward Accomplishing Our Mission and Purpose:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upon the request of the KYDS Coalition, County Executive Barbara Fiala and Sheriff David Harder signed a letter congratulating the parents of graduating high school seniors and educating parents on what they should do to promote safety at this time of their adolescents' lives. This is part of a "Parents Who Host Lose the Most" initiative written as part of the KYDS plan for the upcoming year, but the schools wanted this piece done now; the schools will send the letters. • Ms. Cusano spoke with Barry Hawkins, the Director of Chemical Dependency Services for Orange County, about the possibility of members of the AATF visiting to learn about RESTART, an adolescent day treatment program at the Orange County BOCES. It would be beneficial to see how they work and what contributes to their success, as well as to seek ideas on funding streams. Michele Fletcher, Andrea Reale, Tina Slocum and Alan Wilmarth expressed an interest in observing the program. Katie will contact Mr. Hawkins and when a date is set, she will notify the AATF to firm up the list of attendees. A lengthy discussion ensued on such issues as the following: attempts have been made to try this but were thwarted; would student participants receive full school credit; Article 28; can local schools fund BOCES tuition; can public schools have Adolescent Day Treatment Centers; the stigma attached to schools offering such programs as being "drug infested"; and transportation. Ms. Cusano pointed out that things might be different today. BOCES is a member of the KYDS Coalition as are many other Broome County schools. Ms. Slocum of BOCES is interested in exploring a program such as RESTART. • Ms. Wells-Weiss reported that STAP has about 254 clients, two or three of whom are under the age of 18. These statistics are difficult to pin down. Although Upstate New York has about 400 – 500 HIV positive individuals, not all seek services. • Although heroin use is on the rise, marijuana and alcohol remain larger problems. Connie Nogas of "The Press" prefers to focus her articles upon specific people. Mr. Wilmarth spoke with her and suggested individuals who could discuss the issues with her without promoting a negative affect and assist her in presenting a more balanced viewpoint. • A suggestion was made to be more proactive and find a way to get our viewpoints into "The Press" ourselves. • Both Ms. Cole and Ms. Cusano pointed out that the KYDS Coalition is already doing much of what was discussed this afternoon, and that KYDS has already established good relationships with the schools, taking time to learn the different approaches the various schools take to resolve similar topics. Schools are now talking with each other and the lines of communication are opening up. KYDS works on prevention, with Mr. Wilmarth doing a lot on signs and symptoms. This is a 	<p>Informational</p> <p>Arrange for trip to observe RESTART in Orange County.</p>

TOPIC/DISCUSSION	ACTION
<p>slow process requiring patience. Ms. Cole suggested the possibility of the AATF melding treatment options with what KYDS is doing for prevention.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Wilmarth would like to put practical information out to those who are not affected by KYDS, thereby adding to the excellent job KYDS is already doing. 	<p>Explore AATF's possible role in melding treatment options with the already active KYDS prevention process.</p>
<p><u>Announcements:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The KYDS Coalition's quarterly meeting will be held on Thursday, April 27, 2006, at the Broome County Public Library Decker Room from 1:00 p.m. – 4 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. The focus will be on underage drinking and the community is invited. The Palmer Award will be announced at BGH in the Russell Room on Friday, April 28, 2006, at 2:00 p.m. 	<p>Informational</p>
<p><u>Next Meeting Date</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The next meeting of the Adolescent Addictions Task Force will be on Monday, May 22, 2006 from <u>3:00 – 4:30 p.m.</u> in the 3rd Floor Large Conference Room at the Broome County Mental Health Department. 	<p>Meeting adjourned at 4:16 p.m. Michele Fletcher will Chair the May AATF meeting.</p>

KGC