

Raymond Coalition For Youth ~ Meeting Minutes
May 11, 2023 ~ 9:00 – 10:30 am
In Person at Raymond Baptist Church Basement



Present:22

School	Pat Arsenault, LEAP Abbi Massey, IHGMS Sam Horigam, Raymond School Dist
Health Care	Carli Hughes, Lamprey Health Care Samantha Arensom, Seacoast PH Network
Town/ Government	David Mara, Governor's Office Lilly Walsh, Rockingham Rep Tim Cahill, Rockingham Rep Tammy Reardon, Raymond Recreation Kristen Buckman - Dudley Tucker Library
Youth Serving	Pamela Turcotte - RCFY Finance Coordinator Celeste Clark - Exec Director, RCFY Pam Baker - RCFY Program Coord
Youth Law Enforcement	Kaylee McGlynn - Youth Action Jeff Trahant, DCYF, BJJS Paul Spera, DEA
Faith Based Service Organizations	David Newton, Raymond Baptist Church Ed Wood, Rotary & RCFY BOD
Volunteers	Marcia Garber, Volunteer Jim Tuttle, Volunteer
Community Resource Organ	Kathy McCarthy, Keller Williams Charity Rich McCarthy, KellerWilliams Charity

Welcomes, Introductions, Announcements were made.

Celeste then introduced Kathy and Rich McCarthy from Keller Williams Charity. They presented the Coalition with a check for \$2,500 which will be used in partnership with the Raymond Recreation Department for summer safety packs to go home with all registered students..

The next speaker introduced was Paul Spera, Special Agent in Charge from the DEA. He is responsible for Maine, NH, Mass and Vermont. He spoke on the drug network and what and how we are seeing the drug trends coming to the New England area.

Their operation focuses on going after the Cartels that transport drugs into the US before they are dispersed and cut for distribution and sale. The majority of drugs that enter through the border in Arizona are not sold in that area but transported to other states.

Drug deaths, the majority from Fentanyl, in the 12 month period 3/22 thru 4/23 was 108 thousand. The increase was from cartels transitioning from plant based to synthetic which is up to 50% stronger than plan based drugs and easier to produce.

New England does not have a large Mexican population so the Dominicans, who have a relationship with the Mexicans are the distributors in the NE area.

Heroin use has dropped to less than 10% and has been taken over by Fentanyl. It is disguised in pill form to copy legitimate prescription drugs and can be purchased on the internet. Six out of ten copycat pills contain a lethal dose of Fentanyl. The DEA seized 20.4 milling pills in 2020, increased to 57 million in 2022 and they estimated that will increase again this year. Two

milligrams is a deadly dose and it is estimated that 62% of seized pills contained a deadly dose. A lot of the drugs seized come in powder form. Powder can be cut multiple times.

Another product that is seeing an increase is Methamphetamine which was always a west coast problem until recently. Meth is a synthetic (stimulant) that is seeing a rise in NE. Meth is a crystal that cannot be cut and creates paranoia which results in criminal behavior and violence.

They are also finding Fentanyl is being mixed with Xylazine which is an animal tranquilized, not meant for human use. It creates terrible physical sores on the user.

In 2022 the DEA hosted a Family Summit on the OD experience which gave family members a framework to spread the word. The DEA Headquarters in DC has a lobby with over 5000 photos of people who have died. It is titled The Faces Of Fentanyl.

This was a great discussion followed by many questions. Following this Celeste gave a quick update to everyone on RCFY happenings.

- Operation Raymond Cleanup will take place with the HS on May 19, 2023 .
- Marijuana Bill in Concord HB 639 was voted ITL by the Judiciary committee and was going to the full Senate for vote later this afternoon..
- DEA Take Back collected 121 pounds of RX and OTC drugs.
- Prevention Summit is scheduled for October 20, 2023
- Fundraising Gala is scheduled for March 23, 2024

Thank you for joining us today, being an RCFY advocate, passing along the information learned today, and encouraging others to learn more and get involved.

Next Meetings June 8, No July Meeting, Aug 10, 2023

Mission Statement:

The Raymond Coalition For Youth empowers the community to promote positive youth development and reduce youth substance use and suicide risk.

Promoting Positive Healthy Choices for our Youth!

www.rcfy.org

