

Workgroup Meeting Minutes

Virginia Higher Education Substance Use Advisory Committee (VHESUAC) Members in attendance:

Maria Altonen, Virginia Department of Health

Susie Bruce, University of Virginia

Sasha Johnson, Longwood University

Rebecca LaBelle, Virginia Cannabis Control Authority

Ray Tuttle, University of Mary Washington

Virginia ABC Community Health and Engagement staff members in attendance:

Matt Santucci

Chris Young – VHESUAC Coordinator

Others in attendance:

n/a

VHESUAC members not in attendance:

Pamela Bertone

Craig Branch

Cynthia Burwell

Keith Cartwright

Maureen Dalbec

Marc Dawkins

Brittany Everett

Melodie Fearnow-Kenney

Tom Grane

Ashley LeDuc

Cheri Maea

Julia Mogren

Jill Russett

Maribel Saimre

Dana Schrad

Barbara Storm

Lauren Yerkes

Welcome and Introductions

Approval of the Minutes

- Approval of the April 2024 minutes was skipped and will be done at the October 2024 meeting. The VHESUAC Coordinator has noticed some technical difficulties with Microsoft Outlook's new updated client as far sending updates to calendar events.

VHESUAC Updates

▪ In-person Meetings

VHESUAC will continue conducting in-person meetings. Meetings will be held at Virginia ABC Headquarters in Mechanicsville, Virginia. There will be limited opportunities for attending virtually, members can attend the meeting virtually if they provide a medical or specific personal reason and it is approved by the meeting coordinator. This attendance information will be recorded within the meeting minutes. There also may be the opportunity for individual members to attend virtually depending on the distance between the meeting location and the member's principal residence.

▪ Upcoming Campus Newsletter

The VHESUAC Fall newsletter will be sent on August 26. Contents will include:

- Prevention with a Purpose
- Cannabis Cessation Guide
- Two articles discussing the sale of alcohol at college football stadiums
- Article discussing the NCAA's policy update regarding cannabis in narrow football instances

▪ VHESUAC Recognition Program

Three campuses submitted applications in the VHESUAC Recognition Program and all three applications were complete. The applying campuses were:

- Longwood University
- Northern Virginia Community College
- Virginia State University

The Campus Recognition Program continues to see success through a growing geographical spread and a broadening of institutional type. Northern Virginia Community College will be the first campus from northern Virginia to be recognized and Virginia State University will be the first HBCU to be recognized. The program also continues to reach campuses that do not have an official tie with VHESUAC, as neither of those campuses are represented on VHESUAC. Longwood University's application is also a success, with the campus becoming the first campus apply and be recognized in consecutive years.

The program also continues to see room for growth. Three applications is fewer than the five applications in the previous year, and only one of those five applied to renew its recognition. There is a continued need to put the program in front of campus administrators and staff. Members of the

Workgroup identified the Virginia Student Services Conference as a potential place to present the program to a receptive audience of campus administrators.

- **Upcoming Annual Report**

The VHESUAC Coordinator has begun writing the FY24 VHESUAC Annual Report. The FY23 Annual Report contained data on ATOD usage rates, mental health statistics and institutional priorities. The Workgroup was asked if there were any other topics that should be included in the report. The availability of alcohol at college athletic stadiums was mentioned as a potential topic for inclusion.

- **Membership Drive**

The VHESUAC Coordinator proposed conducting a membership drive to restore VHESUAC attendance numbers to the attendance numbers before the COVID-19 pandemic. Workgroup members agreed that a membership drive was a good idea, and shared how they were recruited to the committee originally. A timeline will be presented at the October 2024 Workgroup meeting.

Agency News, Successful Efforts and Discussion

- **Virginia ABC**

Dale Farino was named as the new CEO of Virginia ABC in April.

Community Health and Engagement has been reassigned to be under COO Tom Kirby, placing it alongside other divisions such as Retail, Enforcement and Communications.

Future Meetings

All meetings are held from 10am – 12pm and will be held in-person at Virginia ABC's headquarters in Mechanicsville, Virginia.

October 17, 2024

January 16, 2025

April 17, 2025

Coordinator, Chris Young, adjourned the meeting at 12:01 p.m.