

SAPCA STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING Minutes
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2008
COMMUNITY SERVICES BUILDING, 720 N. SAINT ASAPH STREET

Attendees:

Allen Lomax, Chair
Tricia Bassing, CSB
Mary-Jane Atwater, Atwater Communications
Mary Riley, CSB Chair, Mental Health Anti-Stigma HOPE Campaign
Deborah Warren, CSB
Captain William Johnson, Police
Mary Flynt, ACPS
Thomas J Sullivan, ACCESS
Christy Esposito-Smythers, George Mason University
Jerome Short, George Mason University
Carrie Fesperman, Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria

- I. Welcome and Introductions. A. Lomax, Chair of SAPCA.
- II. Factors in Alexandria Youth Substance Abuse. J. Short and C. Esposito-Smythers of George Mason University presented the report of their analysis of the Developmental Assets Report, YRBSS, and the Qualitative Assessment of Alexandria Youth Substance Use. The report was divided into the perspectives of different community stakeholders: youth, parent, school, law enforcement, business community, youth service provider, faith community, and general community.

The Strategic Planning Committee felt that the report was well done and provided a needed perspective of the state of substance use/abuse affairs in the community. The committee offered the following suggestions:

- Divide the report by theme instead of stakeholder perspectives
- Provide SAPCA and the community with direction for strategies to address the issues that are described in the report. What can be done to address the problems raised?
- Pull in more specific local data since we have it available. If possible, include quotes as well.
- Provide an executive summary that frames the issues presented.

- III. SAPCA Work Plan – A. Lomax reviewed the work plan that he had drafted and solicited feedback from the Committee. The work plan included several broad strategies/activities: 1) Community needs assessment, 2) Communications/campaign plan, 3) Capacity building, 4) Community building, 5) Drug Free Communities Grant, 6) SAPCA coordinator, 7) SAPCA governance.

The Strategic Planning Committee decided to make the following changes/additions:

- 1) Community Needs Assessment: Seek youth involvement in the development of intervention mapping and logic modeling. Add a plan for sustainability.
- 2) Communications Plan: Include roll out of first report. A. Lomax will invite City Council and School Staff to briefing meeting.
- 4) Community Building: Brief Department Heads at their monthly meeting. Brief the City/Schools Staff Group. Identify relevant boards and commissions to brief about the SAPCA report (e.g., Multicultural Coalition, Youth Council, Honors Society).
- Add an eighth strategy, titled Evaluation. Include monitor YRBSS/Developmental Asset data in subsequent years.