



ITAC General Coalition Meeting Minutes – DRAFT

DFC #SP 080803-1

♥ February 14th, 2024 ♥

9am at Iroquois Board Room 32

Sectors:

- 1 – Youth (person <= 18 years of age)
- 2 – Parent
- 3 – Business Community
- 4 – Media
- 5 – Schools
- 6 – Youth-serving Organizations
- 7 – Law Enforcement Agencies
- 8 – Religious or Fraternal Organizations
- 9 – Civic and Volunteer Groups
- 10 – Healthcare Professionals (Field of Substance Abuse (SA))
- 11 – State, Local, or Tribal Government Agencies (SA)
- 12 – Other Organizations involved in reducing (SA)
- 13 – Key Personnel

Call to Order Time: 9:04am

Adjourn Time: 9:56am

Recorder Name: Joanne Goellner

1. **Attendees:** Alli Pelletreau (13), Sarah Sterlace (13), Justin Chernogorec (11), Jamie Coleman (5), Lisa Krug (2/3), Cathy Berger (2), Joanne Goellner (2), Joanne Cannavo (10) **Zoom Attendees:** Mark Sterlace (8), Karen Howard (11), Vanita Jamison (12), Marie Davis (12), Maura Stack (12), Christen Foley (12), Victoria Payne (11).

2. **Hello & Welcome:** Each attendee introduced him/her/their self and shared regarding their organization.

Items of note:

- a. Justin Chernogorec shared how the task force has changed direction in roles and the way data is being collected/used/shared. They are working top down instead of bottom up from the coalition/community level.
- b. Jamie Coleman shared that the Family Support Center is going to be offering a virtual suicide prevention training. The focus is veteran aimed but the program is community based so anyone with interest in learning can attend. The date is 02/27/24. **Jamie will share the flyer with ITAC and Alli stated that ITAC would post/share the information.**
- c. Victoria Payne shared that she was currently working at the Erie County Crime Analysis Center and talked about the different resources that might be helpful to ITAC. She asked the group to think about what kind of data/statistics could be beneficial. The example she shared was OD (overdose) maps.
- d. Mark Sterlace shared that the Grace in Community Church was having a collaboration event with other churches and pastors over the weekend. He talked about how it would be great to bring more churches to ITAC's table.

3. **Presentations:**

- a. **Lisa Krug – The Intentional Path Program:** Lisa introduced herself and shared regarding her position as a parent coach and educator who promotes positive discipline and simplicity parenting. She explained the path which guided her parenting and led her to this focus of study. Key points:
 - Parents being “triggered” and not having the appropriate tools to handle situations, despite reading parenting books/getting advice
 - The Conscious Parent (Shefali Tsabary) was inspiring and started her journey. Book focuses on “growing ourselves up” as parents. Lisa became a Jai Institute for Parenting Certified Parent Coach.
 - Some of the principals of Intentional Parenting include: support parents (1 on 1 and in groups), positive discipline (tools) based on kindness, connection and mutual respect, and simplicity (based on Kim John Payne).
 - Skills bring confidence and competence in our ability to support our kids.

ITAC's mission is to increase awareness of and reduce youth substance use within the community & enhance communication between parents, youth, educators, & residents, while utilizing data to drive prevention efforts, promote education, & provide access to resources.

Lisa will be a part of ITAC's Health and Wellness Fair as a vendor. As a coach she offers workshops, 1 on 1 coaching, virtual meetings as well as smaller group sessions. Lisa left business cards and information about her services with ITAC. Alli said she would have them available in the ITAC office as well as share via social media and email.

- b. **Emily Wojda – Iroquois HS Social Worker/Character Counts Advisor:** Emily was unable to make it to the meeting to discuss the upcoming Mental Health Walk that is to take place on May 11th. Alli spoke to Emily at the conclusion of the meeting and suggested that Emily might want to participate in the Health and Wellness Fair to promote the event.

4. Action Plan Activities:

- a. **Table Talk Campaign:** Alli described and shared about the Table Talk Initiative which is to encourage regular conversation between parents and children which in turn makes it easier to have difficult conversations about topics like drugs and alcohol. Postcards, poster and placemats were shown. Members of the GC suggested ideas/places to distribute:

- Pizza shops for placemats or to have the conversation starters printed as stickers for takeout boxes
- Bulletin boards at restaurants for the posters
- Farmer's Daughter, Kodiak Jacks, Iron Kettle for placemats
- Brownies for stickers

Alli shared that the placemats were used as part of ITAC's Spaghetti Dinner that the postcard image was going to be part of a Charlie's Diner Table Top Advertising (to be seen at the end of March and on all tables for 3 years). ITAC also distributed stickers to local pizza shops and liquor stores that were utilized over Super Bowl weekend that contained a do not serve alcohol to minors message.

- b. **EA Music Fest:** Alli shared that the Steering Committee had not discussed the East Aurora Music Fest yet but wanted to make sure that the General Coalition shared their thoughts and feelings about the event so it could be part of the decision making. ITAC participated in the EA Music Fest last year. The event took place in Hamlin Park, away from the central location of the EA Music Fest event. Thoughts from the Coalition:

- Hamlin Park is a great location for the event away from everything taking place on Main Street
- Does having the event the same day send a mixed message to children/families
- Music Fest is an adult event, children should not be a part of it, it should be a different day
- Hamlin Park is a great alternative location for parents/children who want to enjoy music in a safe space
- If the event occurs again, with more promotion, safe guards/controls should be in place to prevent incident
- The event gives children a venue to be creative (youth bands) while teaching it is possible to have fun without drugs and alcohol
- Having the event start earlier in the day and ending prior to the EA main Music Fest getting into full swing is key

ITAC's mission is to increase awareness of and reduce youth substance use within the community & enhance communication between parents, youth, educators, & residents, while utilizing data to drive prevention efforts, promote education, & provide access to resources.

- There were extra signs and security guards last year and during the entire event, only once did someone attempt to enter the park with alcohol and they were turned away without incident
 - The location (park with playground)/event brought in people who didn't know about ITAC and gave great exposure
 - Condoms were passed out at an event for children, that is unacceptable
 - The event encourages parents to bring their kids out
 - If parents are going to bring their kids out, isn't it better to bring them to Drug and Alcohol Free event as opposed to the one on Main Street
 - Event vendors will be vetted and changes have been made within ITAC to ensure that events are appropriate and mission focused
 - The event last year was great. A few changes need to be made regarding ticketing, where to get tickets, how food works, etc to make things easier for attendees
- c. **Health and Wellness Fair:** March 16th, 10am-1pm at Iroquois High School in the gym area. This is a holistic view of health and wellness with a variety of vendors including nutrition, exercise, legal services, and health insurance. There will be activities for children, some possible photo opportunities with characters for kids. Logistics are still being finalized. ITAC could use volunteers for set up, take down, basket raffle and other chores.

5. Announcements:

- a. **ITAC Ice Skating Event:** February 21st 3-5pm at the EA Classic Rink. Free event for the youth and community, all are welcome. The venue is paid for and skate rental is free with canned good donations for Danny's Helping Hands or a \$4 fee.
- b. **Good for the Neighborhood Event at the ROC:** February 24th 10-12pm. Free Health and Wellness event for the community happening at Rural Outreach Center. Information, services, resources and giveaways. Alli and Sarah checked out the event they held in November. ITAC would like to participate. Alli said she is certain she can table on the date but was looking to see if anyone else could/would participate with her. Contact Sarah or Alli if interested.

6. Other Business:

- a. **Open Floor:** No discussion of items not on agenda.

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 9:56am.

The next General Coalition Meeting: 03/16/2024 from 10am-1pm at the ITAC Health and Wellness Fair. Come when you can! The next regularly scheduled meeting will be April 16th at 9am.

Meeting Minutes respectfully submitted February 14th, 2024 by Joanne Goellner.

ITAC's mission is to increase awareness of and reduce youth substance use within the community & enhance communication between parents, youth, educators, & residents, while utilizing data to drive prevention efforts, promote education, & provide access to resources.