



HEALTHCARE TASK FORCE

Governor's Commission on Alcohol and other Drugs

Task Force Co-Chairs: Seddon Savage and Lindy Keller

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Meeting Minutes

Participants: Seddon Savage, Lindy Keller, Anna Ghosh, Hannah Lessels, Rachel Eichenbaum, Gerard Hevern, Rebecca Sky, Jeanne Ryer, Regina Flynn, Carol Furlong, Cynthia Cohen, Nina DeMarco, Krystal Sieradski, Lisa Martin
On the Phone: Kate Frey, Andrea Meier, Kerry Nolte

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Steps
Welcome and Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes accepted from April. 	
Legislative/Policy Updates Kate Frey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HB 481 Marijuana <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Came out of committee. This will probably come back in September or January. Task Force members discussed the lack of media giving voice to the concerns from the medical community. New Futures messaging has been around commercialization and will keep working on spreading messaging about medical community opposition. New Futures has outlined the core principles that are needed for any legislation that legalizes Marijuana. This will be discussed more at future Task Force meetings. Dr. Gerard Hevern mentioned a study published on Medscape that showed heavy concentration THC marijuana use caused increased incidences in new onset psychosis. Medical cannabis program in Canada: presented no reported incidences in psychosis from people using under medical supervision suggesting that the higher THC concentration may be the cause for increased incidences of psychosis. New Futures supports limits on THC. HB 359 Red Sticker bill <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On the senate floor today. *Update* this bill passed in the senate. SB 308 Healthcare Workforce bill <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tabled earlier this year. Hoping for some portions of this to be in the budget. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gerard Hevern will send the study about marijuana to Task Force members.

<p>Opioid Prescribing Discussion</p> <p>Dr. Gerard Hevern</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Hevern, who has a background in pain management, provided presentation on opioid prescribing. Points covered include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Process of addiction: Access, Advocacy, Curiosity/Advertising, Acceptance, Support for use, Sustainability ○ Review of statistics from NIDA about prescribed opioids and progression to opioid use disorder ○ Chronic pain (pain 90 days or more) = about 1/3 of US population ○ 50% US population has chronic health conditions. ○ Institute of Medicine 1999 makes pain the 5th vital sign. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inadequate assessment, diagnosis, management of acute and chronic pain. Does not take into account suffering. • Many practitioners were not given the tools to properly manage pain and many prescribed opioids. ○ Mental health conditions and emotional trauma as factors that contribute to chronic pain later; however lack of identification of the underlying trauma. ○ SUD deaths: percentage related to opioids is rising. ○ Addiction: can be a quick onset with opioids and cocaine, can be quicker in teenagers ○ Web of entanglement: reduction of pain/suffering becomes entangled with pleasure/enjoyment ○ Mood disorders and prescribed opioids ○ Neuroplasticity ○ Microglial Cell Transformation ○ Genetic predisposition for pain, SUD, and Mental Health conditions ○ The Vietnam Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opium, marijuana and heroin were used to manage PTSD among those who served in the Vietnam War • “Geographic cure” for those who returned to the US and in communities that supported recovery and did not support their continued use. ○ Plan for recovery involves adherence (to own plan) vs. compliance (to someone else’s plan) ○ The American Pain Society recently filed for bankruptcy The Academy of Integrative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hannah Lessels will send Dr. Hevern’s presentation. • Discussion of follow up steps for the Task Force related to the presentation will be on the agenda for June’s meeting.
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	<p>Pain Management closed down.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Looking forward: MAT has been developing in integrated medical practices, mental health is being considered more in SUD treatment, PRSS have been growing and addressing stigma around MAT (mental health as well). 	
<p>Priority List</p> <p>Group Discussion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Task Force reviewed the activities in the Priority List at April's meeting. As activities are identified, will continue to update. ● The goal is to have it posted to the webpage before the next meeting. ● Task Force members decided to post a PDF with Hannah Lessels' email address for people to submit edits. ● For future discussion: How to disseminate Task Force minutes to our networks to keep people in the loop. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CHI will post the list to the task force's webpage with Hannah's email for edits to be submitted.
<p>Updates and Group Sharing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lindy Keller requests feedback about the Treatment Locator: are medical practitioners still using this or aware of it? Is this worth continuing? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Task Force members expressed that there should be a way to measure quality of a practice or a filter for evidence-based practice. ○ Showing availability for new patients will also be useful. ○ Most Task Force members expressed that they use it in their practices currently. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Update on Sober Housing certification will be on June's agenda.

Next Meeting: June 27, 2019, 9:00am – 10:30 am 125 Airport Road, Concord.

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