



**Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council
Cecil County Community Health Advisory Committee
July 17, 2014**

The following is a list of activities (January through July 2014) which informed and/or advanced the goals and objectives of the Cecil County Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council (DAAC):

January

- At the suggestion of DAAC representatives, the Health Department released a press statement regarding the dangers of **fantanyl-laced heroin**. The release was sent to the media on January 31, 2014, and subsequently published in several local newspapers.
- The Health Department and DAAC members expanded community awareness of treatment resources with the update and distribution of a resource brochure entitled “Are You Concerned about Someone’s Alcohol or Drug Use?”
- “Voices of Hope for Cecil County” coalition established to promote and elevate visibility of recovery from addiction in Cecil County. (Participants are in active recovery, and many were previously enrolled in Cecil County treatment.)
- Health Department and Union Hospital staff provided guidance to Harford Memorial Hospital’s Behavioral Health Unit toward development of a hospital based PRA program in Harford County.
- Health Department hired an overdose prevention coordinator - **Karl Webner**, to assist in the design, planning, promotion, and implementation of the Cecil County’s overdose prevention plan.

February

- With the sponsorship of the County Executive, the Mayors’ Drug Task Force, the DAAC, and the Health Department, a schedule was developed and released for the showing of “The Anonymous People,” a feature documentary film about the over 23 million Americans living in long-term recovery from alcohol and other drug addiction. A showing was scheduled in all 8 towns in Cecil County, starting in **Charlestown** on February 19, 2014, and concluding in **Rising Sun** on May 28, 2014. Several screenings were also held at Union Hospital, at the Detention Center, and at various faith-based institutions/churches. A discussion on substance abuse followed each screening. The film and discussion helped to elevate visibility of recovery, decrease the related negative stigma, and focus the addiction conversation from problems to solutions. (Combined attendance for all screenings through June 2014 exceeded 1,000 people.)
- Each local DAAC was asked by DHMH to develop an **Overdose Prevention Plan** and add it to their existing substance abuse prevention and treatment plan. Cecil’s plan was adopted and added effective February 1, 2014.
- An **Overdose Prevention and Public Information** forum sponsored by **Haven House, Inc., and Serenity Health LLC** (both **Jack Foreaker** and **Nancy Turner** are members of the DAAC) was developed and presented on February 20, 2014.
- The Cecil County Local Overdose fatality Review Team was established to study overdose deaths and advance overdose prevention planning. The first meeting occurred on February 26, 2014, and continued monthly thereafter.

Healthy People. Healthy Community. Healthy Future.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	410-996-5550	ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES	410-996-5160
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

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- Union Hospital implemented universal substance abuse screening of emergency room patients. The screening process supports referral of identified patients to peer recovery advocates and substance abuse treatment.

March

- An **Overdose Prevention Forum** sponsored by the **Cecil County Health Department** was held on March 6, 2014. **Haven House Director Jack Foreaker** and **Overdose Prevention Coordinator Karl Webner** presented this forum. Attendance estimated at 50 people.
- The town of Elkton established the county's first permanent prescription drug drop-off box inside the municipal building. The fixed drop box provides a safe, convenient and anonymous opportunity to dispose of unused and expired medications.
- The scheduled DAAC meeting was cancelled.

April

- **Drug Take Back** events were held on April 26, 2014, at several police departments, and on April 27, 2014, at the Cecil County Central Landfill. The collection of significant disposal of unused and expired prescription was reported.
- Members of DAAC and Local Management Board submitted a federal grant request to Department of Health and Human Services, SAMHSA, to support a Cecil County Drug Free Communities Coalition. Award announcement expected September 2014.
- Health Department received Harland Graef Quality Award from Union Hospital for hospital based peer recovery advocacy program.
- Health Department initiated Overdose Response Program which included overdose recognition training and distribution of overdose rescue kits with naloxone. (Health Department trained 118 participants, and distributed 100 overdose prevention kits between April 30, and July 11, 2014.)

May

- Health Department staff received Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene "Award for Innovation" for implementation of substance abuse treatment on demand.
- The **Cecil County Council** approved **County Executive Tari Moore's** budget which included funding to (1) initiate an early intervention program for youth first time offenders, (2) expand treatment services within the Cecil County Detention Center, (3) employ three additional peer recovery advocates, (4) add an additional Sheriff's deputy for the Drug Task Force, (5) hire one additional prosecutor to handle drug cases in the state's attorney's office, and (6) support the Cecil County Drug Court operations with funding for a drug court coordinator.

June

- A special showing of "The Anonymous People" with the film's director **Greg Williams** was held on June 20, 2014, at Cecil College. The documentary was followed by a discussion with a panel of several individuals in long-term recovery. 185 individuals attended film and discussion.
- **Heroin Alert with Marie Allen** was held at the Cecil County Health Department on June 24, 2014. Attendance was estimated at 140 people. This event was sponsored by the County Executive, the Mayors' Drug Task Force, the DAAC, and the Health Department.
- The regular June meeting of the DAAC was held on June 26, 2014. The meeting was adjourned prematurely.
- During June 2014, the Cecil County Department of Emergency Services administered Narcan on 23 occasions; (12x in Elkton, 4x in North East, 2x each in Port Deposit and Rising Sun, and 1x each in Colora, Perry Point and Earleville).

July

- The Cecil County Sheriff's Office added three new K-9 units. With the addition, five total K-9 units are available to County law enforcement to help combat the drug problems in the county, and will be used to drug scan vehicles, schools and the correctional facility.
- DHMH released the 2013 summary of Drug and Alcohol Intoxication Deaths in Maryland. For the percentage change between calendar years 2012 and 2013, fatalities and substances involved are outlined below:

Measured Change in Overdose Fatalities between CY2012 and CY2013

	Percentage Change for all Maryland	Percentage Change for Cecil County	Cecil County # of Fatalities 2012 / 2013	
Total overdose fatalities:	7% Increase	4% Increase	25	26
Heroin related:	18% Increase	0% Increase	11	11
Prescription opioid related:	2% Increase	33% Decrease	18	12
Methadone related:	19% Decrease	60% Decrease	10	4
Cocaine related:	1% Increase	150% Increase	2	5
Alcohol related:	23% Increase	50% Increase	6	9