



# OPIOID TASK FORCE

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

Task Force Chair: Seddon Savage

September 13, 2018 – 9:00AM-10:30AM

## Agenda

**Present:** Jaime Powers, Jacqui Baker, Krystal Sieradzki, Paula Mattis, Gail Parker, Chukwumeke Ugoji, Joe Hannon, Helen Pervanas, Chris Shambarger, Melissa Lee, Joshua McCabe, Alex Casale, Seddon Savage, Rekha Sreedhara, Adelaide Murray

**On Phone:** Andrea Meier, Kathy Bizzaro-Thunberg

**Presenters:** Maryland, NDEWS; Eleanor Artigiani & Kathleen Stewart

### I. Introductions

### II. Review and Approve August Meeting Minutes

- August minutes were approved.

### III. Geospatial Analyses of Opioid Related Harm in NH

*Dr. Kathleen Stewart, Director of the Center for Geospatial Information Science, University of Maryland College Park*

- Dr. Stewart presented her recent analyses of access to emergency services and drug treatment across New Hampshire. Her analyses used state-of-the-art geospatial technology to identify locations where spatial barriers may exist.
- Task Force members provided feedback on the inputs utilized in the study.
  - It was questioned why national resources were utilized as they can often underrepresent the number of treatment centers. It was stated that SAHMSA was able to provide information on the types of services offered.
    - The Task Force stated that the NH Alcohol and Drug Treatment Locator could provide similar and more comprehensive information to the NDEWS team in an excel spreadsheet. NDEWS will reach out to Rekha to get this spreadsheet.
    - It was noted that this information could dramatically change the results of the study as the Locator lists more than 350 treatment facilities.
    - It was noted that a lot has happened since 2016 in terms of recovery, harm reduction, and prevention services.
  - Naloxone distribution is difficult to track because it is not only administered by EMS. This data would be valuable to determine where there is not EMS, but overdose deaths are still climbing, to target naloxone distribution.
  - Task Force members pointed out that the data on opioid and heroin admissions only includes patients covered through BDAS funding. This does not include Medicaid or Private Insurance patients and would underrepresent. While the all claims database may be delayed, it could provide a more complete picture and should be available publically.

**Next Meeting: Thursday, October 11, 2018 – 9:00AM-10:30AM**

Community Health Institute, 501 South Street, Bow NH

- The number of buprenorphine providers in the state may also be underrepresented. The NH Medical Society and NH Hospital Association could provide data that will likely reflect more accurate numbers.
  - *Rekha shared that the Center did a Needs Assessment in 2014; she will share this document with NDEWS.*
- It was suggested to review if arrests and the removal of supply causes harm or good. Are there more deaths because people get a supply they're not used to?
- The recommendations of the study were shared with the group. They included areas where 15 new drug treatment centers should be developed.
  - The group suggested that this data (when updated) may be able to inform development of the hub and spoke model.
  - *Jaime Powers will share the presentation with BDAS.*
- The NDEWS website houses all of the maps developed as part of this study. <https://ndews.umd.edu/publications/hotspot-report-new-hampshire-2016>
- NDEWS will examine new data sources and explore opportunities to update their findings.
- Alex Casale recently attended a meeting with the MITRE Corporation; the state is partnering with them to study different systems and examine the hub and spoke over the next year. A meeting was held to discuss how to access data, and some of the data was similar to the HotSpot study information.

#### IV. Opioid Insert Card Pilot Plan Update

- A call was held last Thursday with the sites that will be piloting the card (The Prescription Center in Concord and Walgreens in Rochester). The implementation plan was reviewed with them.
- Sites will be provided with a tracking tool to ensure that they are putting a card with each opioid that is dispensed. This tool will be submitted to the Center monthly.
- The three-month pilot will begin on Monday, September 17.
- Gail Parker suggested the card be used as part of a youth prevention campaign that DEA 360 is rolling out. This campaign involves a pharmaceutical “buyer beware” program that includes a sticker designed by students from Goffstown. This program has launched in some pharmacies, it is not specific to opioids, and the goal is to get the sticker in every bag that is handed out.
  - These initiatives can be paired together to complement each other.
  - They could also be coupled with additional information about proper disposal.
  - The group will plan to do a comprehensive review of disposal, destruction, and safe storage of medications at a future meeting.

#### V. Review Drug Court Table

- Alex reviewed the table for participants.
- Do all drug courts offer services to people that are released from prison?

**Next Meeting: Thursday, October 11, 2018 – 9:00AM-10:30AM**  
Community Health Institute, 501 South Street, Bow NH

- Answer: It depends how the release happens – if it's post trial then yes. Some courts have the option of bringing people in from prison (depends on the location). People with new charges can plea into drug court – they still hit their probation so they go back into prison but then they can be released and enter into drug court and serve concurrently.
- The group agreed that specialized treatment services for people that have left prison are needed.
- The group would like to continue a review of the justice system to include probation and parole, and the county jail system.
  - *Paula will invite the director of field services to the November meeting.*
  - *Rekha and Adelaide will invite Dave Berry, superintendent of Sullivan County Jail to the October meeting.*
- The tables the group has developed will be dated as services change frequently.
- *Josh McCabe will ask the Recovery Task Force to share information they have about the justice system.*

#### VI. Other Business – Upcoming Conferences

- a. The [Opioid Collaborative Forum](#) will be held on October 5 in Concord. The topics focus on children and families in relation to opioid use disorder and the Surgeon General will attend. *Seddon will send the information on the conference to the group.*
- b. On October 27, the DEA is partnering with the Monarchs for a drug take back event at the hockey game. Tickets are on sale at [Monarchsgroups.com/DEA](http://Monarchsgroups.com/DEA) for questions contact Matt Johnson at 603-626-7825 ext. 6105 or by email at [mjohnson@manchestermonarchs.com](mailto:mjohnson@manchestermonarchs.com)
- c. The Perinatal Task Force is holding a summit on January 29 on the Plan of Safe Care at the Grappone Center in Concord. Registration will be opened in mid-November.
- d. The SOS Recovery Rocks Concert is on Sunday September 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Rochester Opera House from 4:30 9:30; tickets are on sale online. The Recovery Rally will be held earlier in the day.
- e. The Drug Court Conference will be held on October 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> – *Alex will send announcement to the group.*