



Working together to reduce youth substance use and abuse by aligning existing resources, facilitating education, and supporting families, schools and communities in the Greater River Valley Region.

94 River St., Rumford ME 04276 • (207) 364-7408
rvhccburke@gwi.net • www.rivervalleyrising.org

River Valley Rising Meeting

July 7th, 2020 8am-9am

Zoom Meeting

Join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86421348180?pwd=QU1DTnJOaUM3a2dXNnhpclBYcWpyUT09>

Meeting ID: 864 2134 8180

Password: 703084

One tap mobile

+13017158592

I. RVR Updates:

Introductions: Kathy Williams, Michelle L, Diane Gallegher, Daniela Fine, Miki Skehan, Kat Lemieux, Stephanie Leblanc, Ben Tucker, Matt Gilbert, Melissa H., Allie Burke

- 2020 Maine Opioid Summit, Thursday July 23rd (Virtual Online Conference)
\$25 to join and RVR is happy to pay if people are interested in joining. Email Allie if you would like to register for the event,
- DFC updates- DFC is changing for SAMPSA to CDC so we do not have a project officer that represent us or the State of Maine at this time, waiting on getting one from the CDC.
 - Logic Model- Updating and working with our evaluators starting next week. Will be reaching out to med-care and Rumford hospital for data. Police have been busy with drug trafficking. Thank you to PD
 - NCE Funds- No Cost Extension. We finally officially rolled over remaining funds from grant 1-5, into year 6. Typically in normal grant year we would have \$125,000 for year 6 we now are working with \$136,000 since we had roughly \$12,000 left over from our NCE in year 5.
 - Programming- Still on hold as we wait to hear about schools re-opening and what that may look like for outside programming/education.
 - Events- Still on hold. No major community events are happening. Doesn't look like Pumpkin Fest is happening this year.
- Stall Talk for July and August
Talking to your children about drugs and alcohol
CADCA mid-year conference is now all online, so we will be attending to learn more great information.
- FB, Instagram and Twitter – please share posts
- We will be painting the concrete barrier walls at Meroby this year. We will be prepping the barriers and Mr. Brent will be finishing up them with his art class during the school.

II. Community Update(s)

- Western Maine Addiction Task Force & Project Save ME Updates- Recovery Rally in Sept has been cancelled. Substance Use Conference for December is still being figured out.
- Law Enforcement- no update
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- Western Foothills Kids Association- Virtual program starts July 20th with STEM, book groups, art, Coding, 3D printing etc. Programming will go for 4 weeks, 4 days a week. 21 kids are participating. Roughly split evenly between RES/MES for attendance.
- Oxford County Wellness Collaborative – no update at this time
- Healthy Communities Coalition Preventive Services – HCC will be re-applying for the Emerging Adults funds for 18-25 year olds. Staff is starting to slowly go back into the office. No major events happening in Farmington area. Mobile health unit is not going out this summer, They are trying to promote wearing masks as a public health stand point. They are going to apply emerging adults again.
- OCMHS- Still mitigating COVID-19 and supporting summer vacation times for staff.
- Larry Labonte Recovery Center- Starting Wed. at 7pm, LLRC will start to host recovery meetings in house with all the proper protocols. Support meetings are in place for people that have family members affected by SUD and because 12 steps haven't been wanted for right now. On July 20th from 4-5:30pm, Smart Recovery will be taking place. March 12th was the last time they were open, so they now have to re-promote that they are reopening and getting people interested again. Recovery coach training has taken place online Aug. 1st there is a Ride for Recovery- motorcycle ride followed by BBQ and band and all proceeds go to LLRC. Ride is from Naples to Bethel. BBQ will be at the Savage Food Store in Bethel.
- Safe Voices- Just started going into court again, limit contact. Schedule is scattered right now, the helpline is still available M-F. Adapted all spaces for 1 on 1 meetings. All by appointment for now.
- Tri County- Staff starting to come back to the office, staggered schedule for everyone and have been doing outside meeting. Telehealth is not working as well as they like due to spotty broadband services in Rural Areas in Western Maine.
- MVHS- Athletics are starting up again to gets kids working out which started yesterday, limit amount of students that can be together, 1st stages with 2 weeks of training and then adding after the 2 weeks. Academic they have been working on getting committees together to start planning the school year, everything is moving forward which is great, but there are no definite yet, but it is moving forward.
- HOH- Returning to the office soon and just started a substance task force in hopes to apply for the DFC grant.
- Ben Tucker- Senators are in a 2 week recess. Collins and King have been working on Broadband, more help in funding for education and much more. They have been really active from working from home, started going to office one at a time. Ben's Email: Ben_Tucker@king.senate.gov

We had a great conversation about lack of health insurance for folks looking for mental health services. Michelle at Tri-County said that they have grant funding for SUD and others affected by SUD, but Tri- doesn't have funding for mental health. Miki- brought up the challenges of health insurance in and out of network services. Most mental health services are out of pocket and/or in-pocket but with a very high deductible. Ben T. mentioned that we notify our local and state

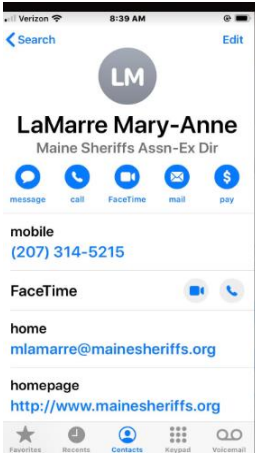
Vision: *A safe and healthy community*



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representatives to let them know about these challenges. He mentioned that representatives need to be reminded of the state budget and putting pressure on representatives to allocate \$\$ for rural areas to address these issues. We need more mental health services and need to be available and health insurances shouldn't be a barrier in getting help.



Future Meeting Dates:
August 11th

Thank you for continued support and commitment to RVR!