



# OPIOID TASK FORCE

Governor's Commission on Alcohol and other Drugs

Task Force Chair: Seddon Savage

June 11, 2020  
Meeting Minutes

Welcome & Introductions

**Participants:** Seddon Savage, Rekha Sreedhara, Adriana Lopera, Jessie Daigneault, Kerran Vigroux, Jaime Powers, Joseph Harding, Bridget Aliaga, Kiera Latham, James Boffetti, Jeffrey Stewart, Ryan Fowler, Matthew McKenney, Stacey Lazzar, Eliza Zarka, Nicole Rodler, Mark Cioffi, Michelle Ricco

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Steps
Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Task Force members and public members were asked to provide introductions, organization updates, and share positive changes they want to keep post COVID-19.</li> <li>Bridget Aliaga shared Dartmouth Population Health continues to provide support to Upper Valley Strong to address childcare, food, and shelter needs. Bridget is leaving the organization and will connect the person assuming her role to Seddon to continue representing Dartmouth Population Health. She suggested continuing to provide Zoom meetings and virtual options, while being mindful of Zoom fatigue.</li> <li>James Boffetti shared the Department of Justice continues to provide assistance to all State agencies and interpret executive orders. Preparation for the Opioid Litigation continues to move forward for the trials in January.</li> <li>Ryan Fowler with the HIV Resource Center in Lebanon and Claremont Exchange shared participation has increased. One of the benefits during COVID-19 has been not having to drive as often and reducing carbon footprint. He also shared on June 16th, the full NH Senate is likely to vote on Telehealth expansion (<a href="#">HB 1623</a>). He suggested to read the current bill as amended and for Task Force members to submit their input to their State Senator and New Futures.</li> <li>Stacey Lazzar with the Manchester Health Department shared her work has been restructured towards providing basic need provisions. She wants to continue providing direct services moving forward.</li> <li>Kiera Latham shared HIDA continues to publish monthly DMI reports. She shared having Zoom and virtual options provides flexibility to attend meetings.</li> <li>Matt McKenney with Hypertherm shared they are now on the board for a long term treatment facility in Lebanon. He suggested providing a hybrid approach to offer in-person and virtual options post pandemic, especially for nonprofits to continue to reach more people. He also shared Headrest has a current agreement with two local hospitals (in the Hanover/Lebanon area) that enables patients to access a LDAC and get a prescription for MAT.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Task Force will discuss at a future meeting what telehealth options might be available moving forward, especially for MAT when the emergency order ends.</li> </ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jaime Powers with BDAS agrees with offering a hybrid approach, to offer more flexibility to join meetings from other “locations” throughout the state, particularly in the northern counties.</li> <li>• Nicole Rodler with the Rochester Police Department and NH Juvenile Diversion Program shared Coos County is now involved in diversion through telehealth services.</li> <li>• Jeffrey Stewart shared Project First continues to meet and engage clients with case management services. The challenge has been trying to prevent clients from being isolated. The Doorway in Concord is conducting a pilot on telemedicine services. He also shared CFD’s application of Project FIRST is mobile and is willing to share anything or collaborate with groups that are exploring going mobile.</li> <li>• Eliza Zarka with the Office of the Governor shared she attended the hearing for <a href="#">HB 1639</a>, which is awaiting to be passed officially.</li> <li>• Joe Harding shared the focus of DHHS has been towards understanding how SUD affects a variety of populations, monitoring quality and outcomes of services, and working with groups to provide mobile van services that will provide MAT services.</li> <li>• Kerran Vigroux shared she is the new Executive Director with NH Providers Association, and has had the opportunity to join meetings virtually and meet everyone during this time.</li> <li>• Rekha Sreedhara shared CHI is considering having a hybrid model to continue offering Zoom and in person meetings. For time being, all meetings hosted by CHI/Center for Excellence will be held virtually.</li> <li>• Seddon Savage noted the NH Medical Society continues busy supporting providers in their work during COVID, including addressing technology issues, reimbursement, assuring access to personal protective equipment and others. Dartmouth Hitchcock completed its survey to determine how individuals with SUD are being affected by COVID-19 and will be repeating this in July. Dartmouth continues to conduct ECHOs.</li> </ul>	
<p>Review May Meeting Minutes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matt McKenney corrected the spelling of Hypertherm.</li> <li>• Matt made a motion to accept the minutes, Jeffrey Stewart seconded.</li> <li>• Motion carries to accept the minutes.</li> </ul>	<p>CHI will make the amended change and post the minutes on the task force webpage.</p>
<p>Drug Monitoring Initiative Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kiera Latham presented the DMI report for April. Data is released from the medical director and is comprised of ED and treatment data at the town and county level.</li> <li>• April has not had any significant changes. Finalized overdose death data is now available.</li> <li>• There was a decrease in overdose deaths from 2018 to 2019.</li> <li>• Data is currently being received for 2020 overdose deaths. May’s DMI report will begin to reflect data from 2020.</li> </ul>	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data collection for ED visits is different than previous years and is not comparable.</li> <li>Fentanyl is still the most used drug in NH.</li> <li>Kiera has begun reviewing data trends for COVID-19.</li> <li>EMS Narcan data is provided from the NH Department of Safety Bureau of EMS.</li> <li>Data criteria has changed, using criteria the CDC established for their Overdose Data to Action (OD2A) grant.</li> </ul>	
Presentation on PDMP Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mark Cioffi and Michelle Ricco presented on PDMP data.</li> <li>Under current legislation, PDMP collects data from 318-B: 32 controlled drug prescriptions for schedule II-IV controlled substances.</li> <li>Interstate Rx data sharing allows prescribers, dispensers, and approved delegates from other states to query NH data once a mutual agreement is in place.</li> <li>Pharmacists and providers have legislative authority to directly access data.</li> <li>Law enforcement can have access to this data with a court order.</li> <li>Researchers and others can submit requests to access the data for public health purposes</li> <li><a href="#">SB 676</a> is proposing data sharing capabilities with NH DHHS for purposes of public health evaluation, coordination of health care, and delivery of critical services to address SUD.</li> <li>An annual report of this data is released every November.</li> <li>Opioid Rx counts have declined, however stimulant use continues to increase.</li> <li>Risk factors include overlapping opioid Rx with benzodiazepines. PDMP is currently tracking for these trends.</li> <li>Due to time limitations discussion was deferred to the next meeting. Both Michelle and Mark thought they would be able to attend.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation slides will be shared with the Task Force.</li> </ul>
Group reactions and discussion to presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jaime Powers shared BDAS has been looking at Medicaid data. The challenge has been reviewing to determine if prescriptions for buprenorphine are for MAT.</li> <li>Jeffrey Stewart asked whether it is possible to receive a data set reviewing MAT prescriptions by age, gender, and county for treatment gaps. PDMP currently reviews county data.</li> </ul>	
Legislative Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deferred to next meeting</li> </ul>	
Other Business & Sector Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>	

**Next Meeting:** July 9, 2020 – 9:00AM-10:30AM // Community Health Institute (Virtual Meeting Only); **Meeting ID:** 601-328-716; **Password:** 394029; **Zoom Information:** <https://jsi.zoom.us/j/601328716?pwd=ZmlTaVVJVkdhWTxb2FsQWNnVFBxZz09>