



## May 24, 2017 Minutes

Location: HealthPark Medical Center, Sanibel-Captiva Conference Room, First Floor  
9981 S Healthpark Dr, Fort Myers, FL

**Present:** Deborah Comella, Frank Gluck, Kevin Kirkwood, Leslie Robinson, Jill Carpenter, William Liu, Marian Wilmington, Carolina Ferrer, Vanessa Guzman, Pat Dolce, Shelby Gilbert, Nanacy Vossler, Cheryl Garn, Cathy Timuta, Theresa Eland

**Minutes:** Theresa Eland

The meeting opened at 12:10 pm.

Topic	Discussion	Action Items
1. Welcome and Introductions	<p>Cathy welcomed the group and introduced the co-presenters, Dr. William Liu with Golisano Children’s Hospital and Deb Comella with the Coalition for Drug-Free Southwest Florida</p> <p>The goals for today’s meeting are to provide an update on the problem in the county, Florida and nation (data), and have each partner agency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe their role in working with substance using pregnant women and new mothers as well as substance exposed newborns.</li> <li>• Discuss what they see is working well for this population in the community, and what is not.</li> <li>• Discuss what they wish could change if they could.</li> </ul>	
2. Data: National, Florida, Lee County	<p>Cathy presented data on opioid use and dependence for pregnant women and neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) for newborns at the national and state level.</p> <p>Dr. Liu presented NAS admissions data for 2005-2016 and NAS data for mothers on methadone treatment (corrected data).</p> <p>Deborah presented the big picture of drug use in Lee County including the contributing factors of marijuana and prescription drug use / misuse in Lee County.</p> <p>The PowerPoint with the data above will be available on the Healthy Start website on the Substance</p>	<p><b>Cathy</b>—check on updated data for the state from AHCA for 2014-2016.</p> <p><b>All</b>—PowerPoint with the data will be posted on the SEN page at <a href="http://www.HealthyStartBaby.org">www.HealthyStartBaby.org</a></p>

Topic	Discussion	Action Items
	Exposed Newborn web page ( <a href="http://www.HealthyStartBaby.org">www.HealthyStartBaby.org</a> ) and will be sent to the group by email.	
3. Current Process	<p>The group discussed the barriers for substance involved families, and what changes need to be made to our system in Lee County. Comments included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to use a non-judgmental approach.</li> <li>• Ask mom how to help; understand what her challenges are. She needs to feel safe to disclose. Open the lines of communication to gain her trust in order to best help.</li> <li>• Need to ensure there is a safety net in place and link her to resources.</li> <li>• The community needs to understand there is a problem.</li> <li>• Need to start with educating medical providers. They are not aware of the extent of the problem, or the resources in the community.</li> <li>• Mothers have complained that they did not understand what would happen after the baby is born. Need to provide education on what to expect with DCF and other partners before delivery and include a hospital tour.</li> <li>• Would like to establish a partnership with PAR to offer family planning and educate clients on NAS.</li> <li>• Need to get to mothers BEFORE they get pregnant.</li> <li>• Need outreach and education for the community and more access to birth.</li> <li>• Not to include a focus on the male in family planning.</li> <li>• Federal money is coming. How do we best partners to drive change in our community? Clarified the funding does not include prevention activities.</li> <li>• Women don't know what NAS is. Need brochures, communication, and resources.</li> <li>• Need to work on destigmatizing the issue. Moms need to know that they will be supported.</li> <li>• There is no housing for mothers with children to get treatment.</li> </ul> <p>Cathy noted that if you think of additional items you would like to add to the list, please send her an email.</p>	<p><b>All</b>—email Cathy with addition barriers, or wish lists.</p>
4. Other Discussion	Deborah noted that there are still a few spots open for an upcoming training on prescription pills, heroin and opioids. Please contact her if you would like to attend.	<b>All</b> —contact Deborah if you would like to attend the training.
5. Next Steps	<p>Cathy reviewed the road map for the next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue the process scenarios for newborns, pregnant women, and women of childbearing age.</li> <li>• Map the current process</li> <li>• Look at best practices in Florida</li> </ul>	

Topic	Discussion	Action Items
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="451 142 1081 170">• Identify strategies to address our local challenges</li><li data-bbox="451 175 798 203">• Create a community plan</li></ul>	<b>All</b> —Invite other representatives to join us.

The meeting concluded at 1:00pm.

**NEXT MEETING: June 28, 12:00 – 1:00 pm at HealthPark. Location of the conference room will be emailed.**