

The TRUST Partnership Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 30, 2023

A meeting of the TRUST partnership was held at the Southern Georgia Regional Commission on Thursday, November 30, 2023. 46 partners attended the meeting. Ambi Bess, Public Health Analyst and Opioid Overdose Prevention Program Manager for the Southeast Health District and Emily Allen, Grant Project Coordinator for the Southeast Health District presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

Welcome-

Ambi Bess and Emily Allen welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Break Bread Session-Lifeboat Activity

During the break bread session attendees completed a lifeboat activity where they had to come to a decision of who would go on the lifeboat based on the descriptions of the people given to them. There was then a “share out” time as a large group.

TRUST Video and Updates

Chandler McGee, Communications Specialist for the Southeast Health District and Katie Hadden, Public Information Officer with the Southeast Health District shared the new TRUST video that was created from the elevator speech shared at the previous TRUST meeting in September of 2023.

Cultural Competency Training

Dr. Stacy Smallwood, a professor from Georgia Southern University, led the attendees in a cultural competency training. Dr. Smallwood led a discussion about how to serve when our community is used to doing things a certain way. He discussed diversity, inclusion and equity. Dr. Smallwood encouraged everyone to think of cultural competence as a continuum. The group discussed barriers and how to move towards cultural competence in our coalition and in our communities.

National CLAS Standards Training

Barbara Bruno, Executive Director at Share Health Southeast Georgia, led the attendees in a training on National CLAS Standards. Barbara shared a brief history of the National CLAS Standards, discussed structural components of culture, and went over the National CLAS Standards handout.

Break Bread Session-Table Discussion

During lunch each table discussed being aware of our personal biases by discussing the question “What do you do when you hear something on the radio or TV that you do not like?” The attendees were also encouraged to complete the membership surveys during this time.

ABC's of SPF PIE

Emily Allen reviewed the Strategic Prevention Framework model from GUIDE, Inc and discussed the 5 different steps (assessment, capacity building, planning, implementation, and evaluation).

Harm Reduction Panel

Sarah Jumper, TRUST Harm Reduction Committee Chair, introduced the Harm Reduction panelist (Shane Johns, Shellie Stevenson, and Mandy Fraser). Sarah asked them specific questions about their recovery journey such as:

- What does recovery mean to you?
- How Has the definition of recovery changed for you over time?
- Can you tell us about a time you felt let down by your community or family in a way that benefited your recovery?
- Can you tell us about a time you felt let down by your community or family in a way that was harmful for your recovery?
- What is your recommendation for people who need help for substance use disorder today?
- What is the most surprising positive difference about your life in recovery?

First Responders

Fire Chief David Eddins a video that he created about the life of first responders and how their career affects their lives, specifically their mental health. Chief Eddins was also able to share how this video has helped first responders in our community.

Harm Reduction Kits

Each table was given a harm reduction kit and asked to look through the kit and make a list of what else needs to be added. There was a large group share out and discussion.

Awards/Recognitions

Ambi and Emily presented 5 “Above and Beyond Awards” to celebrate and recognize specific people in the TRUST Coalition.

Hope Bags & Celebrate Recovery

Ambi shared information about the Hope Bags and encouraged attendees to take one to fill up with survival items described on the list provided.

Closing Remarks/Adjourn

Ambi and Emily thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was adjourned.

Emily Allen, Grant Project Coordinator
Recording Secretary for meeting