

Governor's Commission for a Drug Free Indiana

A Division of the



Comprehensive Community Plan

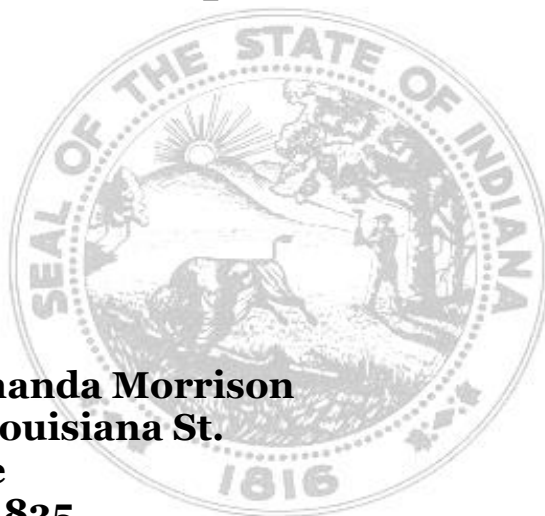
County: Lake

LCC: Lake County Substance Abuse Council

Date Due: May 2017

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New Plan **Plan Update**



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Plan Summary

Mission Statement: Mission Statement: The mission of the Council will be to reduce the incidence and prevalence of substance abuse and addictions among adults and children in Lake County.

History: From 1989 – 2004 the Lake County LCC was the Partnership for a Drug Free Lake County (PDFLC), a private non-profit corporation. In 2002, the PDFLC, through a strategic planning process identified recommendations for modification of the existing LCC structure; however, they were never fully implemented. During the last two years of its existence as an LCC, the PDFLC became the subject of public criticism. The criticism was based on the administrative costs and self-elected Board of Directors. The disintegration of the LCC's effectiveness, combined with the increasing use of Drug Free Community funds for administrative costs, lead to calls for significant change in the functioning of the LCC.

With the election of a new County Sheriff in 2002, a process was initiated that would ultimately result in the creation of a new LCC. The Sheriff and the Prosecutor presented a formal request to the Governor's Commission for a Drug Free Indiana Steering Committee on April 10, 2003. After hearing presentations from both sides, the Steering Committee was presented with consideration of the transfer of an LCC designation from an established organization to one that had yet to be fully formed. At the local level, the Sheriff and the Prosecutor were able to secure local support.

Rather than issue a ruling, the Steering Committee ordered that both sides attempt to reach an agreement. On May 1, 2003, a local agreement was reached that detailed a transfer of the LCC to the Lake County Drug Free Alliance (LCDFA) on December 31, 2003.

The transfer of the LCC from a private non-profit to a government agency was the first such action in the history of the Governor's Commission for a Drug Free Indiana.

The LCDFA was required to submit a five-year Comprehensive Community Plan as well as create an organization that could function as an LCC. The development of the plan and the formation of an organizational structure occurred simultaneously. The transfer of the LCC to a public agency required a planning process that vested fiscal oversight more directly with public officials. It was also recognized that the planning process recognized the need to encourage volunteer participation by sharing certain decision-making processes within the membership. The creation of the new LCC structure thus sought a balance between the need to give volunteer participants a sense of ownership with the need to provide strong oversight and direction by public officials. The resulting LCC structure achieved this balance in several ways:

- LCC Board Members may be nominated by the membership, with approval by the Co-Chairs.

- The Sheriff and the Prosecutor are permanent Co-Chairs.
- Decision of the Co-Chairs requires agreement, with the Board voting in the absence of such agreement.
- The Board and membership are equally represented on the Oversight Committee, which evaluates the DFCF grant applications and slates annual Board nominations.
- DFCF grant requests are submitted to the Sub-committees, which offer recommendations to the Oversight Committee.
- The membership active in the sub-committees, share in decision making and strategic planning through a review of grant applications, consideration of Board nominations, and representation on the Oversight Committee.

Under the LCC structure, the Oversight Committees serves as a neutral body that is equally representative of the membership and the Board of Directors. It is within the Oversight Committee that the balance sought in the LCC structure will be practiced. Approval of the plan designation as the LCC was received from the Governor's Commission for a Drug Free Indiana on December 15, 2003, effective January 1, 2004.

On November 15, 2010, the Lake County Sherriff and Lake County Prosecutor disbanded the Drug Free Alliance. Geminus Corporation submitted an application for funding for administrative privileges for the Lake County, Local Coordinating Council (LCC) in 2011. The Governor's Commission for a Drug Free Indiana granted Geminus Corporation administrative privileges for the LCC in March of 2011. The newly organized LCC is now known as the Lake County Substance Abuse Council, LCSAC.

In March of 2011, Geminus sent out an invitation through an advertisement in two local newspapers, the Northwest Indiana Times and the Post Tribune in the legal notice section under open-door notices, to the public and sent out e-mail invitations to all former members that Geminus was aware of from the former LCC, Drug Free Alliance. Geminus also invited all of their local partners to join the newly formed LCC- Lake County Substance Abuse Council and subcommittees. The new LCSAC met monthly in 2011 to select board members and form 4 subcommittees: By-law subcommittee, Treatment Subcommittee, Prevention/Education Subcommittee and Law Enforcement subcommittee and the general LCSAC.

In August 2011, a full-time coordinator was hired. Also during this time a set of by-laws were approved and the LCSAC Executive Board was appointed. This Executive Board consisted of 7 members, LCSAC Chair, LCSAC Vice-chair, LCSAC Secretary, and the Chairs of the 4 standing committees: Prevention, Treatment, Law Enforcement, and By-Law. In October 2011, our LCSAC Chair resigned because of prior commitments and our vice-chair took over duties of the chair. From October –December 2011, the board only consisted of 6 members because a new board was being slated in December 2011 with the general membership voting on the slate then. On December 14th, 2011, a 7 member

executive slate was put up for approval by the LCSAC active members. At this time the slate was approved, and since that time we have had a 7-member Executive Board in place.

In December 2011, the first LCSAC grant cycle was announced to the council members and advertised in the local newspapers. With the past roll-over money and the 2011 collections, each category had about \$161,000 to grant out to the three categories. Mandatory grant workshops were held in February 2012 and grant were due at the end of March. A five-member grant selection committee was chosen. These individuals were county residents outside of the council and were not applying for grant money. The LCSAC board chose to select committee members this way to have a transparent and neutral grant review and scoring process. At the May 2012 LCSAC General Meeting, the grants were announced and approved, with the funds going out in July of 2012. Grantees had until March 31, 2013 to spend the funds. There were 52 grantees.

In September of 2012, our LCSAC Secretary had to resign due to scheduling conflicts with her new job description. The board asked another LCSAC member to take over as Secretary and he accepted in October of 2012. There were no elections held this year because elections are held every other year. The next elections will be held in November 2013. During this time the LCSAC board was working with a consultant to revise and update the LCSAC by-laws. These were reviewed with the LCSAC general membership in February 2013 and approved at the March 2013 LCSAC general meeting.

In January 2013, the second LCSAC grant cycle was announced to the council members and advertised in the community. Mandatory grant workshops were held in March 2013 with grants proposals due at the end of April. Again, the LCSAC grant selection committee is made up of 5 outside individuals who work in Lake County. They are currently reviewing and scoring the grant proposals. The grantees will be announced and up for approval at the June 26th, 2013 LCSAC general meeting.

The LCSAC has had a very successful year. We had our first ever Red Ribbon Poster Contest and many professional development trainings. A new board elected in November 2013 and will hold a two-year term, unfortunately our Treatment Chair had to resign and we will be voting on a new chair at the upcoming June meeting. We had 43 grantees this last grant cycle and the grants for this year are currently being reviewed and scored. We are hoping to have the new grants approved in June 2014 and start the new grant cycle on July 1, 2014. Our grantees have had very successful projects and our doing wonderful work for Lake County citizens. We are on our way to meeting the goals of the plan.

In May 2014, we welcomed an AmeriCorps VISTA member to the coalition to complete one year of service in building capacity among the veteran, active military and their family's population. She will be working to increase substance abuse services among this population and providing substance abuse education to youth of the military. We are very excited about this new opportunity for this very important and under-served population. She will be out in the field working with veterans and their families to provide them with needed referral services and outreach. She will be working on completing a community assessment to identify the needs of this population that have not been met and working to

meet those needs. She will be acting as a liaison between civic organizations, civilian agencies, and military organizations to integrate the efforts of all community preventive education resources. She will also be promoting substance abuse services using marketing, networking and outreach strategies. The council is very excited about what this year will bring to the individuals of Lake County in terms of our Prevention, Treatment, and Law Enforcement efforts to decrease substance use among the individuals of Lake County.

The Lake County Substance Abuse Council was very busy this past year. We held our 2nd annual Red Ribbon Week poster contest and had a side walk chalk contest for Red Ribbon Week too. Last year's winning Red Ribbon Week posters were placed in local restaurants during Red Ribbon Week to promote awareness of the campaign. We also partnered with the STOP Act grant to do campaigns around orange ribbon week and underage drinking awareness. We also partnered with the Lake County Coroner, Merrilee Frey, to do a billboard campaign about the increasing number of heroin overdoses. She even presented to our council members at a general meeting about the growing problem and her future ideas to decrease heroin use.

The board approved an outside consultant to come in to have a half day grant writing workshop for our members. This helped to bring more information to the organizations with the grant writing process. We want our organizations to have a good foundation when writing the LCSAC grant and other grants they may apply for. A SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) Analysis was conducted as well through outside evaluators. More than 20 members participated in the SWOT analysis. We are working on taking the findings and using them to improve in areas we felt were weak. This has been very beneficial to the council as a whole.

There were some by-laws changes made this year stating that only active members may apply for LCSAC grants, eliminated the by-law committee making the LCSAC only 6 members, and established more guidelines for the grant selection committee. Last year, LCSAC funded 31 organizations to work towards the problem statements we have determined were the biggest concern in our county. We also had 5 professional development trainings for members of the council and community as a whole. We were also fortunate to have David Parnell, former methamphetamine addict, come up to present to two local schools, community corrections, and to community members about his story. His presentation was wonderful and we look forward to bringing him back this year as well during Red Ribbon Week. Another highlight from this year was partnering with Porter and LaPorte LCCs to do a series on the Blunt Truth about Marijuana. It is great working with the sister councils and getting the information to the Northwest Indiana residents. We look forward to the year to come and all the amazing projects we have planned.

Between June 2015 and May 2016, the Lake County Substance Abuse Council has kept very busy. In July 2015, LCSAC funded 27 organizations to work towards the problem statements of the plan. These organizations work in the community at the ground level to reduce substance use among the individuals in Lake County. LCSAC benefits from having members that are dedicated to creating change for a healthier environment for all.

This year, LCSAC was fortunate enough to have its first annual Red Ribbon Week and Orange Ribbon Week Kick-Off Events. These events were hosted at Edison Jr-Sr. High School in Lake Station. For the Red Ribbon Event, we had David Parnell back to present to over 100 participants that evening. He was also able to go to 4 schools in the area and the Community Corrections Center during Red Ribbon Week. We had over 10 vendors at the event and many student volunteers. We also presented the grand prize winner of our third annual Red Ribbon Poster Contest with his prize. For the Orange Ribbon Kick-Off Event, we brought in Chris Sandy, Eric Krug, and Jaden Maxwell, to present on the dangers of alcohol use, underage drinking, and driving under the influence. They presented to over 50 participants during their presentation. They each have very different stories of how alcohol has affected their lives. They also went to 10 Lake County Schools and presented. We were very fortunate to have the wonderful presenters come in for those to national campaigns in regards to substance use.

LCSAC also hosted 5 community professional development events this past year. These events were had participation from almost 250 community members and are an asset for increasing LCSAC's presence in Lake County. Community members seek out these events because of the word of mouth from our many participants all over the county and in surrounding counties.

Geminus Corporation, through the LCSAC, was also awarded a Drug Free Community (DFC) grant for the Town of Merrillville. We are very excited about this opportunity to create change in reducing youth alcohol and marijuana use among use, and over time, adults in Merrillville and throughout Lake County. We will be utilizing environmental strategies, i.e. social media campaigns, targeted messages, town hall meetings, etc. to create the change over the next 5 years or 10 years (if we are able to secure funding again when we re-write for years 6-10). A full time coordinator, Jessica Crusor, was hired on to oversee the DFC project in Merrillville. The DFC grant has really helped to increase our partnerships throughout Merrillville with the different sectors. We are looking forward to the enhanced partnerships and collaborations that will occur with the DFC grant and building capacity of the LCSAC membership.

In November 2015, a new board of directors was voted and approved by the general membership. The new board consists of:

- LCSAC Chair: Albert Gay, Education and Training Specialist and Research Associate, Indiana Prevention Resource Center
- LCSAC Vice-Chair: Mike O'Donnell, School Resource Officer, Highland Police Department
- LCSAC Secretary: Kellie Bittorf, Executive Director, Lake County Community Corrections
- LCSAC Law Enforcement Chair: Pat Murray, Executive Director, Northwest Indiana Law Enforcement Academy
- LCSAC Prevention Chair: Jena Bellezza, Marketing and Community Relations Director, Indiana Parenting Institute
- LCSAC Treatment Chair: Myra Dixon, Executive Director, Another Chance Outreach Center

The new board members will serve two years on the LCSAC Executive Board, with a possibility to serve two consecutive terms. Beginning at the first meeting in January with the new board, we have really been refocusing and restructuring our meeting style to promote more member involvement and participation. We have created a coalition corner for the meetings to spotlight other coalition work, educate our members on coalitions, and just a better overall understanding of the true meaning of coalitions. We are working to increase capacity of the membership, increasing member engagement, and member recruitment. We even have a “battle board” of Lake County that is displayed at meetings to show where we currently have funded projects versus the areas we are not. We are working to remove those gaps in service areas so we are all inclusive of the entire county.

Unfortunately, LCSAC has seen a huge decrease in the collection of funds from the time Geminus Corporation became the fiscal agent of the council to 2015. We are down in collections from the first year of \$415,000 to \$281,000 which was collected in 2015. The board has made this a priority to see why the collections are decreasing and ways to increase the collections. LCSAC funds great programs that are needed in the county and every little bit helps. We are hoping to see an increase in the collection of fees in the coming years.

We have had a very successful past four years and are looking forward to the next four. We are already starting the process of determining our community’s needs for the future years and look forward to what is to come in the future.

It’s been another successful year for the Lake County Substance Abuse Council. We funded 21 organizations to work towards the problem statements of the plan. These organizations work in the community at the ground level to reduce substance use among the individuals in Lake County. LCSAC benefits from having members that are dedicated to creating change for a healthier environment for all. Unfortunately, we are still seeing a decrease in collections. This year we were down to \$243,000. The board has made it their top priority to educate judges on the importance of the fees and the wonderful work the organizations that are funded do with the money.

During this past year, we did have a board member resignation, Mike O’Donnell from Highland Police Department who served as the Vice-Chair. We also had a board member retire from their organization, Pat Murray with Northwest Indiana Law Enforcement Agency which left a vacancy in the Law Enforcement Chair position. These two spots were filled and the new board consists of:

- LCSAC Chair: Albert Gay, Education and Training Specialist and Research Associate, Indiana Prevention Resource Center
- LCSAC Vice-Chair: Debbie Matthys, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, School City of Hobart
- LCSAC Secretary: Kellie Bittorf, Executive Director, Lake County Community Corrections
- LCSAC Law Enforcement Chair: Paul Sines, Sergeant, Griffith Police Department
- LCSAC Prevention Chair: Jena Bellezza, Marketing and Community Relations Director, Indiana Parenting Institute

- LCSAC Treatment Chair: Myra Dixon, Executive Director, Another Chance Outreach Center

During the year, we had a board retreat so the new and old board members could get to know one another better. It was a huge success and we look forward to doing more of them in the future.

LCSAC accomplished a lot this year through partnerships with grants we have here at Geminus and our partnering organizations. We worked with the Partnership for Success grant to create an underage drinking PSA that was circulated throughout Lake County schools. We partnered with Regional Mental Health Center and held our first Recovery Conference in September to get the word out about Recovery. We brought in a national speaker by the name of Tonier Cain and had a panel of experts at the conference as well. LCSAC was also able to update our parent resource guide that has been disseminated to our coalition members and the schools in the county. It was also translated to Spanish so we can reach more people and get the resources and information out there in the community.

The prevention committee held their 4th annual red ribbon poster contest and reached over 75 students in the county. The winning poster was a design from a Highland 4th grader. This has been a great way for us to be involved in the schools. We are looking to do more with them in the coming years.

LCSAC again partnered with the Partnership for Success Grant and the local police departments to host the take back day in October. We also partnered with them and Indiana Overdose Lifeline to provide a Naxolone training that was very successful and well received by the community.

During Jan-March,

LCSAC has also been actively working with the Gary DFC, Porter County DFC and LaPorte DFC to create a marijuana awareness campaign. We want to see the message saturated throughout northwest Indiana that marijuana should not be socially acceptable and provide the facts and education around social and recreational use. We are hoping to launch the PSA/campaign during back to school events. LCSAC also partnered with the DFC project coordinator to implement activities for Alcohol Awareness month. We brought Chris Sandy back to provide a presentation at our local Boys and Girls Club. We are continually increasing our partnerships with organizations throughout the county.

At the first meeting of the new grant cycle last year, there was some disagreements about the grant process. This was thoroughly looked over this year to make sure that the process was fair for everyone. Sonya even came to a couple meetings to help make sure we were on the right track. We had the committees focus on how they would like to see the grant process and this was also a big topic of discussion at the board level. In the end, we feel very confident that the changes to the grant process will only help to improve future grant cycles.

We look forward to the next four years and improving on what we already have in place. We are looking to build upon the relationships that we already have and increase capacity

in areas that need some help, especially with getting more youth involved. We have many ideas for how the LCSAC can continue to be a central role in Lake County and are looking forward to continuing and improving upon the great work we are doing in Lake County.

Summary of the Comprehensive Community Plan: To begin preparing for the new Comprehensive Community Plan for State consideration, the Lake County Substance Abuse Council developed a survey that went around to the council members to start to think about what their organizations were seeing as the biggest problems in Lake County to date. This survey was completed by 40 of our council members and provided a basis from what the newly formed Comprehensive Community Plan sub-committee would start when looking through data and assessing our community needs.

The Lake County Substance Abuse Council conducted 3 CCP sub-committee meetings to develop the 3 problem statements for our new Comprehensive Community Plan and to discuss the objectives and goals. This was also discussed throughout the year at the committee level meetings and the general meetings. The new CCP problem statements, goals, and objectives were reviewed by the LCSAC board and membership at meetings and through email. Listed below are the 3 problem statements that will be address in the new Comprehensive Community Plan:

Problem Statement #1: There has been an increase in alcohol-induced deaths among adults in Lake County, for which Lake County already ranks 2nd highest in the State.

Problem Statement #2: Lake County Youth are higher than the state average for use of Alcohol, Marijuana, Prescription Drugs and Heroin.

Problem Statement #3: There has been an increase in illicit drug use (and dependence) among adults in Lake County.

Membership List

County LCC Name: The Lake County Substance Abuse Council

#	Name	Organization	Race	Gender	Category
1	Jaime Bailey	Gateway Foundation Alcohol & Drug Treatment Centers	Caucasian	F	Treatment
2	John Banasiak	Highland Police Department	Caucasian	M	Law Enforcement
3	Jena Bellezza	Indiana Parenting Institute	African American	F	Prevention/ Education
4	Sharon Bennett	Lake County Sherriff's Department		F	Law Enforcement
5	Dave Benson	Crown Point Police Department	Caucasian	M	Law Enforcement
6	Kellie Bittorf	Lake County Community Corrections	Caucasian	F	Law Enforcement
7	Juanita Boland	Hammond Hispanic Community Committee	Hispanic	F	Civic Organization
8	Karen Bonner	CleanSlate Centers	African American	F	Treatment
9	Darrius Brannon	Edgewater Behavioral Health Services		M	Treatment
10	Sherita Brewer	Sojourner Truth House	African American	F	Treatment
11	Loni Brittingham	Lake County Community Corrections	Caucasian	F	Law Enforcement
12	Pastor Illiana Buck	True Vine Ministries	African American	F	Religion
13	Derrick Cannon	Gary Police Department		M	Law Enforcement
14	LaRona Carter	CleanSlate Centers	African American	F	Treatment

#	Name	Organization	Race	Gender	Category
15	Victoria Charleston	Regional Mental Health Center	African American	F	Treatment
16	Garrett Ciszewski	Hobart Police Department	Caucasian	M	Law Enforcement
17	Mary Clayborne	The Salvation Army Adult Rehab Center	African American	F	Treatment
18	Brenda Comer	Sojourner Truth House	African American	F	Treatment/Prevention
19	Angela Comsa	Regional Mental Health	Hispanic	F	Treatment
20	Sandra Cotton	Clark Road Genesis	African American	F	Religion
21	Colleen Davis	Alive Project	Caucasian	F	Treatment/Law Enforcement
22	Mike Denny	Lake County HIDTA	Caucasian	M	Law Enforcement
23	Myra Dixon	Another Chance Outreach Center	African American	F	Treatment
24	Orlando Drummond	Boys and Girls Club of NWI	African American	M	Prevention/Education
25	Kevin Elkins	Juvenile Probation	African American	M	Law Enforcement
26	Jerome Flagg	Gary Neighborhood Services, Inc.	African American	M	Prevention/Education
27	Jennifer Francis	St. Margaret	African American	F	Medicine
28	Merrilee Frey	Lake County Coroner	Caucasian	F	Government
29	Justin Fronek	School Town of Highland	Caucasian	M	Education
30	Susan Galante	Work Driven Strategies	Caucasian	F	Business
31	Albert Gay	Indiana Prevention Resource Center	African American	M	Prevention
32	Nina Hankins	Edgewater Systems for Balanced Living	Caucasian	F	Treatment
33	Madalyn Hurt	Boys & Girls Club of NWI	Hispanic	F	Prevention

#	Name	Organization	Race	Gender	Category
34	Pastor Andrew Jones	True Vine Ministries	African American	M	Religion
35	Emily Kirk	Heartland Recovery Center	Caucasian	F	Treatment
36	Danny Lackey	Merrillville Community School Corporation	African American	M	Education
37	Taye Leftridge	Great Lake Labs	African American	F	Business
38	Valerie Mack	Motivating Women Ministry	African American	F	Religion
39	Nicholas Macker	US Probation Department		M	Law Enforcement
40	Gavin Marino	Crisis Center	Hispanic	F	Prevention
41	Jim Markle	Northwest Indiana Law Enforcement Academy	Caucasian	M	Law Enforcement
42	Debbie Matthys	School City of Hobart	Caucasian	F	Education
43	Stephan Morgan	DEA	Caucasian	M	Government
44	Justin Mount	Senator Donnelly's Office	Caucasian	M	Government
45	Renee Moy	Merrillville DFC	Caucasian	F	Parent
46	Peggy Orchard	School City of Hobart	Caucasian	F	Education
47	Michelle Page	Hobart Police Department	Caucasian	F	Law Enforcement
48	Jan Parsons	Lake County Criminal Probation	Caucasian	F	Law Enforcement
49	Burgess Peoples	Changing Lives and Changing Patterns, Inc.	African American	F	Prevention
50	Lauren Peterson	Crown Counseling	Caucasian	F	Treatment
51	Sandra Porter-Phillips	Crisis Center	African American	F	Prevention/ Education

#	Name	Organization	Race	Gender	Category
52	SFC Michelle Quarles	National Guard Civil Operations	African American	F	Prevention/Education
53	Lynn Reeves	Gary City Court	African American	F	Treatment
54	Michael Repay	County Commissioner	Caucasian	M	Government
55	Jaime Rogers	Heartland Recovery Center	Caucasian	F	Treatment
56	Kashontia Scott	Gary Police Department	African American	F	Law Enforcement
57	Lisa Scott	LEAD/STOP Act Coordinator	African American	F	Prevention
58	Scott Sefton	Lake County Coroner's Office	Caucasian	M	Government
59	Judge Inga Lewis-Shannon	Project Rebuild Foundation/ City of Gary	African America	F	Law Enforcement
60	Darrolyn Sharp	Riches to Recovery	African American	F	Treatment
61	Stephanie Shostok	Recovery Works		F	Treatment
62	Paul Sines	Griffith Police Department	Caucasian	M	Law Enforcement
63	Chris Sipes	Hobart Police Department	Caucasian	M	Law Enforcement
64	Mark Spencer	Mass Media		M	Media
65	Sr. Peg Spindler	Sojourner Truth House	Caucasian	F	Treatment
66	Destiny Tanas	LGBTQ Project	Caucasian	F	Prevention
67	Ally Taylor	Indiana Excise Police	African American	M	Law Enforcement
68	Scott Tokach	Lake Station Community School Corporation	Caucasian	M	Education
69	Sam Trapane	Crown Point Police Department	Caucasian	M	Law Enforcement
70	Mariaelena Trejo	Suicide Prevention Council	Hispanic	F	Prevention
71	Alex Ulloa	DEA	Hispanic	M	Law

#	Name	Organization	Race	Gender	Enforcement Category
72	Marty Vagenas	Fresh Start Counseling	Caucasian	F	Treatment
73	Jillian VanVolkenburgh	South Shore Arts	Caucasian	F	Prevention
74	Pete Villareal	Lake County Prosecutor's Office	Hispanic	M	ALL
75	Jayson Villars	Cedar Lake Police Department	Caucasian	M	Prevention/Education
76	Chris Watt	Campagna Academy	Caucasian	F	Treatment
77	Ronald Williams	Edgewater Systems for Balanced Living	African American	M	Treatment
78	Jim Woestman	Lowell Police Department	Caucasian	M	Law Enforcement
79	Ann Wojas	Indiana State Police	Caucasian	F	Law Enforcement
80	Jeffrey Zemburski	Schererville Police Department	Caucasian	M	Prevention/Education

Problem Identification

A. Problem Statement #1: There has been an increase in alcohol-induced deaths among adults in Lake County, for which Lake County already ranks 2nd highest in the State.

B. Supportive Data:

1. According to the 2015 County Health Rankings, 36% of driving deaths with alcohol involvement happened in Lake County compared to 26% for the state of Indiana.
2. According to the 2015 County Health Rankings, 18% of Lake County adults reported excessive drinking compared to 16% for Indiana.
3. According to the 2016 North Township CTC CCAA Report, 49% of college students reported binge drinking in the last 2 weeks.
4. According to the 2016 North Township CTC CCAA Report, 44% of college students reported going out without a designated driver.

5. According to the 2015 Indiana College Survey, 23% of college students reported blacking out from drinking in the past 6 months.
6. According to the Regional Mental Health Center 2014 Annual Report, 11.82% of adults treated with alcohol related diagnoses at Regional Mental Health Center.
7. According to the 2016 State Epidemiological Profile for Indiana, 874 permits for public access for sale of alcohol beverages in Lake County – second highest rate in the state of Indiana.
8. According to the 2016 State Epidemiological Profile for Indiana, there were 2,339 treatment episodes reported at treatment admission and of those 57.6% was for alcohol use and 41.3% was for alcohol dependence which is significantly above the state average.
9. According to the 2016 State Epidemiological Profile for Indiana, Lake County shows an elevated rate of alcohol-impaired driving deaths at 10% higher than Indiana’s rate.
10. According to the 2016 State Epidemiological Profile for Indiana, Lake County had 741 alcohol-related collisions and 56 of those resulted in a fatality.
11. According to the 2016 State Epidemiological Profile for Indiana, Lake County was identified as the county with the second highest risk for alcohol abuse. When assessing Lake County as the highest priority, the report noted 2,262 DUI arrests, 925 public intoxication arrests, and 623 liquor law violation arrests.
12. According to the Uniform Crime Report Data (Return D) for Lowell, there were 76 DUIs issued to individuals 18 and older in 2016.
13. According to the Uniform Crime Report Data (Return D) for Griffith, there were 106 DUIs issued to individuals 18 and older in 2016.
14. According to the Uniform Crime Report Data (Return D) for Crown Point, there were 199 DUIs issued to individuals 18 and older in 2016.
15. According to the Uniform Crime Report Data (Return D) for Cedar Lake, there were 36 DUIs issued to individuals 18 and older from January-July 2016.
16. According to the Uniform Crime Report Data (Return D) for Lowell, there were 9 drunkenness violations issued to individuals 18 and older in 2016.
17. According to the Uniform Crime Report Data (Return D) for Griffith, there were 13 drunkenness violations issued to individuals 18 and older in 2016.
18. According to the Uniform Crime Report Data (Return D) for Crown Point, there were 81 drunkenness violations issued to individuals 18 and older in 2016.
19. According to the Uniform Crime Report Data (Return D) for Cedar Lake, there were 4 drunkenness violations issued to individuals 18 and older from January-July 2016.

End of Year 2 Update:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Final Update (end of Year 3):

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

C. Goals:

1. **Decrease alcohol induced deaths by 5% in the next 4 years.**
2. **Increase treatment episodes by Lake County adults for alcohol use by 10% in the next 4 years.**

End of Year 1 Annual Benchmarks:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

End of Year 2 Annual Benchmarks:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Final Report (end of Year 3):

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

D. Objectives:

1. **Support and fund training and/or equipment for officers in Lake County.**
2. **Support youth prevention programs that educate on the dangers of underage and excessive drinking.**
3. **Support educational and treatment programs that address impaired driving and substance use.**
4. **Support treatment providers that treat and educate in alcohol and substance use.**
5. **Support programs that decrease barriers and address service gaps to the access of treatment for youth and adults.**

End of Year 1 Update:

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- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

End of Year 2 Update:

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- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Final Update (end of Year 3):

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

A. Problem Statement #2: Lake County Youth are higher than the state average for use of Alcohol, Marijuana, Prescription Drugs and Heroin.

B. Supportive Data:

- 1. According to the Indiana Youth Survey Data for 2016, Lake County youth reported that the monthly rates for alcohol, marijuana, and over-the-counter drugs 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades were all higher than the state rates.
- 2. According to the Indiana Youth Survey Data for 2016, alcohol and marijuana use in the past 30 days were the two most used substances. By their senior year, over 37% of Lake County students reported using alcohol in the past 30 days and nearly 29.8% of students used marijuana in the past 30 days.
- 3. According to the Indiana Youth Survey Data for 2016, 69.4% of Lake County 8th graders are at higher risk than average for individual perceived risk of drug use.
- 4. According to the Indiana Youth Survey Data for 2016, alcohol use among Lake County 8th graders is at 19.3% whereas the state is at 13.2%.
- 5. According to the Indiana Youth Survey Data for 2016, binge drinking rates were higher than the state average in all grades for Lake County Youth.
- 6. According to the Indiana Youth Survey Data for 2016, marijuana is used at a greater rate than the state average for all youth, 7th - 12th grades.
- 7. According to the Indiana Youth Survey Data for 2016, there is nearly a 25 percentage-point increase in marijuana use from the 7th grade at 4.7% to the 12th grade at 29.8%.
- 8. According to the 2015 High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Threat Assessment, there was an increase of marijuana wax and several police departments within Lake County found marijuana wax in lip balm containers.

9. According to the 2015 High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Threat Assessment, in 2014, a total of 489.346 kilograms of marijuana was seized by the Lake County HIDTA initiatives.
10. According to the 2015 High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Threat Assessment, marijuana accounted for 61.4% of all HIDTA seizures in 2014.
11. According to the Indiana Youth Survey Data for 2016, prescription drug use in the past 30 days was higher than the state rate in all grades except for 12th.
12. According to the Indiana Youth Survey Data for 2016, while the rates of prescription and over-the-counter drug abuse are less than that of alcohol and marijuana, it is still alarming to see that Lake County youth exceed statewide rates from 7th - 12th grades for over-the-counter drug abuse and 7th-11th grades for prescription drug abuse.
13. According to 2015 County Health Rankings, the graduation rate for Lake County is 82% compared to Indiana's graduation rate of 87%.
14. According to the Indiana Youth Institute's Kids Count Data Book, there were 1,114 Juvenile Delinquency Case Filings in 2016.
15. According to the 2017 Indiana Youth Institute's Kids Count Data Book, 26.5% of youth under 18 were living in poverty compared to the state average of 20.4%.
16. According to the 2017 Indiana Youth Institute's Kids Count Data Book, 51% of public school students are receiving free lunch and 5.6% are receiving reduced price lunches.
17. According to the Uniform Crime Report Data (Return E) for Griffith, there were 4 arrests for liquor law violations for individuals under 18 in 2016.
18. According to the Uniform Crime Report Data (Return E) for Lowell, there was 1 arrest for liquor law violations for individuals under 18 in 2016.
19. According to the Uniform Crime Report Data (Return E) for Crown Point, there were 7 arrests for liquor law violations for individuals under 18 in 2016.
20. According to the Uniform Crime Report Data (Return E) for Cedar Lake, there were 5 arrests for liquor law violations for individuals under 18 January-July 2016..
21. According to the Uniform Crime Report Data (Return E) for Griffith, there were 10 arrests for drug abuse violations for individuals under 18 in 2016.
22. According to the Uniform Crime Report Data (Return E) for Lowell, there were 19 arrests for drug abuse violations for individuals under 18 in 2016.
23. According to the Uniform Crime Report Data (Return E) for Crown Point, there were 12 arrests for drug abuse violations for individuals under 18 in 2016.
24. According to the Uniform Crime Report Data (Return E) for Cedar Lake, there was 1 arrest for drug abuse violations for individuals under 18 January-July 2016..
25. According to the 2016 State Epidemiological Profile for Indiana, Lake County had the highest number of arrests in the state of Indiana for marijuana possession at 1,134 and intent to sell at 436.
26. According to the 2016 State Epidemiological Profile for Indiana, Lake County had the second highest rate of marijuana use reported at treatment admission at 1,002.

End of Year 1 Update:

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End of Year 2 Update:

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Final Update (end of Year 3):

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C. Goals:

- 1. **Decrease in use of Alcohol, Marijuana, Prescription Drugs, and Heroin by Lake County Youth by 5% in the next 4 years.**
- 2. **Increase Prevention Programs for elementary aged youth in the county by 10%.**

End of Year 1 Annual Benchmarks:

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End of Year 2 Annual Benchmarks:

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Final Report (end of Year 3):

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D. Objectives:

1. Support drug and teen courts as an alternative to incarceration.
2. Support education and prevention programs for adolescents.
3. Increase parental knowledge and training of the signs of drug abuse and how to identify environmental health risks associated with drug use.
4. Support youth substance abuse treatment programs across the county.
5. Increase the number of individuals that are trained in Evidence-Based programming to build the capacity of community members that can run prevention programs in schools and youth-serving organizations.
6. Collaborate with local organizations to implement environmental strategies and social media campaigns across the county to educate the community, especially youth, about the dangers of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use.
7. Support the collaboration of Drug Free Community Efforts and increase the programs throughout the entire county.

End of Year 1 Update:

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End of Year 2 Update:

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Final Update (end of Year 3):

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A. Problem Statement #3: There has been an increase in illicit drug use (and dependence) among adults in Lake County.

B. Supportive Data:

1. According to the 2016 State Epidemiological Profile for Indiana, Lake County has the second highest rate of opioids dispensed (407,027) throughout the state.
2. According to the 2016 State Epidemiological Profile for Indiana, Lake County individuals have the second highest rate of prescription drug use during treatment admission at 2,344.
3. According to the 2015 HIDTA Threat Assessment, Lake County's prescription drug availability and abuse continues to increase. Local law enforcement agencies in Lake and Porter Counties are seeing more prescription drugs combined with alcohol in DUI stops. Police agencies
4. According to the 2015 HIDTA Threat Assessment, Lake County Police agencies also indicated that prescription drug availability extends to high school-aged children, who obtain medication from the family medicine chest or from independent street sellers.
5. According to the 2016 State Epidemiological Profile for Indiana, Lake County had the highest number of arrests in the State of Indiana for prescription drug possession at 395 and intent to sell at 81.
6. According to the 2016 State Epidemiological Profile for Indiana, Lake County had the highest number of arrests in the State of Indiana for marijuana possession at 1,134 and intent to sell at 436.
7. According to the 2015 HIDTA Threat Assessment, Lake County is at an increased gang and drug threat. Gary, Hammond, and East Chicago street gangs orchestrate the street level distribution of drugs.
8. According to the 2015 HIDTA Threat Assessment, marijuana is by far the most abused illegal drug in Lake County.
9. According to the 2015 HIDTA Threat Assessment, gangs are bringing in more high-grade marijuana than cocaine because the penalties are not as severe. Hispanic and African American street gangs continue to be major traffickers of marijuana into Lake County. The Hispanic gangs are largely responsible for the distribution of marijuana at the retail level.
10. According to the 2015 HIDTA Threat Assessment, there is also an increase of marijuana wax and several police departments within Lake County found marijuana wax in lip balm containers.
11. According to the 2015 HIDTA Threat Assessment, a total of 489.346 kilograms of marijuana was seized by the Lake County HIDTA initiatives. Marijuana accounted for 61.4% of all HIDTA seizures in 2014.
12. According to 340 participants in Lake County Community Corrections during the initial risk and needs assessment in 2016, 58% admitted to that drug use has caused problems (legal, employment, social, medical, family, etc.) in the last 12 months.
13. According to 340 participants in Lake County Community Corrections during the initial risk and needs assessment in 2016, 90% admitted to using illegal drugs.
14. According to 340 participants in Lake County Community Corrections during the initial risk and needs assessment in 2016, 61% said that it was easy or somewhat easy to obtain drugs in their neighborhood.
15. According to the Uniform Crime Report Data (Return D) for Lowell, there were 93 drug offenses issued to individuals 18 and older in 2016.

- 16.**According to the Uniform Crime Report Data (Return D) for Griffith, there were 89 drug offenses, 16 for sale/manufacturing and 73 for possession, issued to individuals 18 and older in 2016.
- 17.**According to the Uniform Crime Report Data (Return D) for Crown Point, there were 119 drug offenses, 44 for sale/manufacturing and 75 for possession, issued to individuals 18 and older in 2016.
- 18.**According to the Uniform Crime Report Data (Return D) for Cedar Lake, there were 10 drug offenses, 1 for sale/manufacturing and 9 for possession issued to individuals 18 and older from January-July 2016.

End of Year 1 Update:

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End of Year 2 Update:

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Final Update (end of Year 3):

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C. Goals:

- 1. Decrease illicit drug use among Lake County residents by 5% in the next 4 years.**
- 2. Increase the number of individuals going to treatment for drug use by 10% in the next 4 years.**
- 3. Increase awareness and usage of the prescription drug drop boxes in Lake County by 15% in the next 4 years.**

End of Year 1 Annual Benchmarks:

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End of Year 2 Annual Benchmarks:

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Final Report (end of Year 3):

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D. Objectives:

- 1. Support the implementation of effective, outcome-based and culturally competent treatment programs that show a measurable difference.
- 2. Support and increase access for adolescents and adults to treatment and aftercare services for substance abuse addictions.
- 3. Support education and training for treatment, prevention, and law enforcement providers.
- 4. Fund community education projects that support understanding of social alcohol and drug abuse among adults and how to cope with external and environmental factors leading to abuse.
- 5. Support and fund training and/or equipment for officers in Lake County.
- 6. Support programs that decrease barriers and address service gaps to the access of treatment for youth and adults.
- 7. Support environmental strategies that work to decrease illicit drug use.
- 8. Partner and collaborate with other coalitions to promote media campaigns against prescription drug and opiate use.
- 9. Support police departments in implementing treatment plans for individuals that have overdosed.

End of Year 1 Update:

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End of Year 2 Update:

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Final Update (end of Year 3):

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Next Annual Update Due: May 2018

Next Comprehensive Community Plan Due: May 2021

Date of Community Consultant Review: N/A

Disclaimer:

You agree that the information provided within this Plan is subject to the following Terms and Conditions. These Terms and Conditions may be modified at any time and from time to time; the date of the most recent changes or revisions will be established by the Commission and sent electronically to all Local Coordinating Councils.

Terms and Conditions:

The information and data provided is presented as factual and accurate. I hereby acknowledge that I can be asked to submit proper documentation regarding the data submitted within the Plan. Failure to do so could result in a “denied approval” by the Commission under IC 5-2-6-16.

The Local Drug Free Communities Fund must be spent according to the goals identified within the plan. I hereby acknowledge that I can be asked to submit proper documentation regarding funds that are collected, allocated, and disbursed within the county. Failure to do so could result in a “denied approval” by the Commission under IC 5-2-6-16.

Initials: AMM

