



# OPIOID TASK FORCE

Governor's Commission on Alcohol and other Drugs

Task Force Chair: Seddon Savage

August 8, 2019  
Meeting Minutes

Welcome & Introductions  
**Participants:** Seddon Savage, Rekha Sreedhara, Alex Casale, Joe Hannon, Joe Lindbeck, Helen Pervanas, Nicole Rodler, Danielle Sakowski, Chris Shambarger, Caitlin Duffy  
**Phone:** Ashley Greenfield, Andrea Meier

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Steps
June Meeting Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes were accepted.</li> </ul>	
HB 359 & Opioid Safety Card Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">HB 359</a> was passed by NH legislature and signed by Governor Sununu and will be implemented on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.</li> <li>The bill requires one orange, removable sticker on the cap that says “opioid” and one sticker on the side of the bottle that says “risk of addiction and death”. An orange information card will also need to be included in the prescription bag. The Governor’s Commission is tasked to create this and could use the insert card created by the Opioid Task Force.</li> <li>Representative Tom Loughman requests final feedback on the orange insert card. Opioid Task Force Members suggest the following changes be made to the card’s design:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On the front side of the card:                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add a fourth line after "overdose can be accidental" that says "Naloxone (Narcan) can reverse overdose."</li> </ul> </li> <li>On the back side of the card:                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change the text after "For more information" to “Call 211 or visit doorway.nh.gov for information about alcohol and drug treatment, naloxone (Narcan) or medication disposal.”</li> <li>Add “Share your feedback” before the survey link.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>Nhtreatment.org will undergo changes over the coming months but will remain active as updates are made.</li> <li>Seddon will communicate the three changes to Representative Loughman, along with a recommendation to keep the insert card as “at-a-glance” as it can be.</li> <li>There was discussion around how pharmacies will implement printing and placing the labels onto prescription bottles, since <a href="#">HB 359</a> is an unfunded mandate and the Board of Pharmacy was not supportive.</li> <li>Seddon will request permission to upload the insert card to the Opioid Task Force website as a</li> </ul>	<p>Seddon will communicate the changes to the insert card to Representative Tom Loughman.</p>



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	<p>work product, with instructions to use orange paper, print on both sides, and cut into fourths. There will also be a link to the bill.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seddon will request permission to share the insert card at the next Governor’s Commission Meeting.</li> <li>• Seddon will share the Opioid Task Force’s thoughts about process issues that may arise from <a href="#">HB 359</a> with Representative Tom Loughman.</li> </ul>	
<p>Proposal for Incorporating Perspectives of Individuals Affected by SUD in the Work of the NH Governor’s Commission on Alcohol and Other Drugs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Proposal is to have an advisory council composed of individuals who have had their lives impacted by SUD.</li> <li>• The request is for Task Forces to provide feedback on the structure of council meetings.</li> <li>• The Opioid Task Force provided the following recommendations and feedback:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Consider using a focus group model rather than an advisory council.</li> <li>○ Identify a pool of people to serve on the council who would be selected to provide feedback as needed.</li> <li>○ Ensure that the advisory council knows that they are welcome to attend any and all task force meetings.</li> <li>○ Acknowledge that having a separate group may be stigmatizing.</li> <li>○ Determine a way to ensure that the council feels heard and has power.</li> <li>○ Identify people in recovery to provide feedback on what may or not be helpful in incorporating their perspectives. Joe Hannon stated that he could identify people and promote the opportunity.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<p>Syringe Service Program Presentation  Joe Hannon</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joe Hannon presented a PowerPoint about Syringe Service Programs.</li> <li>• Manchester and Nashua had the highest number of overdose deaths in 2017.</li> <li>• There was a 40% decrease in overdose deaths in Rochester last year. Over one month in the spring, more than 400 syringe exchanges and 100 self-reported overdose reversals took place.</li> <li>• The New Hampshire Harm Reduction Coalition is looking to expand. Current funding is sufficient to cover approximately a year and a half of operations. Additional funding would support the growing Manchester program and allow for expansion into new cities like Concord and Littleton.</li> <li>• Suggestion made to reach out to potential partners in different regions, including public health networks, hospitals, recovery centers, and doorways.</li> <li>• It was noted that there are no barriers to cities or counties funding syringe exchange programs as long as they aren’t using state funds.</li> <li>• The biggest expenses to these programs are supply and disposal.</li> <li>• Health departments and local hospitals could help with disposal. Governor’s Commission Task Forces can aid with these requests.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joe Hannon will reach out to Doorways, Public Health Networks, and the Harm Reduction Coalition to explore potential partnerships.</li> <li>• Ashley Greenfield will send Seddon a model budget for a syringe service program that she helped construct when her program</li> </ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Next steps include showing the cost effectiveness of these programs and identifying stakeholders and potential partners.</li> </ul>	<p>applied for the harm reduction grant.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rekha Sreedhara will identify when Jonathan Ballard is available to present his experiences based on his work in Kentucky.</li> </ul>
Naloxone Training for Task Force Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seddon suggested offering a naloxone training for Opioid Task Force Members.</li> <li>The training would take no more than 20 minutes.</li> <li>Members agreed that having a training is reasonable, but that it should not take away free supply of Naloxone from individuals who need it.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rekha will contact Project FIRST to request naloxone training and kits for an upcoming Task Force meeting.</li> <li>Seddon will propose naloxone training to the Governor's Commission and see if they think the Commission and/or other Task Forces should be trained as well.</li> </ul>
NH Drug Monitoring Initiative – May 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tabled to the next meeting when more recent data will be available.</li> </ul>	
Other Business & Sector Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tabled to the next meeting.</li> </ul>	

**Next Meeting:** September 12, 2019 – 9:00AM-10:30AM // Community Health Institute, 501 South Street, 2nd Floor, Bow, NH

**Call-In Information:** Call-In Number: 719-284-5949 // Pin: 55982