

January 4th 2011

Annual Coalition Training

4:30 pm MEMS

Look for the entire taping of this meeting on GNAT and MCTV.

Introductions: Maryann Morris- Executive Director of The Collaborative

Thanks to Partners of The Collaborative: Manchester Police Dept

MEMS

LTS

GNAT

All in attendance tonight.

2 topics: Social Media (how are teens communicate)

Prescription Drug Misuse

Tom Barcus:

Social Media-

Tom is creator of Manchester page on Facebook and iLikeManchester.com. He created it about one year ago with the aim to connect community with each other and local businesses.

Tom's info: tombarcus.com or [facebook.com/tbarcus](https://www.facebook.com/tbarcus) or @tombarcus

- Emerging Uses (how people are using, what will end up being popular in future)

Why does this matter?

Majority of kids are using social media.

There are 100-1000 platforms for using social media.

Emerging/popular platforms:

1. Facebook- Features available:

“Groups”- “Secret Group” a private group that public is unable to see. Useful for communities, families, and organizations. Comments posted get alerted to users that are invited into this group. “Group Chats” are also available (able to talk yet no one else will know that group exists).

Places- To inform friends of your current location. People who use it are able to receive free gifts just for documenting their visits. Possible negative- if you have weak privacy settings then you might not want public to know of your location at all times.

Privacy- Necessary feature, recently redone. Understanding how to use is essential (for all media platforms)

2. Photos- “Path”- application (iPhone, Android) that allows your friends to follow your path through your photo's automatically (records your location along with your picture).

3. Location: Broadcast your location to your friends through your social media. Business use to see who, when, where, and how often people visit their location and thus create promotional deals to frequent visitors.

Allows for possible danger if you are broadcasting this information to public.

Foursquare- Download app to cell phone (can also use via text message). Check into places through GPS system on cell phone. Find recommendations of things to do,

earn points, receive free promotions. Collaborative uses foursquare for adding tips and locations, check it out!

Latitude- Tells you your physical location and friends location on a map (connected through your cell phone).

- Frequently Asked Questions/statements/problems:

Why do we use social media?

Facebook was created to keep up with your friend's social lives easily. A system to stay in touch with old friends.

Parental resources-

"Groups" on facebook- helpful tool is keeping certain topics & groups of people private.

"Don't Get Fired" -

Teachers with pictures online with drinks in their hand (many teachers are online friends with their boss and students)

"It's All Public" -

No matter the privacy setting...online is never 100% safe.

Bullying-

Cyber bullying. Facebook as an option of reporting anything that seems inappropriate. Blocking people is another option.

Privacy-

-Facebook- top right corner. "Customize settings" choose who sees what specific parts of your page (including specific photo albums).

-Twitter- Top right "Tweet Privacy" "Protect My Tweets" - you must give permission for people to follow your tweets.

-Location- each has different and person settings. Don't use if you do not want people knowing where you are.

Resources to use:

mashable.com (online news web site only talking about social media)

blog.facebook.com (how to segment people into lists on facebook)

facebook.com/security (spamming issues, privacy)

blog.twitter.com

Questions?

1. Role of parents mediating amount of time spent on social media:

Have conversations with children about their postings.

Generational issue- this is communication of the new generation (social, business, personal, etc...)

Parents will need to embrace new social media platforms as a common communication of their kids.

Tom L'Esperance

- Chief of Police, Prescription Drug Misuse

25 years in law enforcement

First years in law enforcement in Vermont-

St. Johnsbury- hub of heroin. Source cities at time: Holy Oak (MA), Albany (NY), and many others outside of Vermont).

Prescription Drug misuse developed quickly over these past few years.

Personal story: When Tom found out daughter had cancer (1998) embraced the use of drugs for sickness.

Unfortunately prescription drugs took on life of its own:

- Percocet's (popular in early 90's, cheaper high than heroin).
- Oxycodone emerged popularity after (found in 80's, 60's, 40's, 20's, and 10's. The 80's are the strongest, mainly used for intense cancer patients).

Drug addicts will chase their high so strongly – many will need to be told to go to rehab just to get the push.

Law enforcement developed a 0 tolerance policy to get names in system to crack down on drug problem.

- Methamphetamine (found in cough syrups as well as other easy accessible drugs) VT doesn't have strong methamphetamine problem because we have strong manufacture laws.
- Through early 2000's- crack cocaine emerged. Never as high as the first high, will spend the rest of your addiction chasing that first high (yet never will achieve).

How family gets through crisis... dinnertime conversation about who kids are hanging out with, where and when- stay in contact and in the know of your kid's life.

Help keep them in line and make right/healthy decisions.

Prescription drug misuse can ruin family, jobs, school, and life.

The fight against prescription drug misuse must be a collaboration of all people in the community.

Recent change in manufacturing of oxycontin (if crushed the additive that causes the high disintegrate).

Oversupply of drugs, thus landing on streets, thus heroin price goes down.

What we're doing now:

Diversion investigators went around (8 years ago) to pharmacies checking out how easily and frequent drugs are given.

1998- people were coming into ER causing their own injuries to get a prescription for painkillers.

Source cities now: Rutland, Burlington, St. Johnsbury, Manchester....wherever a pharmacy is there is a source. Once dealer is caught, robberies increase.

52 armed robberies in 2009 (32 unsolved)

45 in 2007 (all drug involved)

42 in 2010

Change focus in drug task force: 0 tolerance isn't about jail, it's about treatment.

Treatment, awareness, and law enforcement working together is the only possible way out of this problem.

Vermont is ahead on the fight against prescription drugs in terms of the collaboration and working together to fight this issue.

Securing your drugs in your household is essential.

Prescription drugs- stigma surrounding: *if it's prescribed, it's safe...WRONG.*

Root cause of many crimes is addiction 90% of time, criminals are trying to find ways to further feed their addiction.

Currently we are working on funding for treatment facilities.

Marijuana today is different from that of the past. Now it is higher quality.

Prescription drug monitoring program in pharmacies (been going on for 2 years)- by the time police receive referrals it's too late.

Want/need a law enforcement element in this program

Talking with your youth is that essential first step. Find any and all opportunities to start into the conversation about drugs and alcohol. Important not to go overboard with the warning or else the parent may become cut off.

This is why facebook is important for parents to have, a way to keep up with what is going on with your kids.

Talking to teens through personal stories is a great way to begin a conversation.

This Saturday, Prescription drug take back day!

Neighborhood connections and Manchester Police Dept