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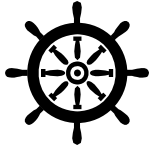
THE ADVOCATE



The Newsletter of the Greater Taunton Health & Human Service Coalition (GTHHSC) and Community Health Network Area 24
– www.geocities.com/gathercoalition

Volume XVI, No.11

November 2006



The Greater Taunton Health & Human Services Coalition
And
Community Health Network Area #24
Cordially Invite You to Our



CHNA#24

GTHHSC

Annual Meeting

Charting a New Course
*A New Direction for
Community Collaboration and
Networking with the CHNA*

November 21, 2006
8:30-10:30 A.M.

Taunton High School Cafeteria
50 Williams Street, Taunton

AGENDA

Registration and Full Breakfast
Welcome
Charting a New Course
Planning and Beyond: A New Direction
Wrap Up and raffle*
Conclusion and Next Steps

*Please bring 50 copies of an information sheet about your committee or coalition to be entered in the drawing.

\$10 Registration includes full breakfast. Please remit no later than **November 10, 2006** to the address below.

Name _____

Agency _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

Representing (Coalition/Committee) _____

Please mail \$10 check payable to "GTHHSC" along with registration, to
GATHER/GTHHSC, P.O. Box 2894, Taunton, MA 02780-2894.
For information, call Carol Annarino, Project YELL, at **508-977-8165.**

Your Voice Critical in United Way Needs Assessment

(From the United Way of Greater Attleboro/Taunton)

The United Way of Greater Attleboro/Taunton, Inc. (UWGAT) is conducting a community needs assessment. Provider and consumer input is critically needed. As part of the needs assessment, UWGAT has set up 2 sessions each of 3 focus groups below. Through these focus groups, provider agencies and community residents in the communities of Attleboro, Berkley, Dighton, Mansfield, North Attleboro, Norton, Plainville, Raynham, Rehoboth, Seekonk and Taunton will have the opportunity to tell the United Way about programs that are available to the community, and hear about problems in the communities. Most of all, the UWGAT wants to know what you think is needed in your community. The information

will remain confidential and will guide future Community Impact funding. Meetings include:

Basic Human Needs, 11/15/06, 11 a.m. or 6:30 p.m.:

- Housing
- Food/Nutrition
- Utility Assistance
- Rent/Mortgage Assistance
- Budgeting
- Homelessness
- Prescription Assistance, etc.

Healthy Communities, 11/30/06, 9:00a.m. or 6:30p.m.

- Elderly Services
- Cultural offerings
- Volunteerism
- Transportation
- Health insurance
- Dental needs
- Recreation and leisure
- Mental health

- Mental retardation
- Medical transportation
- Healthy living, etc.

Children, Youth & Family, 12/7/06, 9:00a.m. or 6:30p.m.

- Child Care
- Juvenile Justice
- Parenting Education
- Literacy
- Child Abuse Prevention
- Domestic Violence
- Children's programs, etc.

Registration is required for ample space and refreshments available. Call **508-431-0106** to reserve your selected focus group(s). Everyone may attend one or more of the focus groups at the United Way office, 247 Maple Street in Attleboro. For more information, please contact Marilyn Godfrey, **508-431-0106**, or email marilyn@uwgat.org.

Great American Smoke Out 30th Anniversary 11/16/06

(From the American Cancer Society - ACS)



Not long ago, nonsmoking airplane passengers had no choice but to breathe clouds of smoke as other passengers lit up cigarettes in the next row. Restaurant patrons smelled acrid tobacco smoke along with their meals, and many employees had to share air clouded with 2nd hand smoke.

This casual acceptance of smoking was the norm when the ACS Great American Smokeout was created 30 years ago in

November 1976. Now, many public places and work areas are smoke-free, protecting non-smokers and supporting smokers who want to quit. The event spotlights the dangers of tobacco use and the challenges of quitting, but more importantly, it has set the stage for the cultural revolution in tobacco control. On 7/5/04, Massachusetts implemented the passage of the Smoke-free Workplaces Law,

prohibiting smoking in public workplaces.

The ACS Great American Smokeout event grew from a 1971 event in Randolph, in which Arthur P. Mullaney asked people to give up cigarettes for a day and donate the money saved to a scholarship fund. The first national Great American Smokeout was held in 1977.

For more information please visit www.cancer.org or call **800-ACS-2345**.

Obituary Announcement (From the United Way 11/7/06) - It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Mr. Vincent Eagles, President of the United Way of Greater Attleboro/Taunton. Vince's commitment and dedication to the United Way was his driving passion for more than 6 years. Please continue to monitor our website (www.uwgat.org) for information regarding services which will be posted as soon as they are confirmed. Vince has touched the lives of countless individuals leaving it impossible for us to contact everyone personally. We ask you to share this information with those you feel would like to join is in our continued prayers for the Eagles Family.



Thanksgiving Dinners, Baskets For Families Available In Greater Taunton/Attleboro Area

(United Way of Greater Attleboro/Taunton)

City/Town:	Thanksgiving Dinner	Thanksgiving Baskets
Attleboro	Moose Lodge , 241 Thacher St., Noon-3pm. Will deliver to elderly/disabled in local area only. Cannot pick up guests. For reservations, home delivery, to volunteer or further information, call 508-222-9756 .	St. John's SVDP – Call 508-222-8400 by 11/15/06 St. Stephen's SVDP – Call 508-572-5335 by 11/17/06
Berkley	Coyle & Cassidy High School - Corline Cronan Family Inc. Breakfast 8-11, Dinner 11-1. No tickets or restrictions.	St. Bernard's Church, Assonet. 508-644-5585
Dighton	Coyle & Cassidy High School - Corline Cronan Family Inc. Breakfast 8-11, Dinner 11-1. No tickets or restrictions.	North Dighton, St. Joseph's Church, 508-822-1425 South Dighton, St. Peter's Church, 508-669-6346
Mansfield	Mansfield Social Services - Call 508-261-7464	Mansfield Social Services, Call 508-261-7464 Westside Benevolent, Call 508-339-3397
North Attleboro	Moose Lodge , 241 Thacher St., Noon-3pm. Will deliver to elderly/disabled in local area only. Cannot pick up guests. For reservations, home delivery, to volunteer or further information, call 508-222-9756 .	St. Mary's SVDP, 508-212-4755
Norton	Moose Lodge , 241 Thacher St., Noon-3pm. Will deliver to elderly/disabled in local area only. Cannot pick up guests. For reservations, home delivery, to volunteer or further information, call 508-222-9756 .	
Raynham	Coyle & Cassidy High School - Corline Cronan Family Inc. Breakfast 8-11, Dinner 11-1. No tickets or restrictions.	St. Ann's Church, 508-823-9833
Seekonk	Coyle & Cassidy High School - Corline Cronan Family Inc. Breakfast 8-11, Dinner 11-1. No tickets or restrictions. Moose Lodge , 241 Thacher St., Noon-3pm. Will deliver to elderly/disabled in local area only. Cannot pick up guests. For reservations, home delivery, to volunteer or further information, call 508-222-9756 .	
Taunton	Coyle & Cassidy High School - Corline Cronan Family Inc. Breakfast 8-11, Dinner 11-1. No tickets or restrictions.	St. Vincent DePaul, 508-823-6676 The Lord Cares Food Pantry, 154 Cohannet St., 508- 823-8234



Did You Know That...?

Events

HIV / AIDS Service Coordination

Collaborative announces upcoming dates for working group meetings. Now is a good time to join. Consumer incentive cards (groceries, CVS, etc.) are available to support consumer participation in these meetings: *Housing Issues working group* at Coastline Elderly, New Bedford. This is a JOIN working group with the South Shore SCC. 11/1/06, 9:30-11:00; *Emergency Assistance working group* at Brockton Area Multi-Services Inc (BAMSI), 11/15/06, 11:00-1:00; *HIV and Hep C working group* at Brockton Neighborhood Health Center. Please contact Marisa, 508-583-2250, x229 to attend.

Southeast Center for Healthy Communities announces Job Postings: Plymouth Public Schools have received a SAMHSA Drug-Free Communities Grant for the Plymouth Youth Development Collaborative, and are looking for a coordinator and administrative assistant. A training, "Why Scare Tactics Don't Work: Understanding Evidence-Based Strategies in Addressing Youth Risk Behaviors", will be held 11/16/06, 1:00-4:00. \$40 includes materials, CEUs and a light snack. Please register by 11/9/06; *S.E.MA Substance Abuse Prevention & Youth Development Network*, 11/29/06, 9:00-Noon, Mulligan Center, 942 W. Chestnut St., Brockton. Contact Katy at kddossantos@hcsm.org or call her at 508-583-2350, x221.

5 a Day Statewide Coalition – Do you want to know more about the new fruit and vegetable campaign? Do you want to know how your agency can be licensed to use the logo and obtain free downloadable tools? Do you want to get free publicity for your agency when the

national launch occurs? Attend or phone into the next meeting on Thursday, 11/16/06, 9:00-11:00, at the DPH, 250 Washington St., 4th floor, Boston. Email or attendance to Cynthia, Coordinator at Cynthia.Bayerl@state.ma.us

Nutrition/Activity

WIC Changes – You can help add fruits and vegetables, whole grains, soy beverages and more to the WIC food package. Please go to the National WIC website at www.nwica.org to send an automated email of support, including any of your own personal comments by 11/6/06.

Earn Sports Gear and Field Trip Transportation for Schools - Visit goplaylabels.com to learn about a new reward program from Nestle Pure Life, called *Go Play!* that helps accredited schools in the United States with any grades from K-8 earn points that can be redeemed toward fitness and sports gear, or transportation cost assistance toward hands-on educational field trips, just for collecting labels from bottles of Nestlé® Pure Life® bottled water products. Schools must sign up by 12/31/06. See www.goplaylabels.com.

Funding Opportunities

National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), in collaboration with The Foundation Center, tracks funding opportunities that can support public health activities. In September, NACCHO focused on foundations that list school health as a focus area. For information see http://www.naccho.org/topics/fundingsguide/documents/sept_2006/Massachusetts.pdf

Bikes Belong Offers Grants to Promote Cycling
Bikes Belong, a national coalition of bicycle suppliers and retailers,

administers a grants program designed "to put more people on bicycles more often." The grants program accepts and funds applications for three types of projects: facilities; education; and advocacy. Bikes Belong accepts requests for grants of up to \$10,000 each. Bikes Belong reviews applications on a quarterly cycle. The next deadline is November 27, 2006. For more information: <http://bikesbelong.org/>

From JoinTogether

Teen Drinking Prevention Campaign Targets Parents who allow their children to drink. "We Don't Serve Teens" follows on research showing 65% of underage drinkers get their alcohol from family or friends. Message to parents is that it is both dangerous and illegal. (October 19, 2006)

100 Strong: The Right Choice Right Now Program encourages student drug-free lifestyles through the voluntary signing of a drug-free pledge and agreement to take random drug tests at home to demonstrate their commitment. It is helping change the perception that drug use is the norm, and supports students who chose to lead drug-free lifestyles to find support and motivation from their peers. Parents are given specific prevention strategies and local survey results. See CADCA's Strategizer publication series at www.cadca.org.

MADD and Nationwide Create THINK! Project to help teens celebrate safely all year. For great school materials, advice, tips, information and reward teens, order the needed resources to implement the campaign with posters, banners, pledge pads and other tools at <http://think.madd.org/external/splash2/>

COALITION/COMMITTEE MINUTES & REPORTS



GTHHSC Child & Family Focus Committee Meeting. 10/17/06, 10:15, AHS

Discussion Highlights:



Grant – Members reviewed a grant application for the “Top 10 Ways to Save a Child’s Life”

bookmarks. Corrections and additions will be forwarded to

Lorraine. Costs are 1000 @.25 each; 5000 @ .09 each; 10,000 @ .07 each.

Next Steps:

Send grant application input to Lorraine.

Check out bookmarks prices at www.sanscripts.com

Next Meeting: 12/19/06, 10:15, A.H.S.

Contact Person: Ronna Schaffer, 508-880-0202.

GTHHSC Monthly Networking Meeting. 10/17/06, 9:00, AHS

Discussion Highlights:

The Advocate will become an e-newsletter beginning November 2006. Responses have been coming in from coalition members requesting either email or hard copies. Requests should go to Lorraine at mcaprosa@hotmail.com, or Carol at 508-977-8165, and include name, agency and address. The October newsletter is found online at www.geocities.com/advocateneWSletter/AdvoOctober06.pdf.

Reports Beyond the September Advocate:

Emergency Task Force – See minutes, p.10.

Substance Abuse Round Table XII – The group continues to look for a keynote speaker, and asks the membership to come up with one who appeals to both teens and adults. This SART will help people to understand social norms, why it works, and support project efforts. Title suggestions include:

- Most teens do
- Most teens don't
- Most kids do

- Do you believe that most teens....
- Come find out what most teens do. Example: 80% of teens never...

The theme may include a checklist with answer choices.

Presentation: Lee LeBlanc Corrigan, Focus on Kids program

– A Massachusetts DPH funded initiative provides a new 8-session science based after school program for high school freshmen. Topics include HIV, STIs (Sexually transmitted infections), and pregnancy prevention. Six to 8 students will be hired to recruit and present programs and work on a community project, 40 have already signed up. Sessions address decision making models, risk behavior, health information, sexuality issues, friendship and positive peer pressure. Parents can receive curriculum contents so they will know what their kids are doing. Youth workers may be able to collaborate with Project YELL peer leaders.

Annual Meeting – The Coalition and CHNA voted to

charge \$10 to defray expenses for the full breakfast. Final count is due 11/10/06. A raffle will also be held for all committees or coalitions who submit copies of their information sheet. (See cover article) Students will direct attendees to the cafeteria the day of the annual meeting.

Make a Difference Day violence awareness observation is scheduled for 10/28/06, 9:30-2:30. For more information, see SEMA-VAV minutes on page 7, or www.semavav.org.

Visiting Nurses shared ionic silver antibacterial wipes for telephones and other surfaces. Careful hand washing and other hygienic precautions are still necessary. Wipes are antibacterial, and not antiviral.

Next Steps:

Include Thanksgiving Day food info in the next Advocate.

Next Meeting:

Annual Meeting, 11/21/06, 8:30, Taunton High School cafeteria.

Contact Person: Richard McMahon, 508-979-7160, 3010.

Discussion Highlights:

Project YELL

- **Peer Leaders** – Peer leaders have been hired, and received orientation. April will meet with parents to sign permission forms. They will also participate in an all day training with MADD.
- **School Survey** – Project YELL staff will meet with T.H.S. faculty to introduce Project YELL. The ADAS is scheduled for November.
- **COMET Report** – The Project YELL quarterly report is about half finished. It is due November 10.
- **Social Norms Conference** – April and Carol attended a social norms and law enforcement presentation.

\$10,000 Tobacco Grant Received – T.H.S. submitted both a \$2,000 school grant and \$10,000 community DPH mini grant. They are still waiting on the school grant, which is for second hand smoke and to stop smoking in school. Three more peer leaders and a coordinator can be hired with the \$10,000 grant, bringing the number of peer leaders to 8.

School Tobacco Cessation Program – There are currently no referrals, but students continue to hide before school to smoke.

Community Care Services SOAP – The Structured Outpatient Addiction Program meets 5 days per week for 6 weeks, 2:00-4:30, after school. T.H.S. will give referrals.

November Ballot Question 1: Wine Sales in Food Stores – The advertisement that indicated MADD support for the bill has been pulled. Access and enforcement are issues for this bill because it increases the number of liquor establishments, making it harder to police. The law will also make it more difficult for youth who are under age 21 working in smaller, understaffed stores.

Red Ribbon Week – Donated student prizes given during activities at Parker and Friedman Middle school include:

- \$100 - Taunton Federal Credit Union
- \$30 – Six \$5 gift certificates for Pepperoni’s Pizza.
- 10 Free Admission passes to Silver City Skateland.

SARTXII – The committee is composing a letter to funders, stating what social norms is, how it will affect the community, expected impact, what we expect to get out of it, and what attendees can take away and use. Social Norms shows that most youth make healthy decisions, so the positive message has public interest built in. Negative

messages are an easy sell to funders because people want to fix a problem and make it better. Social norms is prevention rather than treatment, and gives a “bigger bang for the buck” in that it has a strong influence on behavior with a relatively low cost. It sends the message that kids that make healthy choices are not strange. A letter to potential funders should motivate support for positive behaviors instead of having to deal with negative consequences in the future. Social norms messages are about life above the influence. We are seeking funding to support an established, funded, science-based program. The SARTXII is an opportunity to spread the word about the effectiveness of social norms and let communities know that there is much funding support available. A registration fee was also discussed and would require a different agency take the lead in collection and accounting.

Next Steps:

Compose a letter for potential funders by-in.

Next Meeting: 11/15/06, 3:30, CCBC Conference Room

Contact Persons: Arlene Dickinson, 508-223-4691, Lorraine Rosa, mcaproso@hotmail.com

Criminal Justice Committee continues to track pending cases. Fast track: 13. Attleboro and New Bedford continue to attend Gang Awareness meetings.

Community Crisis Intervention Team November training is full. They presented at a conference in Orlando. The Taunton workshop was the only one whose trainings were

inclusive of courts and other agencies. They are seeking funding to continue trainings.

Treatment and Prevention Committee - Project Yell: peer

leaders were hired and will be receiving training. Efforts continue, to obtain donations as incentives. Taunton Public Schools received a tobacco grant in the amount of \$10,000. The social norms survey is being planned. SARTXII will be held **4/12/07** with a social norms theme with a focus on promoting the healthy behaviors of most THS students.

Community Crisis Spiritual Response Team - The Taunton Clergy Association will be holding a "Friends in Faith Volunteer Opportunity Fair" on **11/5/06**, from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center, 133 High Street, Taunton, MA. 50 agencies will take part.

Education	Committee
discussed	after-school
programming;	dance/prom

procedures and canine searches. They would like to meet with TPD regarding updating lockdown procedures.

Neighborhoods – The Office of Economic and Community Development is working with Department of Human Services on educating Community Police Officers of programs they offer, such as Housing Rehab Program. Work continues on reinstating the Mayor's Youth Council.

Program Update:

➤ A citywide Neighborhood Watch Meeting was held with seventy in attendance. Presentations on sex offender registry/levels, crime and credit card fraud and how to keep your children safe were provided.

- The Youth Court grant was awarded to Community Care Services.
- TPD working with Taunton and Norton to provide trainings to the schools on gang awareness.
- SNI members are working to find funding for transportation from the SNI designated neighborhood to the Boys & Girls Club.

Sam Sutter, newly elected District Attorney, was introduced. He stated that he plans on attending the SNI meetings and will try to quickly implement his new policies.

Next Meeting: **11/15/06**, 8:00 a.m. at the Fairfax Gardens Community Center.

Contact Person: Robert Cammarata, **508-821-1420**

Southeastern Massachusetts Voices Against Violence. 10/19/06, 3:30, MassInfotech

Discussion Highlights:
National Day of Unity events went well. The Clothesline Project was lightly attended and greater participation in the future might improve with a more convenient location. Parking is difficult at the church. Ideas included Taunton High School, Hopewell Park, the Galleria Mall, or other venues where there are already many people. The best effect is outdoors, weather permitting. A Clothesline Project display in both Attleboro and Taunton may be planned for June 2007.

Dress to Impress received excellent press coverage in the Taunton CALL, Gazette and Enterprise. Annemarie sent corrections to two of the newspapers. In Attleboro, the

Sun Chronicle drew lots of support. The project is right on target, with overwhelming public response. The project needs a semi permanent place for clothing drop-offs. Flyers for the ribbon cutting have been circulating. A Bristol County Savings Bank Foundation grant application and a Paul Newman's grant were submitted for operating expenses and materials. Dress to Impress will be open **10/28/06**, from 12-5.

Candlelight Vigil had a slightly smaller number from last year, but a different mix which included Taunton High School and Bristol-Plymouth High School students, and people who attended last year. Other attendees included families, young children and Councilor

David Pottier. Four churches rang their bells, and a shofar was blown at Agudas Achim at the same time. Clergy sent thanks for the invitation.

Verizon Project of used cell phone collection continues.

Through My Eyes is a compilation of essays and poetry in support of crime victims as they move forward and heal. Deadline is **12/31/06**.

Domestic Violence Round Table will meet **12/5/06**, 2:30pm, in a Fall River location to be announced. New District Attorney Samuel Sutter attended a recent Safe Neighborhood Initiative meeting. He plans to mandate all staff to get involved in outreach in the volunteer community. The Committee

hopes to develop a strong relationship with the new DA. The quarterly meeting for Taunton is scheduled for 3/6/06. The Pilgrim Congregational church was suggested as venue. Annemarie will contact Reverend Susan.

Gourmet Guys Fundraiser utilizes community minded men who will cook for the 17th annual New Hope fundraiser, on 11/17/06, 6pm, Attleboro Elks Lodge. For information, call Jamie at 508-226-4015.

GTHHSC/CHNA24 Annual Meeting will be held 11/21/06, 8:30am. See cover article.

Marketing Events – New Hope activities calendar may be included in the SEMA-VAV calendar, to include the Clothesline Project public venues, DV Awareness Month and the April Sexual Assault Awareness Month activities, Annual meetings and Gourmet Guys. This information can be

posted on New Hope and Coalition web sites.

2007 National Crime Victim Rights Week is scheduled for April 22-28. Currently there are no conflicts with other coalition or community events. It can include sexual assault, child abuse and violence in general.

Office for Victims of Crime HOPE Grant – Annemarie is writing a \$5,000 grant that helps small grass roots outreach programs who do not receive VOCA funding and have budgets under \$50,000, to expand. Grantees must be collaborations. Letters of support are required and have been requested from coalition agencies. Budget breakdown includes:

- \$2500 – Create 8 page newsletter on DV awareness, sexual assault, child abuse, date rape, homicide, in English, Spanish, Portuguese and possibly Kmer.

- \$500 – Support action kits
- \$1500 – Workshops for the Attleboro/Taunton general public.

Next Steps:

- Contact Josie about a Clothesline Project display at the Galleria Mall.
- Keep the National Day of Unity and Clothesline Project for both cities on the agenda.
- Contact Reverend Susan at the Pilgrim Church for a meeting of the DVRT in March.
- Contact the DVRT for the invitation list, and possibility of expansion.
- Send Domestic Violence Awareness Month article from Rota, Spain newspaper to Annemarie

Next Meeting: 11/16/06, 5:00pm, Mass InfoTech

Contact Person: Annemarie Matulis, 508-922-7278; matulisannie@msn.com

Substance Abuse Round Table Planning Meeting. 10/11/06, 3:00, CCBC

Discussion Highlights:

Possible Speakers:

- Linda Langford and Laurie will get back to Deb by October 20th as to their availability as keynote.
- Pebbles – April has initiated contact with the radio personality
- Dana Barrows, former Celtics player, cannot attend
- Melissa (radio personality from JAMN 94.5
- A social norms consultant from Weston
- Suggestions from Youth

Social Norms Conference – Carol and April will attend the Southeast Center for Healthy

Communities Social Norms training in Plymouth The Montana State Police attend.

SARTXII Financing – Project YELL has set aside \$2,000 to support SARTXII. Past contributors will be contacted as well for financial support. The committee also discussed pros and cons of charging attendees.

Participants – Seven high schools and Berkley, Beckwith and Dighton Middle Schools have attended past SARTS. It is important for police to attend because even when most students refrain from risky

behavior, they still have to deal with those who do not.

Date – 4/12/07 (Thursday), possibly from 8:30-1:30, has been booked at the Holiday Inn, Taunton. Break out rooms are provided at additional cost.

Breakout Groups will divide out, then come back together in the ballroom to share what they did with the full group.

- **High School Youth** could do a mini social norms exercise based on state YRBS surveys, and come up with social norms messages about alcohol. April and the Peer leaders will provide

assistance to youth breakout groups. Deb can supply posters, glue sticks, color construction paper, scissors, tape and markers. They can get excited about social norms and bring back the information to their schools to do their own social norms campaign based on their own schools' surveys. Incentives available for everyone who does a poster.

- **Middle School Youth** will have the same basic task as high school youth, but concentrate on Tobacco.
- **Adults** could address the challenge to the community and how they embrace that challenge. Denial? Not a problem? Not my kids? They may take a survey from the internet, get statistics on underage drinking arrests and number of community liquor stores, and come up with a community action plan to present to the youth, along with getting the community to support the social norms campaign. Possible facilitators could include Deb, Carol, Tracy and Stephanie (SCHC).

Action Plan – The conference outcome will be a community action plan that every individual or group can take for community implementation.

Best Practices - Project YELL can be highlighted as a best practice, possible before the keynote speaker. It was originally written as a GATHER grant for 7 communities. Participants can take back the local perspective of Taunton's project to their communities.

SARTXII Name – The committee explored various names for the next SART that would express “most of us”. These include:

- We want you to know
 - Most teens do...
 - Most teens do...YELL
- Secondary titles included
- Bringing social norms to your community
 - Making a social norms campaign work for you
 - Understanding social norms
 - Social norms 101
 - Social norms for dummies

November Ballot Question 1: Wine Sales in Food Stores allows local licensing authorities to issue licenses for food stores to sell wine. This includes grocery stores, supermarkets, shops, clubs, outlets, or warehouse-type sellers, that sell food to consumers to be eaten elsewhere. The licensing authorities in any city or town of up to 5000 residents could issue up to 5 licenses for food stores to sell wine. In cities or towns of over 5000 residents, one additional license could be issued for each additional 5000 residents (or fraction of 5000). Such licenses would not be counted when applying the laws that limit the number of other kinds of alcoholic beverage licenses that may be issued or held. Any applicant for a license would have to be approved by the state Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission. Local authorities could set fees for issuing and renewing such licenses. Taunton has 24 licenses with 16 proposed. This law will increase the supply of alcohol in the community. Youth argue that MADD is pro question 1 and the

data supplied by the opposition is not true. (Note: According to the Boston Globe, MADD Massachusetts says it is remaining *neutral* on the question because it does not involve itself in licensing issues.) Deb has information from the Youth Summit where students debated for and against the bill. Availability and enforcement are issues as this bill could add another 17 licensees.

Trends – A new drink called MD 20/20 or Mad Dog has gained popularity with teens. (Additional information from Wikipedia: MD 20/20 or Mad Dog is a fortified wine that comes in a variety of flavors that appeal to youth. Alcohol content varies between 13.5-18%. The combination with high fructose adds a sugar rush to the intoxication. It is rumored that getting drunk on MD 20/20 often causes intense hangovers the following day, likely because many of the drinkers are inexperienced, underage drinkers. It is popular with teens because it is inexpensive and has a high alcohol content.

Next Steps:

- Check out www.face.com
- Look into presenting information on Ballot Question 1 on “Pathways to Hope”.
- Put a discussion of Question 1 on the SAC agenda.

Next Meeting: 12/6/06, 3:30, at Project Empower Conference Room at CCBC.

Contact Person: Kathy Lalor, 508-823-9416.

Taunton Emergency Task Force. 10/5/06, 9:30, GATRA

Homelessness

- Due to the various groups & committees working on homeless issues, a suggestion was made to contact Julie Sprague about joining together.
- Monthly bus passes must now be obtained from GATRA drivers.

Fuel Fund/Emergency Services:

- ETF fuel fund is closed until 12/1/06. CFC fuel program starts 11/1/06. They are taking new applications. Income guidelines information and required documentation were shared. Agency staff should keep them for their own use and not distribute to clients. Joe Kennedy program can assist with oil and gas.
- CFC's Laser Program, in conjunction with Bay State Gas, Nstar and National Grid, is assisting individuals with large outstanding bills who have a payment history. Participants must agree to go on a payment plan for one year. For information, call **508-679-0041**. People who have heat included in rent, but do not have a rent subsidy are eligible. Only the primary source of heat may be considered.
- Those eligible for fuel may also be eligible for weatherization, furnace repair or replacements. Call the Weatherization Program at **508-675-2157**.
- CFC is out of FEMA money. They have spent \$12,000 over the last few months.

RAFT Program - South Shore Housing is on site at CFC Mondays from 9-12. Applicants should first call the Infoline at **781-422-4216** to get quick instructions. To set up an appointment and find out what documents to bring, call Sharon **781-422-4200**. There are some restrictions.

Fundraiser - Senator Marc Pacheco, Representative Jim Fagan, Bella Roma Restaurant, and the Mayor's Office are planning to have another fuel fund fundraiser at the VFW on **11/27/06**.

Congratulations to Bob Cammarata who will be accepting the Director of the Year Award from Mass COA.

Election Results:

Milly Burrows, Chairperson
Julia Wood, Vice-Chairperson
Charlene Sanger, Treasurer
Erica Emond, Secretary

Year in Review - 2005-2006 Accomplishments include:
Increased Publicity – The Advocate, Silver City Bulletin, Fundraising- Fuel Fundraiser, Bay State Gas, BCSB, UW, Hannaford's, Letter Campaign, By-Laws- reviewed & amended, P.O. Box address obtained, TFD, TPD rejoined task force, GATRA collaboration on transportation, GATCH homelessness work, FSS Program Coordinating Ctee

Agency Sharing:

CFC - Operation Christmas begins **11/1/06** for children 12 & under. Applications must be stamped and signed by referring agency. Distribution will be **12/12/06**.

Our Daily Bread Boy Scout drive will be held **11/4/06**.

St. Vincent de Paul food pantry serves over 100 each Wednesday. Fuel and other assistance have also been given. The store and warehouse has moved to new quarters. Dick Silvia is the new president. Thanks were expressed to Dick Vincent who is stepping down as the president of St. Vincent de Paul after 6 years.

Mayor's Office - Deb Araujo will be the Grand Marshal for the Christmas parade on **12/3/06**. "Lights On" ceremony is **12/1/06**

Transitional Living Program is serving 8 families. Shelter capacity is at maximum throughout the state.

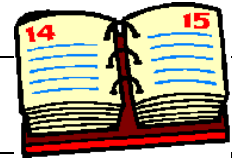
SNI Update – See page 6.

Commonwealth Family Child Care has a few income eligible slots open. Sliding scale & eligibility is based on service need. Teen program requires school attendance for those without GED or diploma.

Associates for Human Services: Annual Spaghetti Supper is on **11/20/06**. Dinner 5-6:30pm. Raffle 6:30-7:30. Tickets are \$7 Adults, \$5 Seniors/Children. Limited number of tickets at the door. Call **508 880-0202**.

Next Meeting: **11/14/06**, 9:30, GATRA Conference Room, Bloom Bus Terminal, Oak St.

Contact Person: Milly Burrows, **508-880-0202**



UPCOMING AREA MEETINGS/EVENTS

Nov. 14, 9:30	Taunton Emergency Task Force. GATRA Administrative Bldg, Conference Room, 10 Oak St.
Nov. 15, 8:00	Safe Neighborhood Initiative. Fairfax Gardens Community Room.
Nov. 15, 11am or 6:30pm	United Way Needs Assessment Focus Group: Basic Human Needs. 247 Maple St., Attleboro. Contact Marilyn, 508-431-0106.
Nov. 15, 3:00	GTHHSC Substance Abuse Committee. CCBC, Mill River Place
November 16	Great American Smoke Out. Quit smoking today.
Nov. 16, 5:00	SEMA-VAV (Domestic Violence Committee). Mass InfoTech, 9 (rear) Taunton Green
Nov. 21, 8:30	GTHHSC/CHNA24 Annual Breakfast Meeting. Taunton High School Cafeteria, 50 Williams St.
Nov. 30, 9am or 6:30pm	United Way Needs Assessment Focus Group: Healthy Communities. 247 Maple St., Attleboro. Contact Marilyn, 508-431-0106.
Dec. 1	World AIDS Day. A worldwide observance.
Dec. 5, 2:30	Domestic Violence Round Table. Fall River. Location TBA.
Dec. 7, 9am or 6:30pm	United Way Needs Assessment Focus Group: Children, Youth & Family. 247 Maple St., Attleboro. Contact Marilyn, 508-431-0106.
Dec. 6, 3:30	SART XII Planning Committee. CCBC.
Dec. 19, 9:00	GTHHSC Networking Meeting. A.H.S., 68 Allison Ave.
Dec. 19, 10:15	GTHHSC Child and Family Focus Committee. A.H.S., 68 Allison Ave.
Dec. 20, 8:00	Safe Neighborhood Initiative. Fairfax Gardens Community Room.

This month's Advocate was published by Lorraine Rosa, Coordinator, with funds from Drug Free Communities Grant Funding, GATHER MRI and GTHHSC dues. To submit an article, announcement or other information, email by **11/27/06**. You may also access copies of The Advocate at www.geocities.com/gathercoalition



GTHHSC
P.O. Box 2894
Taunton, MA 02780

Be sure to RSVP TODAY to our November 21, 2006 Annual Breakfast Meeting. See invitation on front page.

