



DuPage County Prevention Leadership Team Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, April 30, 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 checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deb Duvair	DuPage Community Foundation	Other Org
<input checked="" 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"/> Donna Foyle	Serenity House	Other Org.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Katie Gallagher	Robert Crown	Youth-Serving
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Samantha Gannon	AAIM	Other Organization
<input type="checkbox"/> Concha Garza	Addison NRC	Youth
<input type="checkbox"/> Jazmin Garza	Carol Stream PD	Law Enforcement
<input type="checkbox"/> Sherilyn Hebel	KidsMatter	Other Org.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Hess	Juvenile Justice Council	Youth-Serving
<input type="checkbox"/> Brenda Huber	Bloomington 708 Board	Other Org.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nicole Jordan	Teen Parent Connection	Youth-serving
<input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Dana Kalombo	Gentle Healer Acupuncture	Business

<input type="checkbox"/> Scott Kaufmann	DCHD	Local Gov't
<input 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 type="checkbox"/> James McGreal	Downers Grove PD	Law Enforcement
<input 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	Bloomingtondale Mental Health Auxiliary	Civic
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elizabeth Murphy	DCHD	Local Gov't.
<input 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 checked="" 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	Bloomingtondale Church	Faith-based
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gilda Ross	Glenbard High Schools	School
<input 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 type="checkbox"/> Elise Schram	360 Youth Services	Youth-Serving
<input type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Simmons	Northwestern Med.	Healthcare
<input type="checkbox"/> Mary Soemo	Tri-Town YMCA	Other-org.
<input 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 checked="" 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"/> Annette Villarea	Serenity House	Healthcare Prof.
<input type="checkbox"/> Krista Webb	DCHD	Healthcare
<input type="checkbox"/> Carolyn Wahlskog	DCHD	Healthcare
<input 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

Guests/New Members:

Lori Carnahan, DuPage County Health Dept.

Lindsay Seifert, Teen Ambassador

Angela Molloy, Rogers Behavioral Health

- I. **Welcome/Introductions – Katie Gallagher, Co-Chair (9:00am-9:10am)**
 - The meeting began at 9:03am. Amber welcomed everyone and asked them to introduce themselves.

- II. **Crisis Recovery Center Update – Lori Carnahan, Deputy Director of Behavioral Health, DuPage County Health Department (9:10am-9:35am)**
 - Lori Carnahan provided an update on the Crisis Recovery Center (CRC), which will tentatively have its grand opening in late August.
 - DCHD currently provides the following crisis services:
 - 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline
 - DCHD Crisis Hotline (630-627-1700)
 - Mobile Crisis Response Team
 - Services include 24/7 mobile crisis response for adults and youth at location of crisis in order to determine appropriate level of care
 - On-site Crisis Evaluations
 - Services include walk-in evaluations
 - Crisis Respite
 - Services include 24/7 12-bed unit for adults who are experiencing an increase in psychiatric symptoms but do not require inpatient hospitalization
 - The CRC will be a collaborative effort with community partners to provide free comprehensive assessments, rapid stabilization, and a warm handoff to ongoing care for adults and youth (ages 5-17)
 - This will be the first model of its kind in the state of Illinois and is one of the first models in the country to incorporate youth
 - Individuals that live or work in DuPage County can stay up to 24 hours during a time of crisis and be directly connected with behavioral health staff to assist with stabilization
 - For questions or to coordinate a presentation for your organization, email CRC@dupagehealth.org.

- If your agency is interested in partnering with the CRC through an MOU to support bidirectional referrals, and be included in quarterly stakeholder meetings, please contact Kathy Carey at Kathleen.Carey@dupagehealth.org.
- The presentation slides will be sent out with the minutes.

III. **Reality/Teen Ambassadors Year End Round-Up – Lisa Lerner & Leia Der, Community Initiatives Coordinators, DuPage County Health Department (9:35am-9:50am)**

- Lisa and Leia provided an overview of Reality and Teen Ambassador accomplishments over the 2024-2025 school year and were joined by Lindsay Seifert, a Teen Ambassador from Glenbard West High School.
- Reality accomplishments include:
 - Teens partnered with the Glenbard High Schools to listen to a keynote speaker and make blankets to donate to Project Linus (Over 100 teens attended)
 - Teens partnered with KidsMatter and Glenbard High Schools to train 18 teens in mental health first aid.
 - Teens displayed 988 yard signs during the month of May for Mental Health Awareness Month.
- Teen Ambassador accomplishments include:
 - Teens assembled an executive board with three subcommittees: Community Events & Outreach, Mental Health Awareness Campaign, and School Initiatives
 - Teens introduced several speakers and guests for the GPS Parent Series
 - Teens voted on their favorite Tik Tok ad, Live Life Well Week flyer, and gave insight for PLT's parent communication guide about marijuana
 - Teens created a Teen Resource Guide to connect teens with vital services, support systems, and information promoting their well-being.
 - Teens conducted a sticker shock campaign geared towards prom vendors to remind teens to think about the consequences of underage drinking when picking up their prom essentials
- Administrative changes for next year will include:
 - Updating the website content to reflect current goals and priorities
 - Reorganizing to be limited to 10-15 teens who actively participate
 - Further emphasizing the policy and advocacy role of teens in the community
 - Requiring attendance at the monthly virtual check-ins to improve planning efforts
- Teen Ambassador applications are open to all Reality members and will be available until mid- to late-September. Interviews will then take place in early October.
 - Applications can be accessed here: www.duapgplt.org/214/Teen-Ambassadors

IV. **Mental Health Month Table Talk – All (9:50am-10:20am)**

- Members discussed their Mental Health Awareness month experiences:
 - *Things members learned/take-aways from mental health month events*
 - Professionals in the field are interested in attending other events but are too busy facilitating their own
 - More events could have spoken about the direct correlation between substance use and mental health
 - It would be beneficial to bring Dr. Singer into the schools to facilitate a roundtable with teachers and administrators about suicide

- He shared a story about a behavioral health facility that sent letters to check-in on their patients who previously attempted suicide. The results were immediately positive and identified a trend of lower levels of suicide attempts in individuals who received the letters. This signified the importance of keeping the dialogue open.
- *Strategies members would like to see PLT focus on regarding mental health*
 - Identifying what type of support parents need:
 - More education to identify the difference between feeling sad or upset versus having a mental health disorder and needing support
 - More support to talk about their personal experiences and struggles with their children
 - Providing support to parents in a way that meets them where they are at:
 - Conducting parent focus groups
 - Posting on-demand videos for parents on our website
 - Hosting virtual watch parties to debrief GPS Parent Series events
- *What could members do personally/through their organization to contribute to youth and adult mental health*
 - Being intentional in bringing back updates from coalition meetings and community events

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

- **GPS Parent Series**
 - Events have concluded for the school year and will resume in August
 - A list of events for 2025-2026 can be found [here](#)
- **Teen PhilanthroParty**
 - This year's Teen PhilanthroParty will be June 17 from 1-3pm at College of DuPage
 - All high school aged teens are welcome to attend to be inspired about how small choices today can create a brighter tomorrow!
 - Price of admission will be material donations to Stef's Corner (stress balls, coloring books, journals with prompts, etc.)
 - Stef's Corner was developed to support teen mental health and recently received its 501(c)(3) status
- **Community Survey**
 - PLT has relaunched their community survey in English and Spanish
 - Data collected through this survey will help the PLT in making data driven decisions, apply for additional grant funding, and better understand the needs related to youth substance use and mental health in DuPage.
 - Please participate in this survey and share within your contacts.

The next PLT Meeting will be June 25th, 9:00am – 10:30am, Via Zoom