

HOUGHTON KEWEENAW COMMUNITIES THAT CARE

May Updates

ALL MEMBERS, NEED TO MEET: May 21, 1:00 – 2:00 at Copper Country Mental Health Institute 900 West Sharon Ave, Houghton MI

Our coalition is ready to come together to discuss the programs our Action Plan suggests. The Resource and Assessment group analyzed the existing programs in our area that addressed our two priority risk factors, low perceived risk of harm with drug use and depressive symptoms. Each of you were emailed the Action Plan draft, we are asking that you take a moment to review the draft and to meet with us on May 21st to give your input. If you are unable to attend, please send your feedback to either myself houghtonkeweenawctc@gmail.com or Kevin Weir kevin.weir@dialhelp.org, we will share your words at the meeting. I cannot express the importance of your presence and opinions on the Action Plan. As a coalition we need to all be informed and engaged in order to promote our goal of a healthy and safe environment for our youth. For your convenience, I am attaching the Action Plan draft please attend and bring your questions and enthusiasm!

SYNAR TOBACCO VENDOR EDUCATION: July 9th @ 9:00

Our group has been asked to participate in the Synar Tobacco Vendor Education project. We will pair up, one adult with one youth member. Please let me know if you are interested in participating in this July 9th campaign. Also, in June, the Western UP Health Department is looking for youths for a special portion of the campaign. Please contact Bonnie Morley at bmorley@wuphd.org if you are interested in participating.

LOGO PROGRESS:

Our logo should be completed by the end of this week. I am so excited to see what the final product will be. A HUGE thank you to Professor Tom Adolphs and Inseo Yoon for their hard work and creativity. The Youth Involvement group has fund raising plans that will help us cover the cost of banners and CTC promotions. Volunteers for these projects is welcomed please contact Hayley Beaudoin Youth Involvement Chair at hayleybctc@gmail.com.

IMPACT OF SUICIDE IN RURAL AMERICA,

Youth Involvement member and Dial Help Prevention Educator Chris Schuldt and myself, participated in a Impact of Suicide in Rural America webinar. I was pleased to hear the support of the Signs Of Suicide program that is one of the suggested programs in our Action Plan. Great job Resource Assessment group! They also discussed some financing options for this program and how to approach schools regarding the program. I requested the webinar notes and will share those in our next updates.

DRUG TAKE BACK CAMPAIGN:

I am pleased to say our Drug Take Back campaign was a huge success. We delivered the posters and cards to businesses throughout Houghton and Keweenaw Counties. I have boxes of small information cards on the Take Back sites for each county in the UP. If anyone would like to hand them out at their local church, veterinarian clinics etc to get the word out on how to return unused and outdated medications please contact me at mledoux@dialhelp.org .

Enjoy the beautiful weather, I hope to see you all on May 21st!