

# Frederick County - Tobacco and Alcohol Coalition Meeting

Virtual Format/Microsoft Teams

November 7, 2024

3:00 pm to 4:00 pm

## MINUTES

Members present: Todd Crum (BHS), Brandon Rhodes (BHS), P.J. Miller (BHS), Danielle Haskin (Health Equity), Jason Francis (HACF), Mathew Swinburne (LRC), Hillary Gross (BHS), Danielle Lane (CHS), Carly Schepacarter (BHS), Brooke Torton (LRC), Patrick Koogle (Frederick Keys), Jessica Valentine (FCPS), Jeffrey Bowie (Flown in Cutz), Desiree Tucker (Women Solve)

### 1. Welcome and Introductions/Approval of Minutes

- Todd opened the meeting at 3:00pm with welcoming remarks and asked members to sign in via the “chat”.
- The September 2024 TAC minutes were approved as submitted.

### 2. Legislative Updates from the Legal Resource Center

- Brooke Torton, Managing Director, Legal Resource Center for Public Health Policy, shared a few updates on the more impactful tobacco-specific legislation from the 2024 session to include:
  - i. Clean Indoor Air Act now prohibits the use of vape products in public indoor spaces (with a few exceptions).
  - ii. Tobacco Retail Modernization Act (TRMA) increases the license fees from \$25 to \$300. Increases the monetary fines for criminal violations for sales to minors. No changes to civil infractions.
  - iii. The TRMA also requires age verification for individuals under age 30. Places all tobacco products, except premium cigars, behind the counter and only accessible by employees. This does not apply to licensed tobacconists. Local jurisdictions have the authority to issue citations for violations of these provisions.
- Mathew Swinburne, Director of the Legal Resource Center for Public Health Policy – Cannabis, provided information on the differences between cannabis (regulated by the state of Maryland) and hemp products.
  - i. Cannabis products regulated by the state are sold only at state-approved cannabis dispensaries. Hemp products, including those containing Delta 8 THC and Delta 10 THC, although not as intoxicating as Delta 9 THC, are being sold at gas stations, convenience stores, and other venues. Although permitted for sale by the federal government, these low potency hemp products may contain more intoxicating derivates than state-regulated cannabis.
  - ii. Hemp products are undermining the harm reduction aspects of regulated, tested cannabis products. The issues surrounding hemp is a national issue, not just a Maryland issue.
  - iii. Some local enforcement action against these hemp products is possible (i.e. CIAA, enforcing age requirement of 21). Hemp products currently do not have the regulatory controls (potency, packaging, testing) that cannabis currently has. Therefore, over-

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consumption of these under-regulated hemp products could lead to more poison control calls, ED visits, etc.

- iv. More updates on hemp to come before the end of the calendar year.

## 3. Round Robin/Updates from Coalition Members

- Jason Francis, Youth Services Coordinator with the HACF, offers tutoring and behavioral support management for the youth of the HACF. Jason announced Lucas Village is closed and the Carver Community Center is now the new office location. Lucas Village will be rebuilt in 2025. HACF will be looking to partner with members of the TAC to support some of the youth programming and that they are planning an event in December at the Carver Community. Jason stated that since the closing of Lucas Village, the HACF is designing new programs to meet the needs of all of their residents, both young and older. Any support to their youth development program would be greatly appreciated.

## 4. FCHD Prevention Program Updates

- Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation
  - i. The program continues to deliver tobacco use prevention and cessation resources at various outreach events including the Lung Cancer Screen event at FHH. The team will be delivering services and resources at the upcoming annual Turkey Distribution at Harry Grove Stadium on 11/20/24. See below for more information.
  - ii. The cessation program is currently providing services to 41 individuals. The program continues to offer free one-on-one interventions and free NRT products. Please reach out to P.J. Miller for more information or to refer an individual for cessation services.
- Tobacco Merchant Education and Enforcement
  - i. The Tobacco Sales Enforcement Program has awarded 2 mini-grant awards for the delivery of education to tobacco licensees. The awardees include Women Solve and Living Well Youth Works! The awardees will deliver educational services to 200 tobacco merchants. Congratulations!
  - ii. The program is currently interviewing for a new enforcement officer. More details will follow.
- Substance Abuse Block Grant
  - i. Carly Schepacarter, KLU Counselor, shared that the program is currently hiring for a KLU Counselor. KLU hosted a “collaborators” meeting/training with approximately 50 FCPS personnel from 40 schools. The longitudinal study of the KLU Program continues and hopes to be published soon. KLU program serves school-aged children from families with some form of substance use disorder/use/impact.
  - ii. Todd stated that the FCLB delivered 10 RBS trainings to 132 alcohol licensees in the first quarter of FY25. A total of 301 employees were trained at the training sessions. RBS trainings assist licensees verify age of customers, to prevent over-service.

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- iii. The FCLB is also conducting compliance inspections of the alcohol licensees in the county. More information to be shared on this effort in January 2025.
- Tobacco, Diabetes and Chronic Disease Prevention & Management Grant
  - i. Danielle Haskin introduced Jeffrey Bowie (Flown in Cutz) and Desiree Tucker (Women Solve) as their FY25 Tobacco Use Prevention mini-grant recipients. Jeffrey will be continuing the tobacco trivia and providing free haircuts to youth ages 9 to 18 for participating in a trivia program. Expanded the program to include hair styling in FY25. Also including alcohol and other drug info in the trivia.
  - ii. Desiree's youth will be expanding their work done in FY24 and continuing it in FY25. Includes peer-to-peer presentations and talks, outreach events, making t-shirts, psa's. FCPS has adopted the psa's from FY24 and sharing them in schools.
  - iii. Danielle stated that the Frederick Center will be providing tobacco use discussions for individuals within their programming. Using peer recovery specialists, three separate groups will include ages 9 – 13, 14 – 17, and 18 – 26. Will utilize materials from the [LGBTQ National Cancer Network](#).
  - iv. Danielle announced the Smoke Free Holy Ground event on 11/13/24 at 5pm at the Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ in Frederick.

## 5. Announcements

- Todd asked members to view the upcoming webinars, events and cannabis conference in April 2025.
- Todd encourages the membership to recruit new members for the TAC. If partners are aware of others who may benefit from participating on the coalition or have prevention resources, programming or ambitions, please reach out to Todd.

## 6. Upcoming Events and Training Opportunities

- **Razz, GeekBar, Zyn! Next Generation Flavored Tobacco and Treatment Strategies webinar**
  - i. Tuesday, November 12, 2024 from 5:30pm until 6:30pm. Join the Maryland Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics to hear from Drs. Jonathan Winickoff and Susan Walley to learn how to protect youth and treat nicotine addiction based on new youth tobacco treatment resources. Register at [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_vy8MinsiTqmLymE5TP48Yw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_vy8MinsiTqmLymE5TP48Yw).
- **Annual Turkey Distribution**
  - i. Wednesday, November 20, 2024 from 1:00pm until 4pm at Harry Grove Stadium. Hosted by the City of Frederick, Department of Housing and Human Services. Opportunity to share health-related services with lower income adults and families. Contact Michael Grogan at [mgrogan@cityoffrederickmd.gov](mailto:mgrogan@cityoffrederickmd.gov) or 240-409-9005.
- **American Cancer Society's "Great American Smoke Out"**
  - i. Thursday, November 21, 2024. The ACS can tell you about the steps you can take to quit smoking and help you find quit-smoking programs, resources, and support. To learn about the available tools, call us at 1-800-227-2345 or reach us via live chat.

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<https://www.cancer.org/cancer/risk-prevention/tobacco/great-american-smokeout.html>

- **Stanford Medicine – 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Teaching Cannabis Awareness and Prevention Virtual Conference**

- i. April 9 – 10, 2025. This conference is anyone working with youth to learn about the latest research on youth and their use of cannabis, e-cigarettes, and other drugs, including reasons for use, health effects, and the latest available lessons for teaching cannabis (and other drug) education and prevention to elementary-, middle-, and high school-aged youth.

7. Next Coalition Meeting:

***Thursday, January 2, 2025 at 3:00 pm (Meeting through Microsoft Teams)***

8. Meeting Adjourned: 4:06pm.