



**CECIL COUNTY DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES FOR March 24, 2016**

Meeting Location: Cecil County Health Department

Members In Attendance: John Bennett, Tyler Brown, Ken Collins, Joe Fisona, Jack Foreaker, Stephanie Garrity, Tyra Kenly, Rebecca Larson, Mike Massuli

Others In Attendance: Elaine Barclay, Gregg Bortz, Virgil Boysaw, Katie Carroll, Dan Coulter, Beth Creek, Connie Dausch, Alex Denstman, Chelsea Dueitt, Janet Forney, April Foster, Tania Glanton, Ashley Hinch, Ardenia Holland, Howard Isenberg, Steve Kendrick, Rebecca Kiersznowski, Rod Kornrumpf, Dorothyann LeFore, David Lincoln, Erin McPherson, Step Mika, Brenda Miller, Harlan Miller, Andrew Pons, Gwen Parrack, Richard Raftery, Lauren Reck, Lori Rugle, Alison Russell, Bob Sears, Lisa Smith, George Stanko, Robin Waddell, Karl Webner, Patrick Webb

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:

- Announced the resignation of Nancy Turner from the DAAC.
- In reference to the Certificate of Need application for Recovery Centers of America (RCA), a letter had been drafted for submission to Maryland Health Care Commission. The letter requested two “charity care” beds for Cecil County residents. Majority of Council voted to support the document and it was subsequently submitted to the Commission in January 2016.
- The Community Health Advisory Committee (CHAC) met in January 2016 to select health priorities for Cecil County. Priorities selected included: Behavioral Health (Illicit Drug Use / Problem Alcohol Use, Mental Health, Access to Behavioral Health Care); Chronic Disease (Diabetes, Heart Disease and Stroke, Respiratory / Lung Diseases); and Determinants of Health (Poverty, Homelessness, and Educational Attainment).
- Mr. Bennett reported that the DAAC would initiate a subcommittee to discuss and report on legislative session bills. Invited DAAC members to consider volunteering as chair for the subcommittee. Chair selection pending.

Board of Health Report, Stephanie Garrity:

- The Board of Health consists of the County Executive, County Council and Health Officer. The Board of Health met on December 8, 2016, and the Lieutenant Governor’s Heroin and Opioid Task Force Report was discussed.

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ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES410-996-5550	ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES410-996-5160
ALCOHOL & DRUG RECOVERY CENTER . . . . .	.410-996-5106	HEALTH PROMOTION . . . . .	.410-996-5168
OFFICE OF EPIDEMIOLOGY & EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS. . . . .	.410-996-5113	SPECIAL POPULATIONS MENTAL HEALTH C.S.A. . . . .	.410-996-5112
COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES. . . . .	.410-996-5130	TTY USERS FOR DISABLED: MARYLAND RELAY . . . . .	.800-201-7165
DISEASE CONTROL . . . . .	.410-996-5100	EN ESPAÑOL . . . . .	.410-996-5550 EXT. 4680

HEALTH DEPARTMENT TOLL FREE . . . 877-334-9985

County Executive Report:

- No report at this time.

County Health Officer Report, Stephanie Garrity:

- There are several important pieces of legislation under consideration by the General Assembly. The last day of the session is April 11, 2016. Will report on relevant signed bills at the next DAAC meeting.

PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION TOPICS:**Fatality Review Team, Summary of First Annual Report - Karl Webner, Overdose Prevention Coordinator:**

- Presented findings on intoxication deaths that were reviewed by Cecil County's Local Overdose Fatality Review Team and based on the annual report submitted to the Behavioral Health Administration in December 2015.
 - Intoxication deaths: Forty three cases of intoxication death were reviewed between July 2014 and November 2015 with deaths having occurred between January 2014 and June 2015.
 - The mean and median victim age was 41 years old.
 - 71% of overdose deaths occurred in the victim's primary residence.
 - Heroin was attributed to the greatest number of deaths - indicated 19 times.
 - Prescription medications (non-opioid and non-benzodiazepine) were attributed to the second greatest - indicated 13 times.
- Based on observed trends, LOFRT noted evidence to provide and/or augment the following:
 - Expand overdose response training and increase access to naloxone in the community.
 - Provide education, outreach, and supportive services for family members of substance abusers.
 - Train somatic care providers to complete Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) protocols.
 - Embed peer recovery specialists within the offices of somatic care providers.
 - Expand use of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program and mandate provider participation.
 - Initiate contact with family members of victims to provide access to supportive and treatment services.
 - Ensure care coordination and provider follow-through to ensure continuity of care, regardless of treatment level, discharge type, or perceived patient progress/expected outcome.
- Currently implemented recommendations included:
 - Overdose risk screening at assessment for treatment providers.
 - Overdose prevention education incorporated into substance use disorder (SUD) treatment orientation/curriculum.
 - Distribution of "Ready for Help" outreach/contact cards by emergency services responders to surviving overdose victims.
 - Multimedia campaign aimed at local community providing access to resources, increased awareness, and stigma reduction - RewriteYourScript.org

Expansion of Residential Treatment, Whitsitt Center Update - Andrew Pons, Director Whitsitt Center:

- Mr. Pons spoke regarding efforts to expand the A.F. Whitsitt Center in Chestertown, MD, based on recommendations of the August 25, 2015 - Interim Report of Maryland's Heroin & Opioid

Emergency Task Force. In September 2015, the Chestertown program received state funding to increase capacity from 24 beds to 40 beds; 32 of the 40 beds are currently open.

- The additional residential beds reduced wait time for admission to detoxification and residential treatment. The wait time has oscillated during the past year. The current wait time for all Eastern Shore referrals is between one and two weeks.
- Recognized the efforts of Cecil County's Care Coordinators. The Health Department's Care Coordinators are often involved with patients in "crisis" and assist with obtaining appropriate placement in detoxification, residential, and recovery housing.

New Beginnings Christian Fellowship and Monarch House Recovery House, Update -

Richard Raftery, Board Member for New Beginnings, presenting for Pastor Phil Meekins:

- Mr. Raftery announced that New Beginnings is in the planning stage for development of a recovery community center on Howard Street in Elkton. When complete, the center would host recovery support group meetings, a food pantry, and offices for Voices of Hope and Health Department's Peer Recovery Specialists.
- New Beginnings also recently purchased a 100 acre farm on Blue Ball Road. The farm's existing house will be used as a sober house and the working farm will offer vocational opportunities for residents of the house and others in the recovery community. Currently, 4 men are residing in the house with plans to expand up to 16.
- New Beginnings Christian Fellowship continues to offering Celebrate Recovery programs.

Hospital Update - Rod Kornrumpf, FACHE, Regional Executive Director-Behavioral Health, Union Hospital of Cecil County, UM Upper Chesapeake Health System:

- Mr. Kornrumpf reported that Harford County and Cecil County are consolidating their efforts to build a state of the art Behavioral Health Campus in an effort to expand behavioral health solutions. The program is expected to open in 2020.
- Reported continued progress toward development of a Crisis Center. The program will provide short-term acute stabilization of behavioral health (substance abuse and mental health) conditions and hopefully reduce visits to the hospital's emergency room. Crisis Center is expected to open during the summer or fall of 2017.
- Steve Kendrick added to the hospital update, reporting on Ashley's progress to provide services in Cecil County. Similar to the program initiated at Upper Chesapeake Hospital, Harford County, Ashley plans to offer intensive outpatient SUD treatment on property leased from Union Hospital.

Problem Gambling Treatment in Maryland

Lori Rugle, PhD, NCGC-II, Director, Maryland Center of Excellence on Problem Gambling

- The Maryland Center of Excellence on Problem Gambling, a program of the University of Maryland School of Medicine, has been established to address gambling problems.
- Medical Assistance through Beacon Health compensates Mental Health providers to treat gambling disorders. Problem gambling re-imburement from Medicaid for SUD providers is not currently permitted. SUD providers with state grant funds can treat gambling disorders with said grant funds.
- The Center is working with Health Departments and other providers to infuse the topic of gambling and the impact that it has on people's lives. Asking providers to make it a topic of conversation.
- Working closely with the Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) to resolve barriers to gambling treatment.
- The Center's current promotional campaign includes television ads and billboards. Currently, no billboards in Cecil County.

- Ardenia Holland, Problem Gambling Services Administrator for BHA, added to Ms. Ruggle's report and advocated for treatment of gambling disorders. Suggested that it may be possible in the future for all credentialed behavioral health providers to be reimbursed for treatment of gambling disorders.

REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES FROM September 24, 2016

Minutes from the DAAC meeting of September 24, 2016 were reviewed and adopted.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE CAUSE:

Jack Foreaker, Haven House: Informed that Haven House is currently moving forward through the accreditation process with ACHC-Accreditation Commission for Health Care. Reported that Haven House has a few open beds and continues to accept referrals. Reported providing a presentation on substance use disorders for Upper Bay Counseling. Commented on positive progress toward the DAAC plan.

Ken Collins, Cecil County Health Department: Commented on positive progress toward the Overdose Prevention Plan. Introduced Virgil Boysaw as the coordinator for the Cecil County Drug Free Community Coalition.

Howard Isenberg, Open Door/Family Services: an Open Door staff member with Delaware counselor certification was recently approved to work in Maryland. Intend to hire additional staff to expand SUD services in Cecil County.

Rebecca Larson, Union Hospital: Reported that Union Hospital's Intensive Outpatient (IOP) Program is operational and accepting new clients.

Mike Massuli, Cecil County Health Department: Expressed appreciation to Step Mika and Beth Creek for their leadership as coordinators of Cecil County's second iteration of Maryland Strategic Prevention Framework (MSPF-II) Coalition. Reported that Voices of Hope hosted its inaugural gratitude banquet on February 13, 2016. A guest speaker was John Shinholser, a person in long-term recovery who appeared in "The Anonymous People" film.

George Stanko, Cecil County Sheriff's Office (Representative for Sheriff Scott Adams): Suggested promotion of overdose prevention, treatment and recovery support services on Cecil County buses.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Rebecca Kiersznowski: Reported that Upper Bay was approved to provide substance use disorder treatment.

April Foster: Informed on the STEPS Recovery Resources. Invited others to visit the program's website: <http://www.stepsrecoveryresources.org/>

Elaine Barclay: Announced that the Recovery Walk would be held on September 24, 2016. It is the last Saturday of September. Encouraged all to participate in the planning process and support the event.

John Bennett: Announced that vacancies on DAAC exist, and encouraged anyone interested to submit an application to County government.

Adjourned: 4:30 PM
Next Meeting: June 21, 2016
Submitted by Alicia O'Connor