

# **Minutes**

11/16/17

"The Tobacco-Free Collier Partnership works to develop and promote policies which reduce the use and effects of tobacco in Collier County"

### Welcome/Introductions

Caren welcomed the members and the group of nursing students from FGCU who were observing a community based partnership in action as part of their community outreach experience.

Jennifer Gomez, Director of Community Health Promotion & PIO, Community Health Promotion Florida Department of Health in Collier County announced the hiring of Nina Garcia as the new Program Manager for the Tobacco Prevention program. Nina will start December 1, 2017.

Today is the Great American Smokeout!

Review Previous Minutes – approved

## **Activity Updates**

- Staff provided visual updates on the new Hodges University Tobacco Free webpage.
- The new suggestive signage for smoke free beaches was shown. All the signs have been
  delivered to the county but to our knowledge they have not been installed. Partnership members
  were asked to be on the lookout and send in photos if they see one of the signs at the beach
  access points.
- Melissa briefly shared information about the Great American Smokeout activities taking place today at worksites and organizations throughout Collier County.
- Cris provided an overview of SWAT youth activities since the last meeting: A Collier youth representative attended the Region 4 meeting in St. Lucie County. Students participated in a Halloween activity at the Golden Gate Community Center highlighting "Scary Tobacco." After a slow start due to the impact of the hurricane, clubs are now meeting on a regular basis. Several clubs conducted red ribbon activities related to tobacco use at their school; this week they are conducting a variety of GASO activities within their schools. Despite their enthusiastic interest, SWAT youth did not show to the November 4, 2017 canal cleanup, but several advisors did attend.

# **New Activities and Business**

Assurance of Voluntary Compliance Agreements (AVCs) Cris conducted a short presentation on AVCs as a part of our ongoing efforts to look at tobacco marketing at the point of sale in our community. The Partnership has been asked to conduct surveillance on local AVC retail establishments. Several members indicated a willingness to assist with the surveys. Melissa and Cris will coordinate an in depth training for interested individuals in early December.



Caren reviewed the draft Partnership summary with members and asked for critical feedback. Editing suggestions were made and four members agreed that we should include additional local statistics. Staff will make the revisions and send to Chair for final approval.

### **Other Business**

Partnership member, Robert Ostbye provided the other members with a legislative update on tobacco related issues.

SB 562 – Maintains the states authority to regulate of smoking but allows that municipalities and counties may further restricts smoking within the boundaries of any public parks they own.

SB 124- Repeals provisions of the Tobacco Settlement Agreement

#### Corrective Statements

On November 26, cigarette manufacturers will place ads in over three dozen newspapers and broadcast primetime television ads on all of the major networks. Millions of Americans will be told the truth about the harmful effects of tobacco products, and, for the first time ever, this information will be paid for by tobacco companies themselves. These court-ordered "corrective statements" announce what the industry actually knew about nicotine addiction and tobacco-caused disease for many years, despite its public denials.

The statements, being disseminated <u>as a result of a 2006 federal court ruling that the major cigarette</u> <u>manufacturers violated racketeering laws</u>, will convey the harms of smoking and secondhand smoke, the nature of nicotine addiction, the industry's manipulation of nicotine delivery, and the harmfulness of "light" cigarettes. They will <u>not</u> reveal the cigarette companies' history of deceptive acts to hide these and other truths.

**Next Partnership Meeting: January** 18, 2018 at 4:00 pm

### **Upcoming Dates:**

- AVC surveillance training Friday, December 8, 2018, Florida Dept. of Health in Collier County Rm 206, 12 Noon- 1:30, brown bag lunch
- Quit Smoking Now cessation classes (once a week for 6 sessions) open to the public <a href="http://www.ahectobacco.com/calendar-2/">http://www.ahectobacco.com/calendar-2/</a>
  - For more information or to register call the Everglades Area Health Education Center (EAHEC) at 877-819-2357 or email info@ahec.org
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**Upcoming New Class location –open to anyone at Avow Hospice, 1095 Whippoorwill Ln,** Starts January 9<sup>th</sup> continues every Tuesday Through Feb 13, 2018