



CECIL COUNTY DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE COUNCIL (DAAC) MEETING MINUTES FOR June 21, 2018

Meeting Location: Cecil County Health Department

Members In Attendance: John Bennett, Ken Collins, Joe Fisona, April Foster, Stephanie Garrity, Lorri Irrgang, Tyra Kenly, Thomas Klenk, Rebecca Larson, Sheri Lazarus, Mike Massuli, Alison Russell, Dr. James W. Ziccardi.

Others In Attendance: NicolaBartreau, Virgil Boysaw, Jr., Daniel Coulter, Jonathan Creamer, John Davis, Tahia Glanton, Jackie Hartman, Suzanne Kalmbacher, Sonia Pandit, Tasha Peniche, Reuven Verschleisser, Jeffrey Wineholt, Sr., Stephanie Winfree.

Call to Order: John Bennett called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

COUNCIL BUSINESS:

Chairperson’s Report, John Bennett:

- Regarding a quorum for the prior and current meeting, reported that the DAAC (Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council) is comprised of appointed and ex-officio members as required by legislation. We do not expect all voting members to attend every meeting, but member absence does affect our quorum when voting on items such as approving the meeting minutes. It’s not a matter of lack of interest, but due to the makeup of the legislation that created the local Drug Councils with specific ex-officio members.
No additional report at this time.

Board of Health Report – Stephanie Garrity:

- The Board of Health met on March 27, 2018. The topic of the March meeting was the opioid epidemic. The Board of Health meeting was recorded and can be found on the ccgov.org website under: ccgov.org/government/county-council/council-meeting-agendas-minutes-audio-recordings/board-of-health-meetings/.

County Executive Report – Dr. Alan McCarthy:

- No report at this time.

County Health Officer Report – Stephanie Garrity:

- The Maryland Opioid Operation Command Center (OOCC) created by Governor Hogan’s emergency declaration to address the opioid crisis received federal funding to be spent among local jurisdictions. For fiscal year 2019, Cecil County will receive approximately \$127,000 in federal funds along with some state dollars from the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA). Funds will be disbursed by the Cecil County Health

Healthy People. Healthy Community. Healthy Future.

Table with 2 columns listing services and phone numbers: ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES, ALCOHOL & DRUG RECOVERY CENTER, OFFICE OF EPIDEMIOLOGY & EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES, DISEASE CONTROL, ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, HEALTH PROMOTION, SPECIAL POPULATIONS MENTAL HEALTH C.S.A., TTY USERS FOR DISABLED: MARYLAND RELAY, EN ESPAÑOL, HEALTH DEPARTMENT TOLL FREE . . . 877-334-9985

Department (CCHD). CCHD collaborates with other partners through the local Opioid Intervention Team (OIT) team led by Chief Brooks. For FY2018, the OIT selected four priorities: (1) expand use of Peer Recovery Support Specialists in the Outreach to Overdose Survivors program; (2) support Cecil County Drug Free Communities Coalition youth leadership project with NorthBay; (3) purchase transportation vouchers to reduce barriers to treatment; and (4) hire a short-term consultant to review current behavioral health which includes the substance use disorder crisis response system in Cecil County and make recommendations for expanding said services.

- As of July 1, 2018, there will be a requirement that all physicians and other practitioners who have a Controlled Dangerous Substance (CDS) license and who prescribe CDS must check the Maryland Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) each time a prescription is written. The check should help prevent “doctor shopping.” Our job in Cecil County is to remind physicians and other practitioners to register with the PDMP and check that database. To learn about the law and who must comply, the information is readily available on-line including a google search for “PDMP.”
- Stephanie invited John Davis, Peer Recovery Specialist with Cecil County Health Department, to provide an update on the Overdose Survivor Outreach Program (OSO):
 - On April 15, 2018, the OSO program augmented phone outreach with home visit by Peer Recovery Specialists. Thirty-four home visits completed to date. An additional ninety-five OSO phone calls were also completed. From the 129 contacted, thirty-six individuals enrolled in treatment. Home visits have been helpful to in connecting survivors of overdose to treatment. Individuals have been very receptive to our in-person visits.
 - Discussion: The average time for connecting with a survivor after an overdose incident is approximately 24-48 hours. Union Hospital also contacts Peer Recovery Specialists at the Health Department when an individual is admitted due to an overdose episode. Injection drug users and drug overdose survivors are considered priority causes to obtain access to residential treatment. Peer Recovery Specialists staff at the Health Department obtained same day residential treatment for several overdose survivors. For those individuals waiting for a residential bed, community based services were offered.

Other Committee/ Sub-Committee Reports:

- Workforce Development - Rebecca Larson volunteered to chair the workforce sub-committee and will reach out to members to request committee volunteers.
- John Bennett reminded the council that at the end of the last DAAC meeting in March 2018, Dr. Paul Katz proposed the development of a sub-committee to address the need of preventive care for at-risk children using substances. However, considering Dr. Katz absence from the present meeting, this item will be moved to the next DAAC meeting for further discussion.

PRESENTATIONS:

Student Perspectives on the Drug Free Community Coalition – Virgil Boysaw, Jr., Coordinator, Cecil County Drug Free Communities Coalition (CCDFCC)

- Appreciation was given to Stephanie Garrity and Ken Collins for their advocacy in obtaining funding for the NorthBay Youth Leadership Summit and youth-developed PSA (Public Service Announcement) initiative.

- Two CCDFCC youth leaders, Nicole Baldino and Olayide Ashiru who both recently graduated from Elkton High School were outstanding representatives in addressing risk and protective factors by participating in the development of the strategic plan and prevention programs for Cecil County. The following are examples of their representation:
 - Received the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) Over-the-Counter (OTC) Medicine Safety Program Training in July of 2017; successfully facilitated the OTC program to twenty-five fifth-graders at a private school in Cecil County; participated in the October 2017 Drug Take Back Day round table discussion at Elkton High School with then acting director Richard Baum of the ONDCP; met with Maryland Senators Cardin and Vanhollen during CADCA’s Capitol Hill Day in February of 2018 to discuss collaborative efforts in Cecil County; and were recently asked to provide additional insight to the office of the ONDCP due to their outstanding example of representation last year.
- Youth Sector leaders, Matthew Lynn and Kelsie Meis, both from Bo Manor High School will receive drug prevention training at the CADCA Mid-Year Training Institute in July of 2018.
- The youth developed PSAs, have been edited by Comcast Spotlight for broadcast on television and on-line via social media platforms. May also be screening as pre-shows within movie theatres. Student developed billboards have already been posted throughout Cecil County.

“Travel Training” – Available Public Transportation Instruction – Suzanne Kalmbacher, Jonathan Creamer, Cecil Transit

- Ken Collins reported that LOFRT (Local Overdose Fatality Review Team) recently discussed transportation challenges for individuals seeking behavioral treatment and recovery support services. Based on these conversations, Cecil Transit was invited to speak with various groups, including the DAAC, to describe available resources.
- Suzanne and Jonathan shared that Cecil Transit remains very interested in being part of the solution and welcomes opportunities to collaborate and develop creative ways to address the transportation challenges.
- Cecil Transit services include:
 - Five fixed routes covering Elkton, North East, Charlestown, Perryville and a route in conjunction with Harford County that connects Perryville to Harford; transportation to Newark and Glasgow, Delaware; and a new route providing direct connection between the Newark and Perryville train stations with an intermediate stop at Cecil College. Cecil Transit provides a combination of almost 100,000 rides per year.
 - Demand response bus services: offered on a first come, first served basis and rate structure based on the round trip mileage; a volunteer program which provides transportation on a demand response basis outside of the county; and monthly service to Middletown for shopping is also available.
 - Taxi voucher programs are provided by Key Lime Taxi and Friendly Taxi.
 - “Travel Training” provides assistance to individuals who wish to learn how to use fixed route public transportation. The program helps reduce anxiety experienced by new public transportation riders, and incorporates a free guided ride for individuals and groups.
- Discussion centered on services provided to outlying areas such as Cecilton and Rising Sun. As part of the OIT funding, transportation assistance and referrals to “Travel Training” are planned for FY2019.

- On June 28, 2018, from 5:30 – 8:00 pm at the Elkton Senior Center, Cecil Transit is offering an informational session about “Travel Training” and other transit services, focusing on high school aged students. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.
- Visit “ceciltransit.com” for more information.

Update on Exploration of Syringe Services - Sonia Pandit, The Pandit Group

- Progress made to date since the DAAC meeting of December 14, 2017:
 - Identified and engaged local stakeholders, attended or participated in over 15 community meetings; conducted 17 contacts and interviews with Health Department staff; visited five Syringe Services Programs (SSP) near Cecil County; conducted 14 key informant interviews with Cecil County stakeholders representing various sectors; conducted 45 surveys of individuals actively using injection drugs and five surveys of people in recovery. Surveys were conducted by community organizations and the Peer Recovery Support Specialists.
 - Most stakeholders were very supportive of an SSP in Cecil County.
- Surveys results:
 - 98% of survey respondents actively using injection drugs in Cecil County indicated there was a need for an SSP in Cecil County and would use it if available citing the following reasons: health, prevention of spreading disease and removing used syringes from public places.
 - Cecil County active injection drug users: reported a lack of sufficient supply of needles; inject drugs on average three times per day using two syringes and reuse a syringe approximately 12 times over eight days; reported an average of three wounds from reusing syringes and treated the wounds themselves; reported reusing syringes due to a lack of available clean syringes; reported leaving used syringes in public spaces. When asked how frequently they would use different aspects of a Syringe Services Program, most survey respondents stated they would always use an SSP to return used syringes and not access new syringes.
 - Survey respondents sought treatment for injection drug use on average one time last year and an average of three times during their lifetime. Barriers to treatment included a lack of available treatment programs, finances, transportation and incomplete knowledge on how to use the system.
 - On average, respondents overdosed one time last year and an average of twice in their lifetime. Respondents were administered Naloxone an average of 1.5 times, mostly by a friend, and administered Naloxone to someone else two times, mostly to save a friend.
- Next steps: Continue presenting data collection outcomes; write a proposal and present it to community stakeholders; conduct outreach to partners who would collaborate to execute the program; and submit the application for approval to the Maryland Department of Health.
- Discussion: County Executive Dr. Alan McCarthy extended his support for starting an SSP in Cecil County. Although there has not been vocal opposition from law enforcement, the application will be presented to law enforcement for their feedback before submitting it to the state. A mobile van is not allowed in Elkton town limits but is allowed in the county. There are laws protecting the individual traveling to and from a Syringe Services Program. Current zoning law is a factor in determining how the law is executed regarding a Syringe Services Program. Sonia will send information to DAAC members regarding which Maryland counties have already submitted their applications to the Maryland Department of Health.
- For more information, Sonia Pandit may be reached at Sonia@the.panditgroup.com.

Community Health Survey – Dan Coulter, Cecil County Health Department

- The Cecil County Health Department and Union Hospital in partnership with the Community Health Advisory Committee (CHAC) are undertaking the most recent round of needs assessment and community planning for the county. Information from the Community Health Assessment survey helps to set community health priorities for which resources will be devoted. The survey is conducted every three years in conjunction with Union Hospital.
- The survey has four components: (1) an online perception survey open to all Cecil County adult residents asking their opinions on various health and quality of life issues in the county; (2) focus groups for groups within the county which may experience health issues as a result of their lack of access with respect to cultural, social and environmental barriers; (3) key informant interviews with various stakeholders with extensive knowledge of community health issues; and (4) a review of secondary public health data covering the health status, life statistics and demographics of Cecil County.
- The survey will be open from July through September of 2018.
- DAAC members were invited to help promote the survey.
- The next CHAC meeting is scheduled for July 19, 2018 from 4:30 – 6:00 pm at the Cecil County Health Department.

REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES FROM – (1) December 14, 2017 and (2) March 22, 2018

- April Foster motioned to approve the meeting minutes of December 14, 2017, and Sheri Lazarus seconded. Minutes from the DAAC meeting of December 14, 2017 were reviewed and adopted unanimously with no revisions. Ken Collins motioned to approve the minutes of March 22, 2018, and April Foster seconded. Minutes from the DAAC meeting of March 22, 2018 were reviewed and adopted unanimously with no revisions.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE CAUSE:

Thomas Klenk, Office of the Public Defender for Cecil County:

- Reported that due to the previous Deputy State's Attorney retiring, there is a new Interim Deputy State's Attorney for the Public Defender's Office District 3. District 3 includes Cecil, Caroline, Queene Anne's and Kent Counties.

Dr. Joe Ziccardi:

- Noted a lack of communication between Maryland and bordering states with respect to the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP). Stephanie mentioned the Maryland Department of Health is working on expanding communication with other states so everyone can have access to one PDMP.

April Foster, STEPS Recovery Resources, Inc.:

- Congratulations to STEPS Recovery Resources, Inc. which received the Harland Graef Quality Award for its "extraordinary efforts in 2017 to positively impact the lives of Cecil County residents." The award is presented annually by Union Hospital of Cecil County in memory of Harland Graef, a "tireless proponent of patient safety, education and quality and recognizes a person or group serving as outstanding role models for those working to enhance the health of Cecil County."

Lorri Irrgang, Maryland Coalition of Families (MCF):

- As a family Peer Support Specialist, Lorri provides support to family members of individuals suffering from substance use disorders.

Ken Collins, Alcohol and Drug Recovery Center, Cecil County Health Department:

- The rewriteyourscript.org website had been expanded to include the youth developed PSA videos and additional downloadable resources.
- Members were encouraged to help promote the updated website.

Rebecca Larson, Project Chesapeake

- Project Chesapeake continues to accepting new patients.

Sheri Lazarus, Cecil County Circuit Court

- Drug Court saw a decrease in numbers to 93 participants, largely due to a change in sentencing standards.

Dr. Alan McCarthy, Cecil County Council Executive

- On behalf of the county government, a lawsuit was filed against pharmaceutical companies and distributors to help recover the increasing cost of medical care for Cecil County residents. The initial resolution is scheduled for April of 2019.

Virgil Boysaw, Jr., Cecil County Drug Free Communities Coalition (CCDFCC)

- On June 26, 2018 at 3:30 pm in the Cecil County Health Department Auditorium, there will be a Drug Free Communities Coalition meeting. Representatives from Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) are scheduled to attend. CADCA is an international membership organization representing more than 5,000 community anti-drug coalitions in the United States and abroad. As the nation's leading drug abuse prevention organization, CADCA will provide a brief overview and answer any questions that you may have concerning the field of prevention. All are welcome to attend.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jackie Hartman, Alcohol and Drug Recovery Center, Cecil County Health Department

- A new flyer was developed listing all seven Cecil County permanent prescription drug drop box collection sites. Invited DAAC members to promote the flyer throughout the county.
- The next planning meeting for the 2018 Cecil County 5K - Twelve Step Recovery Walk meeting is scheduled for 2:30 pm, June 26, 2018, in the Alcohol and Drug Recovery Center at the Cecil County Health Department. All DAAC members were encouraged to help plan for the event.

Stephanie Winfree, Program Coordinator, Upper Bay Counseling

- Announced that the substance use disorder program at Upper Bay Counseling is open for business and accepting referrals. Ms. Winfree reported plans to attend Drug Court to connect with those in need of treatment services.

Tasha Peniche, Ashley Addiction Treatment

- Ashley provides two scholarships for our inpatient facility each month for Cecil County. Contact Richard Rafferty at 410-996-5106 for the updated scholarship forms. Marc Butler is able to assist in navigating the scholarship process.

Adjourned: 4:37 PM.
Next Meeting: September 27, 2018, 3:00 p.m.
Submitted by Jackie Hartman