

Physical Address:  
422 Fleming Street Suite 10  
Key West, Florida 33040



Mailing Address:  
PO Box 5047  
Key West, Florida 33045

Monroe County Coalition Meeting  
DCF Conference Room  
June 18th, 2019

**Introductions:**

Elaine Thompson, Department of Juvenile Justice (Other Sector and Expertise in Substance Abuse); Elaine McHale, Key Bridge; Susan Moore, Ali Baston, William Hall, Monroe County Coalition; Priscilla Bennett, Alison Kerr, Department of Health (Government Sector); Matt Cory, Jenna Moeller, Olivia Henika, Monroe County Sheriff's Office (Law Enforcement Sector); Rita Sneider-Cotter, Florida Council Against Sexual Violence; Thomas Getz, Anchors Aweigh Club (Civic Sector); Joseph Laino, SFBHN; Christine M. Poist, State Attorney's Office

**Call In:**

Julian Costa, GCC (Youth Serving Sector); Linda Loy, Monroe County Coalition

Elaine Thompson chaired the meeting  
\*\*Meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM\*\*

**Approval of April Meeting Minutes:** William Hall motioned to approve the minutes, Elaine McHale, seconded.

**Florida Department of Health Updates:** Alison Kerr, Priscilla Bennett, Department of Health

**Priscilla Bennett** states that she is working on strategic planning to get youth more engaged with peer to peer education for vaping. There are many new resources available from the CDC Scholastic and FDA that will be shared with coalition partners. A new training will be available at the next TFFK meeting. There have been numerous requests from teachers and educators to conduct more training and would be ideal to have more people trained to teach these trainings, preferably youth to reach more individuals in the school sector. This is a priority for the next school year. Additional materials on vaping are available and more will be available soon.

**Alison Kerr** thanks all volunteers that participated in the CASPER study. This study was completed in three days and all 238 surveys were conducted, making this a successful campaign. Preliminary results show an obvious concern about Suicide within our community. The full results will be available in the Fall of this year. A convenience sample is available at [www.tinyurl.com/monroehealth](http://www.tinyurl.com/monroehealth) and is available for those that did not take the survey but wish to. Thanks to everyone who participated

**Department of Juvenile Justice Updates:** Elaine Thompson, DJJ;

**Elaine Thompson** states that they have seen many changes recently that include a new primary assessment changeover that is known as the CAT assessment. This is more sensitive and requires more information. The department is undergoing a shift and is in process of learning and changing with this new addition. Across the State of Florida there has been a change in the way youth score on this assessment. The department has seen a shift from low/moderate risk youth to moderate and moderate/high risk youth. There currently 4 youth incarcerated at the jail on direct file charges. There is an uptick in offenses and decrease in age of youth offenders. DJJ has always had a matrix in place and is standing firm with this matrix and is not deviating from this criteria. Violent crimes will be treated as such. Diversionary programs are no longer an option for violent crimes. DJJ is looking at the criminogenic need of each youth, the criminal offense and drug related factors to assist with providing the appropriate services for that child. A new detention risk assessment begins on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Every youth will receive a score and the appropriate secure/non-secure detention will be determined by that score with the Judge's discretion.

**OUR MISSION:** *To foster community changes to reduce substance abuse and the consequences of substance abuse through community collaborative efforts. Support and advocate for a Safe and Drug Free Monroe County Community. VISION: To provide a culturally competent, behavioral health and wellness approach to substance abuse prevention in Monroe County.*

**Guidance Care Center Updates:** Julian Costa, Guidance Care Center;

*Julian Costa* states that GCC has had an “awesome year” and is in the process of closing out the school year and preparing for the new school year. There are many changes that will occur in the upcoming year. All PPG programs are mostly completed. There have been a significant number of school-wide events closing out this year. The Guidance Care center looks forward to the new school year, taking suggestions and feedback from educators and students.

**Law Enforcement Updates:** Monroe County Sheriff’s Office;

*Matt Cory* states that Alcohol Compliance Checks have been conducted over the month of May in the lower, middle, and upper keys. A minimum of 1 business has been in non-compliance for each check. Another check is planned for 6/20/2019. The drug “Molly” continues to be a prevalent drug in the community. Two overdose deaths have been reported as a result of fake pharmaceutical medications laced with Fentanyl.

**Key Bridge, Inc Updates:** Elaine McHale, Key Bridge;

*Elaine McHale* states the youth program operates during the summer months in Key West. The weekly male group is on Mondays and weekly female group on Tuesdays. All subjects are discussed in these groups.

**Monroe County Coalition Updates:** William Hall, Monroe County Coalition;

*Susan Moore* shared The Monroe County Coalition Agency Survey Outcomes, Performance & Quality Improvement, and Program Satisfaction results with our community partners, as well as Know the Law, Law enforcement Compliance Check operations, My Student Body and No One’s House results. As always, feedback and suggestions are welcome and data is available for anyone to review.

**Other Topics/Discussion:**

*Thomas Getz, Anchors Aweigh* states there is now an AA meeting one day a week at COTS on Stock Island. Anchors Aweigh has a new Spanish meeting and HIV testing one day a week as well. Discussion was had on reaching our youth in Monroe County and providing support for the youth population that have addiction issues and family members, including Alateen.

*Joseph Laino, SFBHN* shared his concern on how community partners can pull resources and ideas together to provide necessary services within our community.

We would like to thank everyone for attending.

The next meeting will take place on July 16th at 3:00 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM.

**OUR MISSION:** *To foster community changes to reduce substance abuse and the consequences of substance abuse through community collaborative efforts. Support and advocate for a Safe and Drug Free Monroe County Community. VISION: To provide a culturally competent, behavioral health and wellness approach to substance abuse prevention in Monroe County.*