



**Arizona Parents Commission on Drug Education and Prevention
Meeting Minutes**

**March 20, 2019
10:00 AM**

**Arizona State Capitol
1700 W. Washington St.
Phoenix, AZ 85007
Executive Tower, 3rd Floor Conference Room**

A general meeting of the Arizona Parent's Commission on Drug Education and Prevention convened on March 20, 2019. Notice having been duly given. Present and absent were the following members of the Parent's Commission.

Members Present

Bryan Cox, Chair
Raynee Schneider
Denise Beagley (via phone)

Bryan Harris
Kristine FireThunder
Eric Meaux

Beatriz "Betty" Hurtado
Laura Ciscomani (via phone)
David Reede

Members Absent

None

Staff and Guest Present

Malcolm Hightower, Governor's Office
Leona Morales, Governor's Office
David Suda, Governor's Office
Ashley Espinoza, Donor Network of Arizona
Vida Higgins, Arts Academy
Trudy Ware, Northwest Valley Connect
Barb Strachan, Girl Scouts
Brittney Trahan, Governor's Office
Courtney Kom, PAACE
Randy Hartless, PAACE

Kate Meyer, PPEP, Inc. Community Prevention
Coalition
Amy Bass, PPEP, Inc. CPC
Travis Price, Governor's Office
Tonya Hamilton, Governor's Office
Laura Licon, Campesinos Sin Frontera
Emma Torres, Campesinos Sin Frontera
Ophelia Goatson, Parenting AZ

- A. Call to Order**
Commissioner Bryan Cox, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:07 AM.
- B. Welcome/Introductions**
Commissioner Cox, Chair, welcomed everyone and asked all members to introduce themselves.
- C. Approval of Minutes**
Commissioner Cox, Chair, requested a review of the January 9, 2019, meeting minutes.
Commissioner Eric Meaux made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by
Commissioner Bryan Harris and approved by all.
- D. University of Arizona (Collegiate Recovery Program)**

Commissioner Cox, Chair, introduced John Fritsche, one of lead students for Wildcats Anonymous, Dr. Marian Binder, Director of Counseling & Psychology Services, University of Arizona Campus Health, and Lynn Reyes, Campus Health Services. Mr. Fritsche shared about the program, including meetings on campus, a peer mentoring program, and sober events during breaks. An example was shared regarding the meetings, which has grown to three per week with over 40 students and outside individuals participating. More information was shared on the Peer Mentoring program, which was started around two years ago; many students have utilized this program since its inception and appreciate being able to connect with fellow students maintaining their sobriety. Events have been successful such as during spring break, to provide sober alternatives. Future goals include getting a sober space on campus, sober housing, and full-time staff. Dr. Binder shared that the funding has assisted the program to market and publicize in ways they have not before, which has allowed them to reach more students in need of these resources. Ms. Reyes stated that their website is also used to reach students, including meeting and event details. They work with staff on campus to spread the word, as well. Mr. Fritsche expressed appreciation for the grant, which has enabled the program to grow immensely, providing a safe environment for students to enjoy college while maintaining sobriety. An anecdote was shared about students who were close to dropping out, then were assisted through these programs, and stayed in school. They look forward to continued growth in the future. The grant writer shared that Mr. Fritsche received a reward from the University President, as well as a paid visit to Texas Tech to learn about their programs, and bring back ideas. Dr. Binder mentioned the creation of a foundation in the future to become self-sufficient.

E. Discussion RFGA Budget and Timeline

Malcolm Hightower provided a review of the timeline, including a training that occurred this morning for the grant reviewers. The budget and grantees will be finalized at May 15th meeting. Everyone will be completing a Conflict of Interest Disclosure form, to ensure fair voting (distributed at meeting, and will be emailed to those participating via phone). Award letters will go out in early June, with cohort of sub grantees starting in July, including a new grantee orientation. Award will last a full year with opportunity to re-up for another two years. There are 53 applicants on the list.

Travis Price provided an explanation of the disclosure form, including a confidentiality statement. Results will be made public after the award letters are sent out. There will be a list on the website of everyone who applied, posted at a later date.

Mr. Hightower shared that any conflicts of interest will not prevent participation, but they do need to be aware.

Mr. Price reviewed the budget and reiterated some timelines. The aim is to utilize the fund while maintaining the health of the fund. Budget should be around \$5.2 million, though there is some flexibility. Aim is to reserve around 75% of the fund balance at all times. They anticipate to split the budget with \$4 million going to the sub grantees, as determined by the evaluation team by voting. Roughly \$250,000 is reserved for collegiate recovery programs, funded through the Inter-state Agency (ISA) process, \$250,000 for the evaluation, and \$75,000 is reserved for sponsorships and conferences, to be determined, which will be run by the commission if substantial.

G. Portable Practical Educational Preparation, Inc. (PPEP)

Commissioner Cox, Chair, introduced Amy Bass, Director of Prevention; and Kate Meyer, CPC (Community Prevention Coalition) Prevention Coordinator. Ms. Bass shared that the program started in 2006 through a different grant, then they applied for Parents' Commission. She emphasized the difference that parents make as role models. She shared about the pressures on youth, including the formation of their identities. The program seeks to impact parents, youth directly, and the community through grassroots efforts. Resources and staff are few, but the coalition is comprised of 145 people. Parents' Commission is the primary source of funding. Ms. Meyer reviewed the subcommittees (seven) and projects funded through the Parents' Commission. She share that the youth group is interwoven through all sub committees. She presented on the following: Communities of Concern (family town halls run by facilitators), Diverse Voices in Prevention (cultural competency training and sharing best practices among Pima County), Medicine Abuse Prevention Initiative Collaborative (Rx

training with parents, take backs, and Symposium), Media/Marketing Outreach Support Committee (PSA's, workshops, slogans, campaigns, field trips), Parent Education Programming Support (workshops for parents and teachers/professionals), Underage Drinking Prevention Collaborative (community education and policy change), and Be Free Pima (monthly meetings to train and educate youth that then go outreach other youth in the community). All sub committees meet monthly, sometimes twice a month. Ms. Bass shared that all this work is done largely by professionals volunteering their time, collaborating to create synergy. The youth leading the effort are very moving as well. Ms. Meyer shared an activity with a beach ball, which inspires discussion with youth.

H. Parker Area Alliance for Community Empowerment (PAACE)

Commissioner Cox, Chair, introduced Randy Hartless, Director, and Courtney Kom, Director of Community Relations. PAACE was founded in 1995 as a grassroots movement. They are a 501©3 to promote a community free of violence and drug use. Mr. Hartless shared about their youth center, their coalition, parenting academy, after school program, volunteer program for teens, and community club. They have received Parents Commission funding since 2002. The coalition averages around 30 people a month, with 11 meetings per year. PAL (Players After School Learning Program) is a space for youth to do homework and provides drug-free curriculum. Volunteer Program is a work experience for youth who receive a small stipend (not funded by Parents' Commission). Youth 4 Youth started as a 4H club, but focuses on community service and fund raising. The Drug Free Communities (DFC) Grant allows them to take youth to a national conference in Washington DC. PAACE does other things in the community, such as Red Ribbon Week, movies in the park, summer activities, summer camp, etc. Ms. Kom shared about their programs which have been implemented at five different sites, with most focus in Parker. They utilize the Strengthening Families program, a 14 session evidence-based program teaching parent skills, children social skills, and family life skills training for high-risk families (with children age 3-12). They also offer free meals, transportation, and childcare, as well as incentive prizes and a portrait session. They have directly served 274 individuals through this program (up to 35 hours per participant), and 158,358 indirectly served. Ms. Kom also shared about PAACE's community partners. They have a goal to train every student at Parker High on Rx 360 (not funded by Parents' Commission).

I. Subgrantees Update

Ms. Morales shared that on February 22nd, there was a pre-conference session, which was posted publically (around 60 attended in person with 60 more on the conference line). Questions were answered, and an amendment to the RFGA was made. It was decided to set an age range of 7-17 for youth to receive programming funded by this RFGA. The RFGA closed at midnight March 19th. Successes from sub grantees were shared, highlighting impacts in the communities. One positive is that sub grantees have been including "why's" when there are discrepancies in the Quarterly Report numbers. Ms. Morales discussed that "success" can mean many things...high event turnout, changes on pre- and post- surveys, changes in family units, completion of programs over time, etc. She highlighted Child and Family Resources, which set a goal regarding change in perceptions from pre- and post- surveys...and saw a great change in those participating in the Strengthening Families program. They are also surpassing their goals regarding number of events, as are many other sub grantees. She highlighted the Arizona Youth Partnership, whose goal was 20 events, and already did 33 as of the second quarterly report. Mr. Hightower inquired if anyone is not in compliance, and Ms. Morales stated that all sub grantees are currently in compliance. Ms. Morales has six more site visits for this cycle, with two scheduled for next week and aiming to complete the remaining by the end of May.

J. Announcements

Commissioner Cox, Chair, opened up the floor for announcements.

Commissioner Beagley shared about her upcoming presentation at a Problem Solving Conference as well as an upcoming Mental Health First Aid training.

Commissioner Hurtado shared about the Family Involvement Center Children's Mental Health Awareness event/week on May 11th.

K. Call to the Public

No public members wished to address the Parents Commission.

L. Reminder of Next Meeting

Commissioner Cox, Chair stated that the next meeting of the Parents Commission will be held on Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at the Arizona State Capitol Executive Tower in the 3rd Floor Conference Room.

M. Adjourn

A motion was made to adjourn by **Commissioner Schneider** at 11:39 AM and seconded by **Commissioner Meaux** and approved by all.