

**THE TRUST PARTNERSHIP
MINUTES
January 28, 2022**

A meeting of the Trust Partnership was held at the South Georgia Regional Commission on January 28, 2022. Ambi Bess, Public Health Analyst and Opioid Overdose Prevention Program Manager for the Southeast Health District presided over and called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. Reverend Kit Brinson, Pastor of the Grace Episcopal Church lead those attending in the Prayer for Those Struggling with Addiction. XX partners attended the meeting held via zoom and in person.

Waycross Area Resilient Georgia Partnership: Magnolia House provided breakfast.

Branding Review and Website

Stephanie Bell, Executive Director of the Pierce County Family Connection, reviewed the brand and logo stating that The Trust was developed with the idea that because trust has been lost within our institutions and personal/public lives that if we can grasp it and regain it through education, training, opportunities, and love we can truly make a difference not only within the Opioid prevention and treatment community but in the community.

Stephanie then introduced the new Trust Partnership website to those attending: www.trust-partnership.com. The framework for the website is complete and content including resources will be added over the next few months.

Things to Know about Opioids

Ambi Bess presented information from the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities about opioids. The information that she presented included recognizing the risks and identifying the signs of an opioid overdose; knowing how to spot an overdose; and reversing an overdose by using naloxone (Narcan). Ambi reported that in 2019 alone, opioids took 860 lives in Georgia- more than two people every day. She reported that there is currently a nationwide shortage of Naloxone.

Ambi stated that an opioid overdose can turn fatal in as little as 6 minutes, but naloxone can reverse it instantly. Anyone in our community- from our first responders, social workers and school counselors to family members and everyday citizens- can be prepared to save someone from an unexpected overdose. She provided information for the Georgia Overdose Prevention's website for free training and naloxone available for those who know a person at elevated risk of opioid overdose.

<https://georgiaoverdoseprevention.org/>.

Data = Dollars

Gail Seifert, Coordinator of the Ware Children's Initiative, presented information on the importance of data and its relationship to grant proposals. She explained that among other things data is the foundation for a good grant proposal; that it justifies the need for a project; establishes a baseline; and is critical for measurable objectives. Data allows grant seekers to tell a story with numbers and adds evidence to support the claim adding significant impact to proposals.

Gail urged those present to increase their attention to the data that their organizations are keeping so that in the future Trust Partnership grant seeking will have the impact needed to secure the award.

SWOT Analysis

Derek Jones, Chief Operating Officer for the Southeast Health District, lead the group through a work session using a SWOT Analysis to identify the current environment for the Trust Partnership.

The group identified the following:

Strengths:

Strong collaboration

Caring, concerned, and committed community

Seeking funding sources

Groups to evangelize (ministry) – increase reach

Variety of trainings offered

Weaknesses:

Personal opinions/bias

Lack of education

Availability of resources including Narcan and transportation

Lack of consistent data regarding overdose saves using Narcan

Lack of media

Lack of faith-based community awareness of issue and participation

Lack of community participation

Opportunities:

Grants for targeted programs – i.e., Handle with Care

Training youth 18+ years

Job opportunities for those in recovery

Networking/research

Humanize issue through personal experience/stories

Involvement of broader community

Physician education

Data sharing

Threats:

No awareness

Mindset of community

Poverty

Misinformation

Overwhelmed by number of issues to focus on

Denial – i.e., that does not happen here.

Ambi Bess called the meeting adjourned at 11:30.

Gail Seifert, Coordinator, Ware Children's Initiative
Recording Secretary for meeting 1/28/2022

