



## **TPAUD Coalition Meeting**

November 16<sup>th</sup> 8:00 am

Trumbull EMS

Attendees: Gillian Anderson, Nina Chanana, Lily Cores, Sam Cousins, Krystina Dawson, Deirdre Ekholdt, Jennifer Ellyson, Tim Hare, Lori Hayes-O'Brien, Sue Jacozzi, Cat Lamy, Melissa McGarry, Dennis McLaughlin, Julia McNamee, Dr. Cornelia Morris, Kiersten Naumann, Jeff Rago, Melissa Roberto, Dave Rutigliano, Sabrina Seymour, Zachary Rudich, Vicki Tesoro, Stephanie Vaughn, Lara Walden

### 1. Introductions & Partner Updates:

- a. Coalition members are encouraged to support TPAUD's request for funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, to sustain TPAUD for two years after its DFC grant expires in 2024. Coalition Members can voice their support in-person at the Trumbull Town Council and Board of Finance Public Hearing on 11/17/22 in Council Chambers at Town Hall at 7:00 p.m. In addition, coalition members are encouraged to email their support for TPAUD to Town Council and Board of Finance members individually.

### 2. Current Prevention Activities

- a. 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Forum Follow-up and Advisory Lesson:
  - i. Forum: Very well received, parents were engaged. Liked having both videos and live presentations. Next year there should be less focus on drunk driving.
  - ii. Advisory Lesson: TPAUD provided an activity for 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Advisory as a follow-up to the Forum. The lesson focused on finding your "why" (to choose not to use), refusal skills and exit strategies.
- b. Marijuana Social Media Education Campaign: TPAUD and Daydream Communications designed an educational campaign aimed at caregivers and youth. Social media posts with messaging on potency, driving under the influence of marijuana, educational outcomes, and youth mental health will run on Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat and YouTube through the beginning of January. Some posts on marijuana potency have been blocked by Facebook; the appeal process is difficult.
- c. Retailer Environmental Scan: Zach Rudich is working with Nina Chanana on an Environmental Scan of businesses in Trumbull that sell vapes, CBD and THC. The scan will provide information on what products are available to Trumbull youth and how they are sold, and will help determine how well local retailers are adhering to local/state laws and regulations.
- d. Laura Stack presentation on high potency marijuana on 10/24: Laura's presentation is now available to watch on TPAUD's website and through TCTV at <https://youtu.be/MSo94q78yBk>

3. Partner Spotlight – Gillian Anderson, My Friend Abby: Gillian founded My Friend Abby to honor her daughter, Abby, who died by suicide due to clinical depression. My Friend Abby's mission is to empower youth and young adults to actively create peer-to-peer connections through grants that improve mental and emotional health. My Friend Abby can be found at [www.myfriendabby.org](http://www.myfriendabby.org) and on Facebook and Instagram. In honor of Abby's birthday on Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> and for Giving Tuesday, My Friend Abby will be running an online fundraiser to benefit its mission.

4. CT Association of Prevention Professionals (CAPP) Sector All-Star Award Winners: Congratulations to Leigh Goodman, Tim Hare, and Dave Rutigliano, who were nominated by TPAUD and selected to receive sector awards from CAPP on Friday, Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> at the CAPP Annual Meeting & Awards Ceremony.

Upcoming Events:

- 11/18: CT Association of Prevention Professionals Awards
- 11/20: Transgender Day of Remembrance, 4-5 at Triangle Community Center, 650 West Ave., Norwalk
- 12/20: HMS Health Fair

2022-23 Meetings – 12/21, 1/18, 2/15, 3/15, 4/19, 5/19, June TBD