



DuPage County Prevention Leadership Team Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

9:00am-10:30am

ZOOM

Meeting Minutes

Members Present

<input type="checkbox"/> Sheila Adamo	Your Story Counseling	Healthcare Prof.
<input type="checkbox"/> Aisha Achesah	Advocate Health	Healthcare Prof.
<input type="checkbox"/> Katie Anderson	Gateway Foundation	Healthcare Prof.
<input type="checkbox"/> Andrew Anselm	DuMEG	Law Enforcement
<input type="checkbox"/> Jim Barber	DuCAP	Youth-Serving
<input type="checkbox"/> Betsy Boesch	DCHD	Local Government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jarrett Burton	Serenity House	Healthcare Prof.
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark Buschbacher	Serenity House	Healthcare Prof.
<input type="checkbox"/> Alicia Carlisle-Camacho	National Council for Mental Wellbeing	Youth-Serving
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matt Cassity	360 Youth Services	Youth Serving
<input type="checkbox"/> Molly Beck Dean	WeGo Together for Kids	Youth-serving
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leia Der	DCHD	Local Gov't.
<input type="checkbox"/> Kevin Dixon	DCHD	Local Gov't
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mimi Doll	DuPage Federation	Other Org.
<input type="checkbox"/> Deb Duvair	DuPage Community Foundation	Other Org
<input type="checkbox"/> Domincia Dybas	DEA	Law Enforcement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hannah Ewoldt	NEDFYS	Youth-Serving
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Flint	Flint Architects	Business
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Katie Gallagher	Robert Crown	Youth-Serving
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Samantha Gannon	AAIM	Other Organization
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concha Garza	Addison NRC	Youth
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jazmin Garza	Carol Stream PD	Law Enforcement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sherilyn Hebel	KidsMatter	Other Org.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Hess	Juvenile Justice Council	Youth-Serving
<input type="checkbox"/> Brenda Huber	Bloomingdale 708 Board	Other Org.
<input type="checkbox"/> Nicole Jordan	Teen Parent Connection	Youth-serving
<input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Dana Kalombo	Gentle Healer Acupuncture	Business
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Kaufmann	DCHD	Local Gov't

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Khadija Khan	Wheaton PD	Law Enforcement
<input type="checkbox"/> Geri Kerger	NAMI DuPage	Other Org.
<input type="checkbox"/> Alan Knudson	DUMEG	Law Enforcement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anthony Kozi	DUMEG	Law Enforcement
<input type="checkbox"/> Kristin Kramer	IL PTA	Parent
<input type="checkbox"/> Elisa Lara	VNA Healthcare	Healthcare
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nikki Lay	Breaking Free	Youth-Serving
<input type="checkbox"/> Deb Lewin	Path to Recovery	Other Org.
<input type="checkbox"/> Joe Lindt	DuPage State's Attorney	Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/> Jodi Macaluso	AMITA	Healthcare
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> James McGreal	Downers Grove PD	Law Enforcement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Becky McFarland	DCHD	Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/> Nina Menis	KidsMatter	Other Organization
<input type="checkbox"/> Felicia Miceli	Serenity House	Other Organization
<input type="checkbox"/> Crystal Milliner	DCHD	Local Gov't
<input type="checkbox"/> Mike Murray	Bloomingdale Mental Health Auxiliary	Civic
<input type="checkbox"/> Elizabeth Murphy	DCHD	Local Gov't.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emily Murskyj	DCHD	Local Gov't.
<input type="checkbox"/> Rabia Mukhtar	DCHD	Local Gov't.
<input type="checkbox"/> Patrick Nakamura	Teen Parent Connection	Other Org.
<input type="checkbox"/> Krystyna Olejnyik	Dayrise Wellness	Other Org.
<input type="checkbox"/> Patty O'Malley	HAS Cares	Youth-Serving
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nora Ortinau	DCHD	Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/> Karin Podolski	Northwestern Medicine	Healthcare
<input type="checkbox"/> Alex Pulaski	DCHD	Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/> Eric Pulia	Nat'l Guard	Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/> Amber Quirk	DuPage ROE	School
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Xrystina Rahn	Stef's Corner	Parent
<input type="checkbox"/> Alison Ramirez	GEPD	Law Enforcement
<input type="checkbox"/> Daniel Riemenschneider	Bloomingdale Church	Faith-based
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gilda Ross	Glenbard High Schools	School
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tricia Rossi	Hanover Park PD	Law Enforcement
<input type="checkbox"/> Angelika Rupp	St. Francis	School
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Becky Sadler	Rosecrance	Healthcare Prof.
<input type="checkbox"/> Travis Satterlee	Heritage	Health Professional
<input type="checkbox"/> Lynn Schmidt	St. Francis	School
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elise Schram	360 Youth Services	Youth-Serving
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Simmons	Northwestern Med.	Healthcare
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mary Soemo	Tri-Town YMCA	Other-org.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Solis	Community Engagement	Other-org.
<input type="checkbox"/> Danny Sourbis	ROSC	Other-org.
<input type="checkbox"/> Amit Thakker	Referral GPS	Other Org.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mila Tsagalis	DCHD	Healthcare
<input type="checkbox"/> Brittany Tyler	Your Story Counseling	Other Org.
<input type="checkbox"/> Valeri Varju	Birth to Five	Youth-Serving

<input type="checkbox"/> Sarita Velez	Healthcare Alternative Systems	Healthcare
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Krista Webb	DCHD	Healthcare
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carolyn Wahlskog	DCHD	Healthcare
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ida Westlove	Streamwood Behavioral Health	Healthcare
<input type="checkbox"/> Erin White	B.R. Ryall YMCA	Youth-Serving
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Karli Wilson	Teen Parent Connection	Other-Organization
<input type="checkbox"/> Kathy Zander	My Child's Life Matters	Other Organization

- **Welcome/Introductions – Amber Quirk, Co-Chair (9:00am-9:10am)**

The meeting started at 9:01am. Amber Quirk welcomed everyone and Jorie Esser took attendance.

- **2024 Survey on Mental Health of LGBTQ+ Young People in IL (9:10am-9:25am)**

Carolyn Wahlskog, LCSW, Director of Operations & Programming at Youth Outlook, presented on the Trevor Project's [Survey on Mental Health of LGBTQ+ Young People in IL](#). Suicide risk, anxiety, and depression are high among the group. Almost half of these youth want access to mental health care but are unable to receive it.

Carolyn shared Youth Outlook's document on [National Updates Regarding Trans Communities](#) which is updated as legislation and federal policy change. It also includes data based on the youth attending their [drop-in centers](#).

Email Carolyn at carolyn.wahlskog@youth-outlook.org if you want to join the West Suburban Community Network, which is a free monthly networking with like-minded professionals and community members on the 3rd Thursday of each month from 1-2pm. Youth Outlook is also hosting their [Future Outlook Conference](#) on April 10-11th in Naperville. Visit their website to register!

- **Current & Emerging Drug Trends – Nitrous Oxide (9:25am – 10:10am)**

Jarrett Burton, CRSS, DuPage ROSC Coordinator, presented on the history, use, and misuse of Nitrous Oxide. It is a colorless, non-flammable gas with a sweet odor. Commonly referred to as "laughing gas" or more recently "Galaxy Gas" (flavored N2O) or "whippets". Inhaling causes euphoria, dissociation, and even hallucinations or oxygen deprivation, which can affect brain functions. It cannot be detected on routine drug screens and is mistakenly seen as "safer" due to short-term effects.

Social media trends have been increasing use and popularity, especially among ages 18-21. Jarrett discussed treatment and prevention strategies, and suggested policy and regulatory measures. If you have questions, please send them to Jarrett at Jarrett.Burton@SerenityHouse.com

- **Upcoming Health Observances – Jordan Esser, PLT Coordinator (10:10-10:20am)**

April: Alcohol Awareness Month

Sticker Shock Campaign

This is a youth-led adult guided activity where teens go into dress/tux/other shops popular during prom season and add stickers reminding teens to be safe during prom.

Addison Townhall – April 15

PLT and Serenity House are co-hosting this event. PLT will be giving a presentation called “Help Teens Have a Summer to Remember” and Serenity House will be presenting on harm reduction. There will also be a resource fair for community organizations. Let Jorie know if you’re interested in having a table!

Mass Media Campaign

This campaign is aimed at reminding adults not to provide alcohol for teens.

May: Mental Health Month

Yard Sign Campaign

Teens will be putting out yard signs with 988 lifeline information. Send Jorie an email if you want a yard sign.

GPS events

May 1st: Dr. Singer – “Suicide Signs and Symptoms: Let’s Talk About IT”

May 6th: Dr. Ferguson – Early Childhood Event – “Everyday Principles to Grow Happy, Health and Smart Youth Children”

988 Mass Media Campaign

We are relaunching our holiday campaign on TikTok and YouTube with BHC.

Mental Health Cards

We have developed flip cards with tips on wellness, like positive self-talk, aimed at teens. Email Jorie if you want some!

• **Updates/Upcoming Events –Katie Gallagher, Co-Chair (10:20am-10:30am)**

March 4-5: IPN Springfield Advocacy Day

Group met with representatives to discuss funding of primary prevention, impact of marijuana, preventing youth vaping, and teen mental health.

Upcoming GPS events

Please see the [GPS website](#) for all upcoming speakers and events.

Free Narcan

Thanks to a partnership between DuPage ROSC and DNP, we have [sites](#) in the county for free Narcan pick up (2 are 24 hours a day).

Summer CGTI – Teen Leadership Conference

Teen leadership conference in July, focused on learning leadership, advocacy, and working on an action plan for Teen Ambassadors. We have space for three more teens if anyone is available! Let us know before March 31st.

PLT Meeting Schedule:

April 30th: 9:00am-10:30am via Zoom

The next PLT Monthly Meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 26 via zoom.

Meeting minutes were written by Krista Webb and edited by Jordan Esser. Please email Jordan at jordan.esser@dupagehealth.org with any changes or questions.