

SCHOOL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL (SHAC)

Minutes 5-11-2021

In Attendance: Kelsie Bednarz, Tracey Carney, Wendy Duemmler, Dennis Joyner, Denise Lamar, Jarrod McCraw, Christina Neal, Lucinda Ourant, Kim Preston, Christine Skrutowski, Dylan Stamey, Stephanie Starr, Mark Strickland.

Business:

- 4:00 pm- meeting opened on 5-11-21.
- Minutes from 11-10-20 approved.
- Introductions- Board Members John Kirkpatrick and Joe Morreale to SHAC
- Stephanie Starr, Director of Community Support and Outreach, updated that billboards about vaping will be out in the public May 7 and 24. The Healthy Coalition meets every other month and continues to work on areas related to substance abuse and mental health. The executive committee meets every month.
- Tracey Carney, SEL Coordinator, reviewed that they are hosting Youth Mental Health First Aid training and are working with DHHS, foster, and health department nurses. She added that a kit was purchased for every school to assist with calming. The kits include materials such as crayons, bubble wrap, materials that assist with sensory needs, special lighting, etc. The social workers and mental health therapists will have kits available, or they may be stored in the counselor's area.
- Stephanie Starr presented on Emergency Rental Assistance Program. The program assists households unable to pay rent due to the COVID pandemic. Any county with a population greater than 200 thousand could apply. Union County received 7.23 million dollars. 90% of the money must be spent on rent, utilities, fuel, and internet. 10% could be used on grant administration. It provides rent assistance up to 12 months with an additional 3 months going forward to ensure housing stability. 12 counties received additional funding from the state in January. Union County received 5.7 million that must be spent by 9/2025. The 7.23 million must be spent by 2022.
- Tracey Carney, SEL Coordinator, and Kelsie Bednarz, Registered Dietician and Marketing Specialist for School Nutrition, attended the NC State SHAC Conference in April. Tracey attended a session on strategic planning for employee wellness. The discussion was about health disparity and bridging gaps for equitable resources. They also discussed health challenges and how employees could go at their own pace, reinforcing healthy habits. A second session attended was about preventing students from entering the judicial system. How students could get increased access to mental health and other health services as well as how the school system and judicial system can build relationships to increase student engagement. Kelsie listened to the Keynote Speaker talking about mental health and how COVID affects all aspects of the student. Prevention of mental health issues was the focus. Her break out session was focused on the correlation between nutrition and a person's social emotional mental health, and how it improves mood and behavior to increase success.
- Lucinda Ourant, Nurse Supervisor gave a COVID update. Positivity rate in UC was 4.9%. 30.7 % of the population is fully vaccinated. Cases in the county have been declining.
- Meeting adjourned at 4:35 pm.

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