

Minutes



The Grand Forks Tobacco Free Coalition is a group of citizens working together to create and promote a healthier, tobacco-free community through education, legislation, and enforcement of policies.

Tuesday, January 9th, 2018

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Grand Forks Public Health Department

Members Present: Haley Thorson, Kailee Dvorak, Sarah Odegard, Bethany Satrom, Jodi Rambert, Robin Landwehr and Keith Westerfield

I. Welcome and Introductions

Haley opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Introductions were done.

II. State Plan Updates/Workgroups

Tobacco Prevention work has shifted to ND Department of Health and work on policy continues. Model policies are being reviewed and updated by workgroups. NDDoH is contracting with the Tobacco Control Legal Consortium to review/update policy group recommendations.

NDQuits ads have been running on television from the start of the New Year.

III. Tobacco Free North Dakota (TFND) Memberships/Annual meeting

GFTFC connected with Heather Austin, Executive Director of TFND, with an update on highlights of the last year and what to look forward to in the New Year. She was excited that membership increased greatly; believed due to personal relationships, and thinking 'outside-of-the-box' regarding membership. TFND was approved this year as a 'Giving Hearts Day' entity, on February 8th. Regular single membership is \$25, but some people are waiting to renew or become a new member until this day because their dollars will be doubled. Heather also touched on preparing for the next legislature session in the spring of 2019.

For more information or for membership, check out: www.tfnd.org/join-tfnd.

IV. Member Sharing

Jodi – Social norms are changing on campus with e-cigarettes. Surveys show students believe about 80 percent of students are using e-cigs, when actual use is more around eight percent. Media campaigns are being done to show the discrepancies. Follow-up to a disrespectful vaping incident last month on-campus was also discussed.

Robin – VCHC will start doing medication assisted treatment in the next few months for people with opioid addiction. When they start seeing these patients, they need to ask about tobacco use also; and not forget to offer other types of cessation. They have hired a psychologist, Desiree, who starts in February. Nurse coordinators have also been hired to work with providers and clients to better serve the client's needs. It helps to have providers and leaders willing to take risks on evidence-based practices that are not popular, i.e. tobacco cessation as part of addiction treatment. They do not want people to fight through their opioid addiction, only to die from tobacco.

Haley – There is now an online referral for ND Quits on the NDDoH website (no paperwork required!), so it removed the barrier of making the first call. Fax referrals can also still be done as before.

V. Next Meeting – February 13th, 2018

VI. Upcoming Events/Observances

- Giving Hearts Day', February 9th, 2018
- Save-the-Date: Nicotine Dependence Conference, February 26-27, 2018 in Bismarck
- Tobacco Site Coordinators Meeting, February ?, 2018 in Bismarck
- Clearing the Air – Institute for Policy Advocacy, May 1-3, 2018 in Branson, MO
- World 'No-Tobacco Day', May 31, 2018