



PREVENTION TASK FORCE

Governor's Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Prevention, Intervention, Treatment & Recovery

Task Force Chair: Traci R. Fowler, tfowlerconsulting@gmail.com

Prevention Task Force

April 1, 2016

Attended: Traci Fowler, Betsy Houde, Susan McKeown, Katie Kachavos, Melissa Schoemmell, Annika Stanley-Smith, Tim Lena, Kate Frey and Valerie Morgan

Welcome new member! Annika Stanley-Smith, SMP Coordinator from the Capital Region

Work Group Updates:

Top 5/Model School Policy:

We identified a need to update some of the resources that were listed, as well as update the format to have it better sync with the Top 5 document. Tim Lena agreed to chair that effort and asked to bring in Donna Arias (Life of an Athlete) as a subject matter expert. In addition, Mary Steady will be asked to join that group. Melissa will pull the group together and set up a meeting.

We also want to capture data on how The Top 5 document is being used in school districts to identify whether more technical assistance support is needed. Traci and Donna Arias will be presenting later this year (May or September) to the School Board Association to ask them to endorse The Top 5 document to help encourage school board to adopt it.

Alternative Treatment Center (ATCs):

Since the last meeting, Traci outreached to the three vendors contracted to open ATCs in New Hampshire. All three responded within one day. The first meeting was held March 31st with Prime ATC in Merrimack, with the other two meetings coming up soon -- Sanctuary, April 21, 2016 at 10am at Sanctuary's location (Tenney Mountain Highway) with Deb Naro and Polly Morris from the regional coalition, and Temescal is not yet scheduled.

Sanctuary (Plymouth) will hold an Open House in April, with Prime (Merrimack) slated to open in July. All Open Houses will be held before any product is on site.

Traci, Kate and Betsy updated the group on their meeting with Prime ATC. Overall, the tone was very positive; The Prime representatives are very clear about the law and guidelines and are willing to work with us to ensure that the materials that are provided to new patients include important messages around child safety, safe storage, and concerns around diversion to teens or non-cardholders.

Traci suggested there might be a need for an additional webinar for the prevention field, but will wait until all three meetings have been held with the ATC contractors.

Tim suggested SBIRT training with CEU's for physicians who will be qualifying patients. Katie K. suggested that training for docs should be required at least once.

There is significant concern among Task Force members that the Therapeutic Cannabis Advisory Council is not meeting regularly nor providing oversight of the state's therapeutic cannabis program, as required by statute.

Betsy suggested that the workgroup create a list of questions based on our Merrimack experience that can be used as discussion points for the next two meetings. That will give us a frame of reference as we are meeting with the other ATCs, as well as provide a method for tracking similarities and differences among the contractors.

Early Childhood as a Priority Population

There is a training on April 14th through NHADACA on the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences.

Traci suggested that everyone review the NIDA document, NIDA's Principles of Substance Abuse Prevention for Early Childhood: <https://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/principles-substance-abuse-prevention-early-childhood/index> It includes a list of evidence-based programs and policy recommendations re: the ages 0 to 8. Susan recommended the group read Filetti's study on Adverse Child Experiences. She and Traci will work together to locate the original document to share with members. Anni shared the NIDA doc with a local elementary school who received it really well.

Tim recommended Lynn Lyon's book *Anxious Kids Anxious Parents* as a way to help people understand Epigenetics.

It was recommended that we add a member from DCYF and/or the Bureau of Mental Health to our Task Force to help us in this area. Tricia Tilley, Bureau Chief of Maternal and Child Health Services is a great resource to help us identify what's currently happening for young children and where there are gaps.

Betsy described more about Str8Talk, the group that The Youth Council used to run in Nashua elementary schools under the leadership of Barry Timmerman, MLADC. They still have all of the materials and outcome measures from previous years if the Task Force is interested in exploring it.

Question arose around whether we want to implement a statewide survey to identify who may be delivering services that complement the recommendations in the NIDA document.

Announcements

Decriminalization Hearing -- State House hearing Tuesday, April 5th at 9am.

Keene FASTER group is not currently operational. They need a new facilitator if anyone knows of a parent in the Keene area. It was suggested that Susan contact Hope Driscoll (SMP) and Mary Drew (DFC) for ideas.

Next Meeting:

June 3, 2016

9:30am -11:30am