

Public Engagement Team-Jennifer Lombard

- Stand UP & Stand Out recipients confirmed: **Dec–Salvation Army, Jan–Emmaus Mission Center, Feb–Firefly**. Nikki will gather info for social spotlights and graphics. Future recognition ideas: **March–Girl Scouts/Girl Co., April–DCS (Child Abuse Prevention Month), May–YMCA**.
- Coalition discussed pursuing additional funding to support youth engagement, prevention events, and collaborations (**CCCF, IU Health, United Way**).
- **Partners in Action** continues to grow with consistent participation and positive community feedback.
- **PTECH** collaboration continues; dodgeball tournament planning is underway with insurance support from Project HOPE.
- **Mary Max** and **Black Dog Board Games** continue strong attendance; Marianna is assisting with board game nights. **Skating Parties** have been successful overall; December had record numbers, January turnout was impacted by weather.
- **Free Family Fun Nights at Salvation Army** is the 2nd Friday of the month, we hope to collaborate.
- DFC sector representation: Nikki will ask Salvation Army to cover **Civic/Volunteer sector**; exploring **Religious/Fraternal** contacts (Zach Szamara noted). Cardiel was chosen as the religious/fraternal representative.
- Year 6 Action Plan reviewed to ensure alignment with DFC goals; adjustments for 2026 programming discussed.
- Upcoming trainings/events: **March–Digital Safety, April–Alcohol Awareness (LCC meeting)**, We may look into making **May a Purdue Extension Lunch & Learn (May 11)?**
- Purdue Extension shared a new work readiness training program; Jennifer will provide the flyer.
- City awarded Stand UP Cass County **opioid settlement funds**, supporting prevention work and advertising/outreach.
- Sponsorship flyer needs revamped wording to include support for food, supplies, facilitation, prizes, and event needs.
- Youth Empowerment meetings occur the **2nd Monday monthly**; icebreaker activities will be added to format as we figure out what these meetings will look like.

- Next meeting: **April 1st, time and place being decided.**

Youth Empowerment Team-Chris Hess (can't make it)

- After one meeting cancellation and one event with no attendance, the group discussed a stronger strategy moving forward.
- The coalition decided to move **Youth Empowerment meetings to a monthly schedule** to improve consistency and engagement. Meetings will take place the **2nd Monday of each month from 3:45–4:45 PM** at the Academy. Youth Empowerment meetings are now paired with the Academy's existing **Safe Space Initiative** for better connection and turnout. The first Academy meeting had **4 youth in attendance** and focused on introductions and sharing information.
- Discussion centered on the potential creation of a **Cass County Youth Advisory Council.**
- The Youth Empowerment group may serve as a recruitment pipeline and “feeder group” into the future Youth Advisory Council.
- Recruitment efforts will begin to grow youth participation in upcoming meetings.
- The team reviewed the **Year 6 Action Plan** and plans to continue implementing it **even without DFC funding.**
- Overall coalition events and initiatives are going well, with updates provided by the **Public Engagement Team.**
- Stand UP Cass County has continued participation in community efforts including **Drop-Ins, Partners in Action, and RED (Rural Empowerment and Development) workgroups.**
- The coalition plans to begin collecting **short youth videos/reels** to strengthen youth voice and outreach. The first meeting was intentionally focused on being informative and building relationships; video content efforts will begin this month.
- The coalition plans to increase collaboration with **MHA**, benefiting both groups through shared youth engagement and Youth Advisory Council development.

Youth Substance Prevention Team- Kacy Hopper

- “We Card” boxes are available—contact Nikki if you need one and watch for them in stores.
- Sticker placement suggestions included: YMCA, Bowling Alley, Walton Library, Bonus Pints, churches, pawn shop, and follow-up with the library (Larina). No “Smoking/Vaping” window stickers are still available—contact Nikki or Kacy if needed.

- The group reviewed scan results from 33 locations and plans to continue scanning additional sites. Scan data should be sent to Veronica soon to forward to Kathryn.
- The coalition discussed using scan results for infographics and possible follow-up with certain businesses.
- Notable scan finding: Dollar General does not sell vapes; Chase Rd location is 1,056 ft from the school and appealing a liquor license decision.
- Parkview indicated their CHNA may be released in January.
- The team reviewed Year 6 objectives and will continue ongoing efforts like scanning, sticker distribution, and prevention infographics.
- The group discussed the need to strongly advocate for the Indiana Youth Survey (INYS) in Spring 2026. In 2024, Logansport was the only school to participate; the coalition hopes more schools opt in next cycle. INYS data is critical for grant reporting and evaluating prevention impact; discussion will continue at the next meeting.
- Nikki provided DFC grant updates—funding has not been received and the coalition must reapply.
- The team reviewed Action Plan responsibilities and will continue monitoring assigned tasks.
- ATC meetings occur the 3rd Wednesday monthly and are hybrid; members were encouraged to attend virtually when needed. The group discussed attending an ATC meeting in April for Alcohol Awareness Month. This would replace our regular meeting.
- Nikki will invite an ATC officer to a monthly coalition meeting and invite State Excise Police to the April LCC meeting. Request made to obtain ATC meeting recordings from last year (ask Rick).
- FREE Movie Friday sponsored by 4C was noted, along with possible school partnership events in February and May.

Action Plan Prevention Team- Natalie Sharp

- Action Team progress was shared at each meeting; members can reference Action Team folders for updates.
- The team discussed events and activities that have been successful and suggested sending updated information to all school principals again.
- Chris will send IYI Café information to all principals once details are received.

- Nikki presented to the City Finance Committee meeting and Dave Morris presented to the full City Council and SUCC received funds.
- The group created a Student Certificate of Recognition and how to identify students for recognition (possibly through principals).
- The coalition is seeking a sponsorship for the Quarterly Lunch; members were asked to share any leads with Nikki.
- Sponsorship forms were reviewed and multiple donations have already been secured.
- Funding limitations were discussed, along with ways coalition partners can collaborate and support each other's work. MPR sponsored the January movie. Tyson is sponsoring the February, March, and April movies. United Way is sponsoring multiple Skate World (or other) events this year.
- Chuck will share sponsorship opportunities with Kiwanis. Chris suggested reaching out to McCords.
- Nikki will send the sponsorship flyer to the full team to support outreach.
- New church representative is Cardiel. The coalition is still seeking a Civic/Volunteer Sector Representative.
- The team reviewed the current Action Plan and agreed to follow it as closely as possible even without DFC funds. The group will help ensure Action Plan tasks stay on track and are completed.
- Nikki's attendance at Partners in Action makes the current 10:30 AM meeting time difficult. The team discussed shifting to a less formal "working lunch" format, with an 11:30 AM start time preferred by all participants. The group discussed rotating meeting locations across Cass County. Nikki will send out more information.
- The team noted that online facilitation may be more challenging with the working lunch meeting format.

If you'd like to join any of these teams please see Nikki or email nikki@ysainc.org.