



St. Joseph County
Health Improvement Alliance

Meeting Minutes Thursday, Nov. 14, 2019

Ivy Tech Community College

Thanks to Beacon Community Impact for providing breakfast.

Find slides from this meeting's presentations, a list of members, upcoming events, and past minutes at www.healthalliancesjc.org.

- 1) Jim Baxter, Alliance coordinator, welcomed members. He noted that two community efforts—Recovery Café and Mobile Opioid Response—have been initiated in the past year as a result of cooperation among Alliance members. Both address opioid addiction. Establishing two quality health responses that quickly indicates “there is nothing we can’t do,” Baxter said.
- 2) Brian Mounts of the Alliance marketing and communications committee, asked members to watch for an upcoming 10-question survey to address improvements in meetings and the webpage and other networking opportunities
- 3) Kari Frame and Teresa M. Dobrzykowski of IUSB described the 20-plus year history of IUSB’s Health and Wellness Center, which has grown from a single office to a major presence in Vera Z. Dwyer Hall. Originally, they served students, faculty and staff, but have expanded certain services to the community. These efforts are complemented by the presence of the Healthlinc clinic, which shares space in Dwyer Hall. The center offers reproductive health care, testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections, HIV screening, TB testing and treatment, physical exams and drug screenings. They offer adult immunizations (317) but not pediatric immunizations. The Health and Wellness Center welcomes promotion by members of the Alliance, but encourages patients to call before coming in. Center partners include AIDS Ministries and the St. Joseph County Health Department.
- 4) A team representing ClubHouse of St. Joseph County including Mark Buchanan described the work they do with clients who suffer from mental illness. The ClubHouse is located in between the South Bend YMCA and The Brick. It is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and provides a place for those who are isolated by mental illness to find food (lunch) and companionship. In addition, the staff prepares clients to enter or reenter the workforce by providing pre-employment skills training. In its fourth year of operation, it has placed 83 clients in jobs. It also helps clients enroll in educational programs and, in the case of the homeless, to find housing.
- 5) Ian Hurst, Region 2 Coalition Coordinator of the Indiana Trafficking Victims Assistance Program (an initiative of the Indiana Youth Services Bureau) serves St. Joseph, Elkhart, Marshall, Kosciusko, Fulton, Cass and Miami counties. They provide education for youth workers, police and professionals as well as middle and high school students. They manage a safe station in

South Bend. They frequently work with Indiana State Police to investigate and prosecute human trafficking. In Indiana, the number of reported cases is increasing rapidly (40 investigated in 2014, 160 in 2018). Rehabilitation resources are provided through Bashor children's home in Elkhart. He welcomes requests for training. Information about human trafficking at both the national and state level can be found at Polaris.org.

- 6) FSSA representatives encourage all to continue to work on enrolling residents in Gateway to Work even though the work requirement has been temporarily suspended in the wake of a federal lawsuit.

The January 16, 2020 meeting will take place at Howard Park!