

**West Hartford Prevention Council
Regular Meeting
Thursday, December 14, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.
West Hartford Town Hall, Room 217**

MINUTES

1. Roll Call: Present Carl Shields, Howard Dashefsky, Nordia Napier, Megan Polite, Jessica , Katie Bond, Megan Jon(Student Rep) Bob Macca, Chris Dutton. Other: Tor Fiske, Nicholas Sanford, Joseph Hopkins, Kelly Waterhouse, Gretchen Levitz, Susan Walsh
2. Approval of Minutes from November 9, 2023 were unanimously approved.
3. Old Business: None
4. New Business
 - a. Terms of Office and Vacancies
 - New: Megan Polite will replace Chris Dutton (Bridge)
 - Katie Bond (Clinical School social worker at KP)
 - b. Clinical Professional/Drug and Alcohol and Sedgewick staff will be added
 - d. Final copy of 2023 and Recommendations 2024 were distributed.
 - e. SBDI: School Based Diversion Initiative - Restorative Training/Network shared language and purpose creating community and belonging. Each school has their own team to deter school to prison pipeline.
5. Standing Reports
 - a. **Social Services:** Kelly Waterhouse reported: Social Services distributed gift cards through their Holiday Children Program December 13 and 18. \$25/per child. Community members and businesses adopted families for holidays. Referrals for youth has increased. JRB referrals have increased. Buried in Treasure Support Group will resume in January. Strategic panning with community wide survey, focus groups will begin in January. For information on Buried in Treasures: <https://we-ha.com/west-hartford-social-services-offering-buried-in-treasures-decluttering-workshop/>
 - b. **Health District:** Susan Walsh reported: Naracan and QPR trainings continue to be held in schools and community. Also being offered in other languages including, Spanish, Portuguese, Mandarin and Cantonese. Discussion of OD2A Grant. For more information on QPR in general <https://www.qprinstitute.com>

c. **WHPD-** Joseph Hopkins: High Schools have rolled out use of wands/ safe searches to encourage students to turn over suspected items willingly. This is done by school administrators or school security. Social media, will look at getting updates from each school so that we can understand how information can be disseminated best in each school and to get updated information.

c. **WHPS-** Jessica Evans: DATT is in both high schools to address repeated nicotine, vape, alcohol. Vaping increases lung and brain damage.

d. **YSB (The Bridge)**-Megan Polte: Unveiling updated teen center located at the Elmwood Community center. Includes ping pong, gaming, lounge, school work, teen nights. Open MWF 2:30-5 (1:30 on Wednesdays). For information on the Bridge Teen Center: <https://www.bridgefamilycenter.org/how-we-help/youth-and-family-services/teen-center/>

Still spaces available for PLTI which begins January 13.

<https://www.bridgefamilycenter.org/how-we-help/family-resource-centers/programs/plti/>

e. **Prevention Partnership Coalition-** Discussion of Local Prevention Grant through Amplify, State Opioid Response Grant, Suicide Prevention (QPR) and Narcan Training. Spring Resource Fair. Presentation of QPR in English and Portuguese at Conard for students. Exploration of Mayor's Youth Council collaboration (. <https://www.westhartfordct.gov/government-services/boards-commissions/mayors-youth-council>)

6. **Public Comment:** None

7. **Adjournment-** Motion was made to adjourn at 6:02pm. It was unanimously passed.

Next meeting Thursday January 11, 2023 5:00 pm Town Hall Room 217

Anyone requiring auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or modification of policies or procedures to participate in a meeting, service, program or activity of the Town of West Hartford, should contact Suzanne Oslander, ADA Coordinator, at suzanne0@westhartfordct.gov or 860-561-7580, as soon as possible, preferably seven days beforehand.