

**Community Board Meeting Minutes**  
**June 12, 2023**  
**Live Hilton Head High School Media Center and via zoom**

**Meeting called to order 6:05 pm** by Wendy Cummings, Chair

**Approval of Minutes:** May 15, 2023 meeting minutes were approved.

**Attendance:** Francine Norz Tobin (Solicitor's office/Government Agency), Dr. Loretta Novince (LCAHY/DFC Grant Consultant), Wendy Cummings (Schools/Co-Advisor Cross THY), Mary Megan Burke (Schools/THY Co-Advisor Hilton Head High), Chandler Horney (Law Enforcement/Special Agent SLED), Erin Pawlak (Health Care Sector), Catrina Anchond (Substance Abuse Agency/BCADAD), Cheryl Rodriguez (Parent Sector), Jim Berl (Youth Serving Organization Sector/HH Rec. Center). Staff: Laura Pirkey (DFC Grant Program Director and Youth Coalition Coordinator). McKenzie Guerro (DFC Grant Coordinator) LCAHY/THY Summer Interns: Ben Vaught, Amber Van Horn, Jillian Campanella, JP Pirkey.

**DFC Support Program Grant Requirement: Sustainability Plan Required in Year 7**

Dr. Novince announced that all DFC grantees entering year 7 are required to create and submit a Sustainability Plan during year 7 in preparation for sustainability when the DFC Grant ends in 2027. She introduced the Board to the Sustainability Plan Template. Dr. Novince further explained that during year three, a Sustainability Plan was created, which includes the following funding strategies: LCAHY applied for and was approved 501 c3 status and a run/walk (May Day 5k) was launched. Laura Pirkey reported that funding strategies have been supported by LCAHY's youth coalition, Teens for Healthy Youth (THY), which include Bagging for Bucks at Piggly Wiggly, working at 5K races/marathons for which THY gets paid for providing volunteers, and participating in the Belk Charity fundraiser. Through recognition initiatives, THY and LCAHY were awarded several local grants. THY was awarded a local grant from HH Women's Association (WAHHI) for their efforts to promote positive youth development during COVID.

In DFC Grant Year 7, a Sustainability Plan will be submitted to the ONDCP/CDC. LCAHY will need to determine what needs to be sustained and what future resources are required, including funding strategies/sources and an action plan to implement strategies. *See Sustainability Plan Template attached in meeting notice.* When the DFC grant ends in 2027, staff positions written in the grant will no longer be in place. However, consideration will need to be given to researching/securing funding for a staff position to support the work of the coalition. It was noted that, as a rule, local grants do not provide a line item for staff support. It was recommended that grants be written to support the stipends and monies for project supplies for the Teens for Healthy Youth advisors. Currently, each THY advisor is paid \$250 per semester and \$200 for project supplies. Other expenses include office supplies, phone, computers, printing. Dr. Novince is aware of several federal grants LCAHY could apply for in year 10.

**12-Month Action Plan Updates/Ad-Hoc Committee Assignments**

**TEENS FOR HEALTHY YOUTH (THY)**

**THY Updates:** Laura Pirkey, Youth Coalition Coordinator, presented that we are looking for co-advisors for Hilton Head Prep. Mrs. Tiffanie Elrod and Mrs. Veronica Llambia at May River High School have signed on for next year. Laura plans to meet with the Bluffton & Hilton Head Boys and Girls Clubs to ask if THY can teach Prevention Plus Wellness to the middle schoolers at the Boys and Girls Clubs. By

educating the Boys and Girls year-round, THY members will also serve as role models to the middle schoolers.

**THY Recognition/LCAHY Outstanding Senior Service Awards:**

Laura reported that LCAHY recognized around forty Teens for Healthy Youth Members from Cross Schools, Bluffton High, Hilton Head Christian Academy, and Hilton Head High School during the recognition event held at Cross Schools. Each THY member was provided with a certificate and a gift card by their respective advisors in recognition of their contributions to THY and LCAHY. Laura created and shared a PowerPoint presentation of Teens for Healthy Youth's accomplishments during the 2022-2023 school year. *See PowerPoint attached in the meeting notice.* Francine, representing the LCAHY Senior Awards Committee, introduced the 2023 recipients of LCAHY's Outstanding Senior Award, which included Ethan Barrera of Bluffton High THY, Rosario Macias of Bluffton High THY, and Molly Mau of Hilton Head Christian THY. These individuals' contributions to LCAHY/THY were shared by Laura in a PowerPoint presentation.

At THY Recognition Event, parents were provided with a survey and in response to that survey, four parents said they may be interested in serving on LCAHY's Community Board, representing the parent sector. In addition, there were parents who requested to be added to LCAHY's E-News list.

**THY HHCA:**

Jillian Campanella presented that Hilton Head Christian Academy (HHCA) THY plans to recruit new members during HHCA's back-to-school day event. Also, they are looking for a co-advisor to assist Jill DelGuercio.

**THY Cross Schools:**

Payton Ward, a THY member at Cross Schools, reported (via a pre-recorded video) that at Cross Schools they had their first Green Day to create awareness for May Mental Health Awareness Month. THY Cross also made their own posters encouraging kindness and love during May Mental Health Awareness Month. THY distributed THY's Tips for Managing Stress cups at a lemonade stand. Wendy Cummings presented that THY has been asked to participate in the Cross Schools High School retreat in August. Also, Grey Cummings, THY Cross Schools Co-Advisor, accepted a position at Cross Schools as an elementary teacher and can further assist with THY happenings at Cross Schools.

**May Day 5k:** Wendy presented that we had 200 runners (Only 12 were no shows.). Rough numbers are that we had over \$11,000 in sponsorships. Thank you to Board members for soliciting sponsors. Our race is getting more recognition in the community, which helps us in our branding. Holding the race on the same day as Bluffton May Fest has helped increased interest. Dr. Novince announced that several sponsors she contacted, expressed an interest in one of LCAHY's levels of membership. Erin Pawlak, one of our silver sponsors, who is a mental health professional is joining our board. She also reported that The Bluffton / Hilton Head Sun will be publishing a thank you to all our sponsors. Mckencie posted a thank you to all sponsors on our website.

**LCAHY Public Health Awareness Campaign:** Joy Nelson, Media CIA, created several new radio PSA's that will be broadcasted on the Lowcountry Radio Stations. One is on 100 deadliest days of driving, another on teen mental health and a third on the dangers of fentanyl. Dr. Novince and Mckencie met with Erik Esquivel from La Isla magazine to discuss the promotion of LCAHY's public health awareness campaign in La Isla print and social media. Dr. Novince announced that Mckencie, who is bi-lingual, will be working with multilingual school liaisons to provide information to Newcomers. Mckencie is a recent Clemson grad in public health and the Spanish language. She grew up in Bluffton and was a member of THY. We are looking to hire another part time staff member.

**Forum Survey:** Forty health and education professionals signed up to receive continuing education credits (CEUs). Only 13 completed the required survey managed by SCAHEC, the organization awarding

CEUs. Of the general attendees, about 35 completed the Forum Survey. However, Dr. Novince noted that there may have been confusion as to whom should complete the QR survey posted on the screen and that individuals applying for CEUs may have completed this survey and not the survey managed by SCAHEC. It was suggested that at future Forums, survey instructions for both CEU registrants and general attendees will be stressed. Laura suggested that, in the future, we may want to consider collecting Forum surveys via paper as was done in the past. Jim Berl suggested we have a raffle through which those who complete the survey will have an opportunity to be positioned to win the item being raffled.

**LCAHY Summer Interns:** Dr. Novince, serving as preceptor for the LCAHY Summer Interns, introduced the following interns who gave an update on their proposed projects:

Jill Campanella will support interns/projects as needed.

JP Pirkey will work on developing signage on the risks of e-cigarette usage.

Amber Van Horn is creating a fact card on how caregivers can support their children working through grief and how teens can support themselves through their grief. She is also working on a project to add more resources to the LCAHY website and creating scripts for the THY recruitment video. It was noted that, as a team, the summer interns will have speaking roles in the recruitment video. Laura Pirkey added that Ron Lopes (Beaufort County School District video specialist) will film the video. She suggested that 2 students from each school be part of the video. Wendy reported that there is also a video specialist at Cross schools that could help, if needed.

Payton Ward will create a fact card that will educate youth and the community about the dangers of cyberbullying. She will also write an article on the topic to be submitted to the Bluffton/Hilton Head Sun.

Ben Vaught will focus on a project aiming to encourage the Hilton Head Island Town Council to include electronic smoking devices in their no smoking regulations. He is also working on THY public image in social media and general appeal to the student body at all participating schools. Dr. Novince reported that she spoke with the Town Clerk of Hilton Head who previously worked for the Town of Bluffton and was employed when the Town passed the ordinance to include vaping in the Town's Smoking Ordinance. She proposed that Ben create an informational power point and send it to the mayor and Town Council via emails. On July 18<sup>th</sup>, she suggested the THY representatives attend the Town Council meeting and present their proposal during the three minute public comment.

### **Other 2022-2023 12 Month Action Plan Updates**

**Conduct an Environmental Scan:** Laura reported that THY plans to conduct an environmental scan in Bluffton. Chandler Horney, Special Agent of SLED, will be asked to help identify Bluffton locations.

**Staff information at School/Community Events:** We plan a LCAHY table at the Beaufort County back to school Expo and the Back to School Fun event in Bluffton.

**Capacity Building:** We need to fill the following CIA roles: Faith Based Sector Role, Education Sector, and Civic Organization Sector.

**Community Outreach/Face to Face Presentations:** Laura reported that Beaufort County school District would like to have THY present at one of the School Board meetings.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

2023-2024 LCAHY Calendar Schedule (August 2023 – July 2024)

Meeting adjourned 7:30 pm.

Next meeting is August 28, 2023, Bluffton High School.

Respectfully submitted, -- Francine Norz Tobin, Recording Secretary

