

Access to Services Action Team

Virtual Meeting

Natick, MA

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Monday, June 12, 2023



Your community resource
for addiction education,
prevention & recovery.

Attendees (5):

Name	Organization	Sector Represented
"Loveable" Lizzy Chalfin	Natick 180 / Natick Health Dept.	Local Government
"Joyful" Jessica Cliff	Natick Health Dept.	Local Government
"Superstar" Sarallyn Keller	Natick Interfaith Leaders Association	Religious/Fraternal Organization
"Kindhearted" Katie Sugarman	Natick 180 / Natick Health Dept.	Local Government
"Amazing" Annette Ziegler	Natick Public Schools	Schools

Powerpoint available here: No PowerPoint during this meeting

Meeting Minutes:

Agenda Item	Discussion
1. Citizens' Concerns	It was asked whether there are any plans to commemorate the one year anniversary of the passing of Brett Conaway. One suggestion would be to host a QPR training. Natick 180 may consider renaming its Community Champion award in memory of Brett. The group will also connect with others to see what types of commemorations/memorials are being worked on.
2. Approve meeting minutes	Tabled due to a small number of participants.
3. Updates and announcements	a. Reports from Community Partners: Annette Ziegler of the NHS Northstar Program mentioned that MassHire (Metro South West Career Center) is hosting a job fair for summer employment on Tues, June 20th. Annette believes it is

crucial for students in the Northstar Program to find employment and/or activities that can assist students in keeping a routine. Kids need a safe space that is different from home & school (for ex., Teen Center, ASAP). For more information, see:

<https://www.mass.gov/orgs/masshire-department-of-career-services>

b. Opioid Settlement Money Community Conversations - Natick 180 will be hosting 2 upcoming listening sessions (June 26th [virtual] & June 27th [in-person]). The Journey bereavement group will hold its regularly scheduled monthly meeting just after the in-person listening session, which will be held in the same building (Natick Community Senior Center) so as to accommodate participation. There are typically 10 regular participants in The Journey; there are 25+ individuals in Kathy Peirce's Journey Facebook Group. Natick 180 will provide an introduction and a brief overview of what the settlement monies are; how much money Natick will be receiving; how the funds can be spent. Then the conversation will be opened to the community for them to weigh in on priorities and how they feel monies should be spent. We will need to figure out how to facilitate the conversations, based on the number of attendees. Registration will be required, so we should have a good sense of numbers ahead of the sessions. We will plan to integrate findings from Natick 180's recent strategic plan into the conversation. We can prepare guiding questions & group norms in advance. This is the first step in the beginning of this discussion. The Town Administrator and/or Deputy Town Administrator will try to be present for both of the sessions, as well as the Chief of Police. Natick 180 will be promoting the event heavily in the upcoming week through channels including social media, newsletters, and the Natick Patch & Natick Report, Metrowest Medical Center, MOAR and Anchored in Recovery. A registration link will be shared for the virtual meeting. People can submit ideas through the registration link if they cannot attend either meeting. The MA state legislature has until the end of June to decide how the funds can be managed & to set forth related accounting requirements. Natick has received funds (\$125k), but it has not been determined how the monies can be accessed or how they must be reported by the Town. Regional projects may be discussed with neighboring towns in the near future.

c. JRI Program RISE

Katie recently met with the new interim Health Director at JRI and had a productive conversation (Izzy Rivera has stepped back from JRI, due to personal circumstances). The Interim Director is focused on hiring for vacant positions and getting their POST team back in place. Natick 180 will include resources curated by JRI in its Narcan kits. Natick's POST team (Ashley & Chad) are confident that they can do their follow up visits within 24-48 hours following an overdose. Natick's POST visits are done in person to the household, as opposed to by phone. The Rise On van will hopefully be out in the community in the near future, but it is unclear when that will be. The Rise On app provides a list of harm reduction, treatment and housing services but still needs to be promoted more widely. The interactive, dynamic components of the app are on hold due to the high level of staffing needed, and the complexity of keeping it accurate and up to date.

4. Discussion	<p>Brainstorm ideas for events/activities to recognize National Recovery Month (September 2023)</p> <p>Suggested ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Screen of a film or series - reach out to Scott Francis of MOAR for ideas (ex. Anonymous People [which normalized conversations with people in recovery], Dopesick, Beautiful Boy). It would be ideal for the screening to focus on recovery, not the crisis. Annette will reach out to Lisa Oliveri, who created the documentary Recovery City, which was shown last fall at TCAN• Promote the need for a recovery high school by showing a documentary on this topic (ex. MTV series)• Host a Walk or Yoga /Mindfulness session connected to recovery and education (ex. Boston Bulldogs, yoga on the Common)• Participate in a community clean-up which is a direct response to the visible signs of substance misuse in the form of litter• Bring in a speaker during the purple flag installation• Display The Opioid Project artwork; book display at the library• Drum Circle - Common Street Spiritual Center
5. Set next meeting date/time & adjourn	July 19th, 2023 from 1-2:30 pm