

**The Clay Counts Coalition**

**June Meeting Agenda**

**Wednesday, June 18, 2025**

**Stuart Administrative Center**

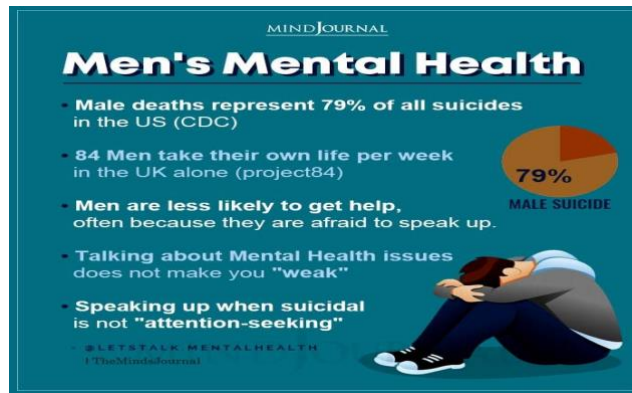
**Noon to 1:00 Lunch Provided**

Attendees: Lori Martin, Matt Weller, Dana Rickley, Craig Rickley, Michelle Tessaro, Audrey Waid, Colleen O'Connell, Melissa Petesch, Melanie Musselman, Sophia Gallup, Allie Martin, Paul Tessaro, Tracy Myers, Lisa Last

Zoom: Bryce Dolan, Ryan Duey, Jeremy Johnson, Arielle Kelly, Kimberly Sanchez

***What I Can Learn Time: Analyzing our Data: Jeremy Johnson from Greenbush will present on the results of the Kansas Communities that Care Survey.***

- Jeremy ([Jeremy.johnson@greenbush.org](mailto:Jeremy.johnson@greenbush.org)) started by thanking both local media outlets for being at the meeting to share the good things happening in Clay Center.
- Clay Center Communities That Care Survey Info:
  - KCTC has been administered for the past 30 years by Greenbush to KS students
  - It is sent out to every school district in KS for free (anonymous survey)
  - Measures attitudes, behaviors, and perceptions of students in grades 6, 8, 10, 12
  - Survey is designed by data scientists hired by Greenbush
  - Based on this data, districts and coalitions can make strategic plans
- KCTC Clay County Data
  - 82% of Clay County students took the survey in 2025 (22% of all KS students participated)
  - Usage for alcohol, vaping, binge drinking, and marijuana is down in Clay County
  - Vaping has replaced cigarettes
  - Knowledge of Fentanyl and its risks have increased
  - Roughly 2/3 of students say they have seen students being bullied at school
  - Roughly 1/3 of students say they have been bullied at school
    - This matches statewide data
  - 30% of students said they have experience depression (down from 33% in 2024)
  - 28% of students have seriously considered killing themselves (down from 36%)
  - 18% made a plan to kill themselves (down from 23%)
  - 9% have attempted suicide (down from 11%)
  - 23% were worried food would run out (down from 29%)
  - 14% missed a meal because there wasn't enough \$\$ to buy food (down from 15%)
- How do districts use KCTC data?
  - Grants/funding
    - Greenbush can help with this
  - Partnership building
  - Staffing & program decisions
  - Peer, staff, and community education



- Matt is writing a monthly article in the Dispatch and Regional talking about this data
  - Districts can offer data to students, staff, and community members
    - Matt is planning to have a USD 379 staff presentation in August

### ***How I Can Contribute Time***


- Review 12-Month Action Plan
  - We didn't get time to review this, so Lori gave homework to the group to look over the plan and send her feedback. This needs to be done ASAP. Thank you for your help!
- YLink Report
- Report on YLink State Convention
  - Taylor Johnson was a speaker at the state Ylink convention, and the students at Ylink said they would like him to come speak at CCCHS and CCCMS
  - Taylor can present in schools and for the community in the evening
  - Maybe the arts council could help with this? Lori and Dana will check into this
  - The members present made a motion to pay \$2,000 to have him come to Clay Center on Tuesday, Sept. 2 (September is suicide prevention month). This was approved unanimously.
- 6/19/25 "Hot Dog It's Summer" Pool Party has been postponed to August 7
- First Responder DCCCA Opportunity: Arielle Kelly
  - DCCCA's Leave Behind Program is designed to help reduce overdose deaths in Kansas by ensuring Naloxone kits are available where they're most needed. These prepackaged kits are left at the residence or the scene of a suspected drug overdose, either with the individual involved or someone who called for help. This program is meant to complement, not replace, the work that first responder agencies already provide.
  - If agencies choose to participate, your agency will receive a \$1,000 stipend to develop a leave-behind policy for suspected overdose responses. DCCCA will supply each agency with kits that include Naloxone, Fentanyl test strips, DisposeRx packets, educational materials, a Rural Resource Toolkit to assist with locating treatment centers, a CPR shield, and single-use gloves.
  - All of this is provided at no cost to first responder agencies. Our goal is to reduce the number of drug overdose deaths in the state of Kansas by partnering with those who work directly with individuals affected by substance use.
  - The requirements are minimal. Agencies will need to submit an MOU agreement, W-9, and provide us with an estimate of the number of kits the agency will need for the year.
- The group watched a video from Kate Larson regarding different types of bullying in CCCMS
  - Kate started a Blue Ribbon campaign and school presentations to combat this; She plans to be a part of Ylink next year at CCCHS
- Girls on the Run: Allie and Sophia are looking to start a Clay Center organization
  - This would run Sept. 15 - Nov. 10 (run twice a week for 90 minutes)
  - Could be embedded into Project LEAD time for grades 3-5

MIND JOURNAL

## Men's Mental Health

- Male deaths represent 79% of all suicides in the US (CDC)
- 84 Men take their own life per week in the UK alone (project84)
- Men are less likely to get help, often because they are afraid to speak up.
- Talking about Mental Health issues does not make you "weak"
- Speaking up when suicidal is not "attention-seeking"

79% MALE SUICIDE



LET'S TALK MENTAL HEALTH  
TheMindJournal

- They are looking for other adult helpers and financial assistance

### ***How I Can Help Time***

- Help With the Community Garden

### ***Next Meeting***

- Wednesday, August 13, 2025 @ Noon at the Stuart Administrative Center

### ***Our Mission***

- The Clay Counts Coalition exists to promote social, physical, and mental well-being for the residents of Clay County, emphasizing reduction of youth substance use and to foster a thriving environment in which to live, learn, and play.