



**CECIL COUNTY DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES FOR June 25, 2015**

**Meeting Location:** Cecil County Health Department, 401 Bow Street, Elkton

**Members In Attendance:** Scott Adams, John Bennett, Sean Cannon, Ken Collins, Joseph Fisona, Howard Isenberg, Tyra Kenly, Tom Klenk, Rebecca Larson, Mike Massuli, Dr. Alan McCarthy, Nancy Turner

**Others In Attendance:** Becky Arbogast, Earl Bradford, Darcy Brazzle, Diana Broomell, Dr. Denise Carise, Sam Dickerson, Jean-Marie Donahoo, April Frost, Tahia Glanton, Erika Johnson, Lindsay Jones, Linda Katz, Kyle L, Beanna P, Stephanie Palko, Gwen Parrack, Jennifer Tuerke, Robin Waddell, Brianna P, Karl Webner, Jeffrey Wineholt Sr.

**Call to Order:** John Bennett called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

**COUNCIL BUSINESS:**

**Chairperson’s Report, John Bennett:**

- Chairperson Bennett provided an overview of DAAC’s purpose.
- He reported that Supreme Court upheld the Affordable Care Act which will open up additional subsidies for substance abuse treatment.
- Mr. Bennett reminded participants that a majority of DAAC members shall constitute a quorum. Based on the membership, eleven DAAC members in attendance form a quorum.

**Board of Health Report, Stephanie Garrity:**

- No report.

**County Executive Report, Joe Fisona reporting for Tari Moore:**

- The County Executive was a presenter at the 2015 Annual Chesapeake Health Education Program (CHEP) Addictions Conference. She spoke about the many programs and partnerships implemented in Cecil County and the role that elected officials should play. Two Peer Recovery Advocates, Jennifer Tuerke and Sam Dickerson, joined Ms. Moore and spoke of their experiences in recovery and the role that program plays in successful recovery.
- Sheriff Scott Adams, Chief Gerry Widdoes and Ken Collins joined with Executive Moore to meet with the Circuit Court judges and other staff to discuss the new Vivitrol Program that will begin in the Detention Center. Vivitrol is administered by injection and blocks opioid receptors for 29 days. Cecil County received a \$47K grant for this program. The care coordinator is the main

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component of this grant, identifying the right candidate for the Vivitrol program and linking them to the right services once they are released from the Detention Center. The first injection is free with subsequent shots costing about \$600 each.

- During this year's General Assembly session, Maryland Association of Counties (MACO) secured the passage of legislation to address the heroin crisis throughout Maryland by expanding a county-focused grant program ,STOP, for substance abuse treatment. Another important bill that passed extended civil immunity under the Good Samaritan Act for acts of ordinary negligence to specified rescue and emergency care personnel administering medications or treatment in response to an apparent drug overdose.
- During a recent Mayor's Drug Task Force meeting, participants discussed efforts to increase the bail for drug dealers.

### **DAAC Officer Elections**

- John Bennett read from Article 5 Section 5.1 of the By-Laws. The officers for DAAC shall be a chairperson, a vice-chairperson and a secretary. DAAC officers shall be elected every 2 years during the last meeting of the fiscal year. Appreciation extended to Rebecca Larson, Nancy Turner and Tom Klenk who had agreed to serve as the DAAC nominating committee.
- Ms. Turner reported on efforts to seek nominations for the positions of President and Vice-president. The Secretary shall be the Health Officer or the designee. One nomination for President (John Bennett) and two nominations for vice-president, (Jack Foreaker, Joe Fisona) were received. Ms. Turner asked for additional nominations. None offered.
- A motion was made for John Bennett to be elected as President, the motion was voted on and passed.
- The nomination for Vice President was voted on by ballot. When the ballots were all counted, Jack Foreaker had the majority of the votes. A motion was made to appoint Jack Foreaker as Vice President of the council. The motion was voted on and passed.

### **Discussion of "Plans, Strategies and Priorities for Meeting the Identified Needs of the General Public and the Criminal Justice System for Alcohol and Drug Abuse Evaluation, Prevention, and Treatment for FY16-FY18," John Bennett**

- This is the sixth edition of the plan. It has been updated and added to every two years as required by law. The existing plan is in black and the updates such as additions and deletions are in red. Seven members attended a recent planning work group to prepare the current draft. Said draft was shared with the members and posted on the Health Department's website prior to this meeting.
- DAAC members reviewed and discussed the draft plan. No further changes to the goals and objectives were suggested. A motion was made, seconded and passed for adoption of the plan as submitted by the work group. [New plan attached as addendum to these minutes.]

### **PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION TOPICS:**

#### **Update on Liquor Control Board Compliance Inspections, Earl Bradford**

- Mr. Bradford spoke about the Maryland Strategic Prevention Framework Coalition funding (\$10,000 in 2013, \$12,000 in 2014 and \$23,000 in 2015) for increased Liquor Control Board compliance inspections.
- Prior to 2013 the Board was able to provide one round of the compliance check and observed a 45% failure rate. In 2013 and 2014, two rounds were supported, and the failure rate decreased.

During 2015, the Coalition was able to conduct three rounds of inspections and results improved. In the first round of this year 109 establishments were visited and 22 sold, out of those 22 the next time only 3 sold. Second round, 112 establishments were visited and 10 sold and out of those ten the next time they were visited none sold. In the third round, 107 establishments were visited and only 4 sold, out of those 4, the next time around 0 sold. The numbers are very encouraging.

- At first failure, the establishment receives notice that they are required to take a four hour training or pay a \$250 fine. If they continue to fail, they could eventually lose their license.
- Mr. Bradford thanked Cecil County Government, the MSPF, Maryland Highway Safety and the DAAC for their support.
- Mr. Bennett recommended that Mr. Bradford send a copy of his final report to Lieutenant Governor's Task Force.

#### **Update on Recovery Centers of America, Dr. Denise Carise**

- Dr. Denise Carise, Chief Medical Officer for Recovery Centers for America (RCA), presented the plans for the Center opening in Earleville. Dr. Carise informed the Council and audience that RCA is a start up planning to open eight Drug and Alcohol Recovery campuses from Boston to DC including one in Earleville. The campuses will have detoxification services, residential, partial hospitalization, intensive outpatient, family therapy, NA, AA, Alanon and Naranon meetings. Traditional Outpatient will be conducted in satellite sites. The goal is for people to get everything they need in one place.
- For Earleville, plans include 21 adult detoxification beds and 28 adult rehabilitation beds. Adolescents may be served in the future. The program will accept commercial insurance and self pay, and hopes to eventually accept Medicaid. A small portion of the beds will be allocated to scholarships for residents of the local community.
- RCA will use an evidence based practice which will measure and report outcomes. Practitioners will consist of doctors, nurses, psychiatrists and licensed therapists. All this information and more can be obtained on their website.
- RCA hopes to open by the end of the calendar year. All the applications have been submitted to the Maryland Health Care Commission for review.
- DAAC membership encouraged Dr. Carise/RCA to meet with the Earleville community.

#### **Update on Voices of Hope for Cecil County, Jennifer Tuerke**

- Voices of Hope for Cecil County is a group of people in recovery, family members, and the general public who support recovery. Their mission is to advocate for recovery resources, mentor others in recovery, and work to eliminate the stigma that is associated with addiction and recovery. Voices of Hope (VOH) meets every Wednesday at 5:30 pm at the Health Department. VOH has an e-mail reach of 100 people and 1,000 likes on Facebook. The group recently celebrated their one year anniversary.
- VOH current projects include: Adopt a Highway (cleaning the Rte. 40 stretch by Hollingsworth Manor); a Youth Mentoring Program which matches a volunteer Recovery coach with a self identified young person interested in this project; and Jail mentoring (which currently serves six women from the workrelease program of the Cecil County Jail. Upcoming events and projects include, What Helps? What Harms? Workshop 5:00 – 7:00 pm on July 13 for Transitional Youth 18 – 29 years old, Cecil County Recovery Walk in September, Homeless Outreach - Rotating Shelter involvement, Overdose Vigil in North East Park on August 30 and Human Rope Against Dope - date to be determined.
- Voices of Hope also work with Cecil Advocates for Recovery Education (CARE) whose main focus is to support families and children in Cecil County. CARE and VOH presented addiction facts and recovery resources to interested staff and families at North East Middle School. CARE

and Voices of Hope also worked together with Father Martin's Ashley to promote their Rainbow of Hope Program. Recently, ten children and six adults from Cecil County attended that program.

- Ms. Tuerke communicated that the number one priority for Voices of Hope remains the need for inpatient detox and rehab services in Cecil County. She expressed disappointment for the DAAC vote against providing a letter of support for Recovery Centers of America's application for the Earleville project.

#### **Fifth Annual Cecil County 12- Step Recovery Walk, Elaine Barclay**

- Ms. Barclay spoke about the Recovery Walk which is part of the Cecil County celebration of National Recovery Month. She urged the DAAC membership to promote the event, announced that flyers for the event would be distributed soon, and commented that the Walk is for everyone, not just those in Recovery. Many different agencies share information and resources at the event. She also urged that everyone send in their suggestions for future Recovery Walks.

### **REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES FROM JUNE 25, 2015**

Minutes from the DAAC meeting of March 26, 2015 were reviewed and adopted.

#### **FOR THE GOOD OF THE CAUSE:**

##### **Sheriff Scott Adams, Cecil County Sheriff's Office:**

Reported seeing an increase in fatal overdoses in the past week.

##### **Sean Cannon, Cecil County Public Schools**

Mr. Cannon informed DAAC that Cecil County Public Schools will be conducting a training for Secondary School Administrators in July on how to detect prescription pill abuse. Funding for the program was obtained by the Cecil County Drug Free Community Coalition. CCPS is also planning a presentation in the Fall suggested by the Sheriff's office called "The Tall Cop Says Stop."

##### **Nancy Turner, Serenity Health:**

Ms. Turner reported seeing an increase in Benzodiazepine and Fentanyl-laced heroin abuse at her agency. Also observed toxicology results which suggest possible use of the synthetic drug "krokodil." Ms. Turner would like to collaborate with the Police Department and provide them with information that they obtain within the agency without compromising patient confidentiality. Sheriff Adams agreed that he would be interested in speaking to her about this collaboration.

##### **Tom Klenk, Public Defender's Office, Adult Drug Treatment Court:**

Mr. Klenk reported there are 100 Drug Court participants at this time. They are at capacity and have a waiting list.

##### **Ken Collins, Cecil County Health Department:**

Mr. Collins spoke about the Overdose Prevention Program. Reported that 716 people have been trained to date, including 228 from Law Enforcement. He informed everyone that 32 lives have been saved as a result of this training, and urged anyone who has not taken the training to contact Karl Webner to schedule a session.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Diana Broomell voiced concern over her belief that the Whitsitt Center was not included in the Council's Plan, Strategies and Priorities.

Linda Katz voiced her agreement with Voices of Hope that there is a great need for services in Cecil County. Mrs. Katz also stated that she has not heard sufficient information on RCA plans to serve Cecil County residents who need inpatient substance abuse treatment.

Adjourned: 4:00 PM

Next Meeting: September 24, 2015

Submitted by Alicia O'Connor

This document was approved during the regularly scheduled meeting of the Cecil County Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council on September 24, 2015.