

# Tobacco Free Baltimore County Coalition

Minutes

November 8, 2017

3:00 P.M.

Eastern Family Resource Center

<b>Meeting called by</b>	Tobacco Program Manager, Vicki Keller
<b>Type of meeting</b>	Baltimore County Tobacco Free Coalition
<b>Facilitator</b>	Tobacco Program Manager, Vicki Keller
<b>Note taker</b>	Meghan Leavitt
<b>Attendees</b>	Denise Albright, Crystal Andre, Maryam Baharloo, Adrian Boswell, Greta Brand, Nathan Cabrera, Lawrence Carter, Cody Hafford, Stephanie House, Alison Jones, Vicki Keller, Pam Kemmerer, Joe Leake, Meghan Leavitt, Joan Livezey, Ruth Lucas, April Meise, Sarah Platt, Matthew Riley, Laura Schein, Karen Ulmer, Adriane Wesson, Earl Winterling, Dan Young

Vicki welcomed everyone to the Coalition and thanked them for coming. She asked everyone to introduce themselves. Minutes from the January 18, 2017 and May 31, 2017 were reviewed and approved as written.

## Agenda Topics

### Old Business

**Vicki Keller**

<b>Discussion</b>	<p><b>Coalition Chairperson opening</b> Vicki stated that there was one nomination for co-chair at our May meeting. She also stated there is a nomination form in everyone's packet. If anyone would like to nominate someone for chairperson, please complete the form and turn it in at this meeting.</p> <p><b>Future meeting times/dates/locations</b> <b>Times</b> - Vicki stated that the coalition meetings are currently scheduled from 3:00 pm –4:30 pm; however, there has been mention of possibly moving the meeting to the evenings to allow more community members to attend. Vicki asked the coalition if this is something they would prefer.</p> <p>An attendee stated that we may get more attendance if we move to the evenings.</p> <p>Vicki asked everyone if we would lose any coalition members if we moved to a later time.</p> <p>A few members replied that they would not be able to attend due to other obligations. Some members brought up the idea of rotating afternoons and evenings, scheduling the meetings alternately at 3:00–4:30 and 6:00-7:30.</p> <p>Nathan stated that if we want to focus on community attendance, then the evening time would probably work better.</p> <p>Vicki suggested taking a vote. The vote resulted in rotating from afternoons to evenings.</p> <p><b>Dates</b> - Vicki stated that we currently have five meetings a year, but we are able to switch to four a year if that would work better for everyone. The dates would be November, January, March, and June. Everyone agreed on four meetings, each on the second Wednesday of that month.</p> <p><b>Locations</b> - Greta suggested moving the location back to a school, so we could have more youth involvement.</p>
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Vicki stated that in order to use a school, we should have a representative or liaison at the school to obtain a room and recruit youth. It was decided that we would for schools willing to collaborate. Vicki suggested that since we are rotating times, we can rotate locations, perhaps having the evening meetings at the Drumcastle Government Center and the afternoon meetings at a high school if possible. Everyone agreed this would be a good idea.

**Site Visit Review**

The CRF Tobacco and Synar Enforcement Program had a state site visit on June 14, 2017. Vicki passed out the results of that visit to everyone in attendance and discussed the recommendations made from that review.

**New business**

**BBH Staff**

**Tobacco Program Updates**

**Cessation Vendor Requests for Proposal** – Dan Young stated that the county will issue a Request for Proposals for cessation vendors. The selected vendors will be paid (current rate is \$140 per class participant) to conduct cessation classes. The Department will be looking for two or more vendors that can provide services in multiple locations. Offerors must already be trained in the provision of cessation services. Dan asked the coalition that if they know of anyone who qualifies for this, to please let him know.

**School Grants and Community Funding Availability** – Adriane Wesson discussed opportunities for funding for school and community groups. She stated that we are still accepting applications for both. The deadline for Tobacco Education grants to Baltimore County Public schools is November 15, 2017. Community group applications are due January 1, 2018. Adriane brought copies of community applications with her today if anyone wants to take one with them, or know of anyone who wants to apply for funding. This application can also be found on our website, [www.baltimorecountymd.gov](http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov).

**Discussion**

**Enforcement** – Adrian Boswell discussed what the enforcement team does. He stated that we have Health Enforcement Officers (HEOs) who, with minor youth, conduct compliance checks of tobacco retailers by attempting to purchase a tobacco product. A tobacco sale to the minor results in a fine of \$500 for the first offense, the second is \$1,000 and three or more is \$1,500. Fines are issued on a calendar year basis, resetting January 1. When a store receives two or more violations, they are referred to the Comptroller's Office. Vicki added that we have sent over 500 referrals to the Comptroller's office and 53 stores have been suspended.

Cody Hafford discussed the Enforcement statistics. He stated that over 1,600 compliance checks have been conducted this fiscal year and the retailer violation rate is 10%. Cody also stated that the highest offending stores are gas stations and the lowest offending stores are grocery stores.

Vicki went over the Synar rate. She stated that the rate determined by the Maryland Department of Health for Baltimore County for FFY18 is 6%. The state conducted checks at 86 stores and out of those 86, five sold tobacco products to the minor.

**Bureau of Behavioral Health Adolescent Education Program****Pam Kemmerer**

<b>Discussion</b>	<p>Pam Kemmerer, Bureau of Behavioral Health Supervisor of the Adolescent Program at the Eastern Family Resource Center gave an overview of the program. She stated that the education program is for middle and high school students referred because of substance use. In addition to addressing marijuana, alcohol, and other drugs with the youth, the program has added tobacco education in the curriculum this year. Vicki stated that we are very excited to have Pam’s program partner with us.</p> <p>Joe Leake asked Pam how many kids are seen through this program each year. Pam responded that this past year we saw 350 kids.</p>
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**Great American Smokeout****Vicki Keller**

<b>Discussion</b>	<p>Vicki stated that the Great American Smokeout is November 16. During that week, from November 13 through November 17, the BBH CRF Program will have a display table and materials available and a staff member to answer questions from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. every day at the Drumcastle Government Center. Staff will distribute incentive items.</p>
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<b>Next Meeting</b>	January 10, 2018, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.
<b>Location</b>	Drumcastle Government Center