

**Advancing Our Community
Behavioral Health committee
March 7, 2008**

In attendance: Gordon Blue- SCPS, Shannon Boussom- STA, Annette Becker- YAS, David Voluck - YAS, Kristi Coltharp – SCPS/BMS, Marilyn Lande – SEARHC Clinic 2, Kelly Warren – Raven’s Way, Michael Lande - SCPS, Curt Ledford – Community Schools, Priscilla Peele - STA, Terry McGraw - STA, Paulette Moreno – STA, Kayla Boettcher – AOC.

Meeting #2 focused on Minor Consuming in Sitka. (See also: notes from Feb 22.)
The group reviewed the list of questions they developed at the last meeting and identified the best sources for the answers (see list at end of this document).

People to be contacted for information (and who will contact them):

- Police – Sheldon (Curt)
- DJJ – Tom (Kelly)
- City attorney’s office – Theresa/Sharon (Teri)
- MEHS - Bernie Gurule, John Delong – (Kayla)
- Prosecutor – Julie Willoughby (David)
- Public defender - Jude Pate – (David)
- STA (TIDE) – Shannon Boussom and Teri
- SCPS – Gordon
- Community Schools – Curt
- Sitka School District – Howard Wayne, Charlie Robidou (Curt/Kristi)

The question arises: Is it true that kids could be caught with marijuana or prescription drugs and not referred to police? (school policies – instead of just having disciplinary measures, could the school official make a referral for an assessment to be done; a way to avoid the felony charges but still get help for the kid? or a deal between school and DJJ that they get a chance at assessment before charges?) (DJJ)

One person says she’d like to see this group put together a brochure that outlines what happens when a MC is issued: options, resources, process; info for parents, students, organizations – how to guide through the process and make best decisions for each case/family. Also, what consequences there could be for adults who buy for minors.

Ask students that have been through these programs, ask them speak about what they feel would work for them, make suggestions; youth court incorporated into this process,

Invite OCS to attend the meeting

Date for meeting: Poll invitees for best time of day; Thursday evening April 17 at 6:30 pm or Friday afternoon, April 18th at 2 pm.

Facilitator: Kayla/Matthew or David V?

Provide coffee, tea, and snacks

Questions:

City attorney

- What is a Minor Consuming citation? What does it mean? Who is considered a “minor”?
- What happens after the citation has been issued? What options are given to the youth?
- Why do MCs go to adult court and not juvenile justice?
- How many Minor Consuming citations have been issued this year? How does this compare to past years?
- What differences are there between a citation for a first offense and one given to someone who has a record of previous offenses?
- How many Sitka youth have gone through the district court for Minor Consuming this year? How does that compare to past years?
- Do you keep historical records on recidivism? If so, what are the statistics on repeat offenders?

Police

- What determines when a Minor Consuming citation is issued? If a youth is caught drinking, do they always get an MC, or are there other considerations?
- If a youth is caught smoking marijuana, what happens? What are the local statistics and trends on marijuana citations? Is that also an MC, or a different charge?
- If a youth is found with prescription drugs, what happens? What are the local statistics and trends on prescription drug use among youth?
- What efforts are being made to stop adults from buying for minors? What are the consequences for an individual or a business that is caught selling to a minor?
- What happens if you receive a report of a parent drinking with his/her child, or providing alcohol to minors at a party?

District Attorney and Public Defender

- When do the District Attorney and Public Defender get involved with Minor Consuming citations? What is the process after you’ve received a case? What are the possible outcomes from a court hearing?
- How many Sitka youth have gone through the district court for Minor Consuming this year? How does that compare to past years?
- What is the process for a first offense vs. a subsequent offense?
- What influences the court’s decision to refer a youth for a drug/alcohol assessment?
- What is an affidavit of noncompliance?
- Do you keep historical records on recidivism? If so, what are the statistics on repeat offenders?
- Do consequences ever include responsibilities for parents? If not, are there any legal possibilities for requiring substantive involvement for parents/custodians/guardians (e.g. required classes)?
- When community service is assigned, are the kids provided any help to determine what they can do to fulfill their hours?

DJJ

- How/when does the Department of Juvenile Justice get involved in cases of Minor Consuming?
- What are the local statistics and trends on marijuana use among youth? If a minor is caught smoking marijuana, what happens?

- What are the local statistics and trends on prescription drug use among youth? If a minor is caught with prescription drugs, what happens?

SCPS

- How many youth have been to SCPS for alcohol assessments and/or treatment in the last year? How does this compare with past years?
- Do you see repeat offenders? How frequently?
- What prevention programs are currently being offered in Sitka? What ages/grade levels do students participate in these programs? How many students receive this prevention education? For how many years have you been offering these programs?

Community Schools

- What prevention programs are currently being offered in Sitka? What ages/grade levels do students participate in these programs? How many students receive this prevention education? For how many years have you been offering these programs?

STA

- Describe the process for a youth who has been cited with a Minor Consuming: how/when does s/he get referred to Tribal Court?
- How many Sitka youth have gone through the Tribal Court for Minor Consuming this year? How does that compare to past years?
- What is the process after the Tribal Court receives a case? What are the possible outcomes from a court hearing?
- Are parents/guardians/custodians ever involved with the consequences of a youth's offense?
- When community service is assigned, are the youth provided any help to determine what they can do to fulfill their hours?

MEHS

- What is the MEHS process when a student is caught with alcohol, marijuana, or other drugs? Are all of your cases referred to the Sitka Police?
- Do you make assessment referrals to any local treatment agencies, or are those referrals made from the courts? If you make them, what influences your decision to make that referral?
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Sitka School District

- Do you make assessment referrals to any local treatment agencies, or are those referrals made from the courts? If you make them, what influences your decision to make that referral?