



Tobacco Free Partnership of Dixie County

Monday, March 4, 2024 at 12:00 P.M.
Dixie County High School, Cross City, FL.

Meeting Minutes

I. Attendees:

1. Lola Butler, Chair
2. Amanda NesSmith, Co-Chair
3. Alex Santana, DOH – Gilchrist, Dixie, Levy
4. Amy Jones, DCHS SWAT Advisor
5. Melanie Anderson, QuitDoc, Tobacco Free Florida Provider, Dixie
6. Cassidy Terry, Hanley Foundation, Prevention Specialist
7. Shelby Langford Crawford, Hanley Foundation, Prevention Specialist
8. Lesley Hersey, LSF Health Systems
9. Monique Bessette, SRAHEC
10. Lisa McNeil, Hanley Foundation, Program Coordinator/Project Director, Implementation Grant
11. Christy Roberts, DCSO Sheriff's Executive Assistant
12. Lindsey Whittington, DCHS Assistant Principal
13. Jan Gonthier, DOH – Health Education Consultant
14. Erin Cahil, DOH – Minority Health
15. 18 SWAT Youth, L.L., J.P., M.S., M.Z., L.W., K.H., D.W., H.E., K.G., K.K., S.M., E.E., P.W., J.J., A.N., K.B., L.R., and J.T.

II. Old Business

- A. The last Partnership Meeting was held on December 8, 2023. Lindsey Whittington facilitated the meeting, Jan Gothier, FDOH-Dixie County presented on the FYTS and Amy Jones shared about Courts, and 20 SWAT youth attended.
- B. Amanda NesSmith attended the Tobacco Free Florida Partnership Training "Building and Scaling Coalition Capacity" Lola Butler was prevented from logging-in. Corrections have been made.

III. New Business

- A. Point of Sale Tobacco Products Policies
The partnership discussed any new opportunities to educate on the dangers of Menthol Cigarettes & possible CDC Ruling. The DCHS SWAT had met with the subcommittee to prepare to present on menthol tobacco and vape to Cross City on the Move. After the presentation, Cross City on the Move invited the partnership and SWAT to the Black History Celebration at Johnnie Greene Park. Two Partnership members and four SWAT youth attended the event. They set up a table and read over the Menthol Talking Points over the intercom to the attendees. Lesley Hersey shared that they will be promoting No Menthol Sunday at the UpLift event on April 5th at 9:00 a.m. This event will give them an opportunity to meet with local church leaders.
- B. Tobacco Free Worksites & K-12 Comprehensive Tobacco Control Policy
The Co-Chair, Amanda NesSmith shared that the School Board adopted the provision to Prevent acceptance of gifts from the tobacco industry on 1/11/2024.
Lisa McNeil of the Hanley foundation and the DCHS SWAT Advisor, Amy Jones discussed the Student Alternative to suspension Courses through Teen Court. Lindsey Whittington shared the ongoing concerns with vaping and is waiting on the DCADC to place the vape detectors in the bathrooms. The youth and the school staff reported a very strong need for detectors. Christy Roberts, the Sheriff's Executive Assistant, said that the schools resource officers will be monitoring the detectors for the schools.
The partnership members shared Providing Cessation Programs to Staff and Employees. Partners committed to find out if the school board health insurance policy could provide cessation or a quit attempt. Monique Bessette from SRAHEC shared the programs that could be promoted to the school staff. She shared the current notices of upcoming classes and volunteered to provide the school district with updated copies for the school district employees.
- C. Tobacco Free Parks and Beaches (County and City Policies)
The partnership members shared the success of the Dixie County Smoke-Free Ordinance that was adopted on 1/4/2024. They discussed how the county policy doesn't include vaping and how the partnership and SWAT may address adding vaping to the parks ordinance in the future.
The Tobacco Free Florida Provider, Melanie Anderson, had met with the DCHS SWAT and partnership members to train them on how to present to the Cross City Town Council about tobacco and vape free parks.
The DCHS SWAT presented to the Town Council on 1/26/2024 and the Council voted to approve a Tobacco and vape free parks ordinance with the same wording as the County to include compliance fee. The partnership members discussed creating signs for the two town parks and voted to seek a purchase approval for the signs. Metal signs are needed so that they can withstand better than any current signs at the parks that have been damaged.
- D. SWAT Reports
Ruth Rains Middle School SWAT, Jordan Butler Advisor shared a report with the partnership chair and Lola Butler reported that Ruth Rains Middle School had participated in several events at the school including Christmas Baskets, and Valentines

Cards to Staff for Through with Chew Week. They also plan to create Easter baskets and sponsor the Staff Appreciation Breakfast in April

Dixie County High School SWAT, Amy Jones, Advisor had 18 SWAT youth attend the partnership meeting to share the many things that they have been working on, including presentations to the Town Council and participating in the Black History Celebration to promote Menthol Tobacco Facts. The partnership members asked if the SWAT club would like to hold a booth at the April Cross City Centennial and participate in the parade. Amy Jones shared that they could participate in the parade with two other clubs that she sponsored, and the SWAT youth planned to meet next week to begin the planning. The SWAT youth also discussed how to participate in the Take Down Tobacco Day on April 1st. Linsey shared with the SWAT youth that there will be a school wide vaping presentation on April 1st for all grades. The SWAT youth discussed how they can address the staff with the vaping information at the same time.

The SWAT were invited to the Region 2 SWAT Meeting on Friday, June 7th 2024 in Starke, FL. One adult and 2 youth from Dixie may attend. The students discussed how they will already be out for the Summer. Lola Butler shared what a great experience it was when she attended a Regional Training with her daughter years ago.

- E. Melanie Anderson shared that the Bureau of Tobacco Free Florida Partnership Training: Building a Partnership Identity Training Dates are Tuesday, March 5th from 2:30pm-4:30pm EST or Friday, March 8th from 12:00pm-2:00pm EST. She asked if any of the partners would like to the links to register for the training. Four members volunteered to attend one of the two training sessions.
- F. The Dixie DOH attendees shared how they assisted in conducting the Florida Youth Tobacco Survey this week.
- G.

- IV. Quarter 4 Tobacco Free Partnership Meeting was discussed and planned for Friday, April 12, 2024 at 12:00 p.m. at Ruth Rains Middle School.