



TREATMENT TASK FORCE

Governor's Commission on Alcohol and other Drugs

Task Force Chair: *Stephanie Savard*

May 15, 2020 Meeting Minutes		
Welcome & Introductions	Participants: Stephanie Savard, Paul Kiernan, Amy Daniels, Jessie Daigneault, Shanna Large, Jaime Powers, Jake Berry, Alex Casale, Dianne Castrucci, Sue Latham, Joe Lindbeck, Joyce Fulweiler, Donna Harbison, Susan McKeown, Stephen Noyes, Monica Edgar, Dick Castrucci, Emily Robbins, Danni Bultemeier, Jenny O'Higgins	
Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Steps
Review of January and March Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dianne Castrucci provided a few edits to both the January and March minutes. • Shanna Large made a first motion and Dianne Castrucci seconded to accept the minutes as amended. • No one opposed or abstained. Motion carries to accepted them as amended. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CHI will amend and post the January and March minutes on the Center's website.
COVID-19 in Treatment Settings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shanna Large shared Riverbend has been structuring a plan for reopening. There are concerns among staff to resume in-person services and patient engagement. Riverbend is considering providing a combination of in person services and telehealth services via Zoom. They anticipate reopening within the next week to provide one-on-one services. • Danni Bultemeier shared the VA is providing SUD services on site. They have relocated to a different section of the hospital to provide social distancing. The VA is reviewing how to re-open in-person services. One challenge around providing telehealth has been engaging group members who do not have access to this technology. However, telehealth has provided an opportunity for patients who do not have access to engage in in-person services. • Alex Casale shared Drug Courts have placed jury trials on hold, while holding drug court hearings depending on the region. They have been re-evaluating services to continue to provide case management and drug court services virtually. They have received more participation with individuals engaging in telehealth services. Jury trials will most likely not resume anytime soon. • Stephen Noyes with Ammonoosuc Community Health Services shared the focus has been on treating COVID-19. Services have been moved to telehealth. There have been concerns around UAs and prescriptions. Ammonoosuc Community Health 	

	<p>Services added a medical assistant staff member and now integrating patients to in-person visits. Recovery support centers are currently closed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monica Edgar with Concord Hospital shared the SUD department moved out of the hospital onto Main Street and have been providing telehealth services. They are reviewing to reopen on June 1st with limited services. They are also continuing to provide telehealth services and considering providing weekend telehealth check-in services. Patients with barriers around transportation and childcare services are engaging well with telehealth services. Intake services have been limited. • Emily Robbins with Sobriety Centers of New Hampshire shared major concerns, including staff burnout, childcare, staff with immunocompromised illnesses and how to bring people in safely while following CDC guidelines. • Stephanie Savard with Families in Transition-New Horizons shared challenges around screening clients and how to screen for IOPs, reviewing for more screening measures beyond intake. Additional challenges include addressing the difficulty for patients with trauma history wearing masks, how to continue social distancing in groups, the financial aspect of how to bill groups with less patients, and compassion fatigue. 	
<p>Civil Commitment Act Listening Session Planning and Discussion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The task force is reviewing the concept of what the model would look like for civil commitment, reviewing best practices and models, and literature review around commitment. Responses and information have been received from advocates, and states of WA and CO. • A Q&A session for ASAM addiction medicine perspective on the strategy will be held in June. • A discussion was held around hearing from additional stakeholders and providing listening sessions. Jaime Powers suggested conducting this via Zoom. Monica Edgar suggested inviting emergency clinicians and NH psychiatrist to the Q&A session. Task force decided to not invite professionals to this listening session but instead to send the written questions out to all taskforces for TF member input from a range of perspectives. • Amy Daniels suggested having a listening only session, where people have an opportunity to submit comments and experiences prior to this session. Discussed 	<p>CHI will facilitate a brief Q&A meeting on June 5th at 10:00am to gain an addiction medicine perspective regarding involuntary civil commitment.</p>

	<p>blocking 1.5 hours for a listening only session, which will also include individual speakers with lived experience and families.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stephanie asked for 2-3 task force members and JSI for support in designing this listening session: Susan McKeown, Shanna Large, Stephanie Savard, Paul Kiernan, Amy Daniels, and Lynn Fuller will have a separate meeting on Thursday 21st at 10:30. 	
State Plan Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The state summary plan was released with objectives and a survey went out with investment recommendations. Stephanie asked the task force to reflect on whether there are strategies in the plan where the field benefits, top treatment strategies, and the top three populations served. Governor’s Commission meeting has been cancelled for May. The next meeting will be held on June 26th. Details of the meeting TBD. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stephanie and Paul will review this list of strategies and narrow down the top priorities relevant to this time, before the next meeting.
Policy Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jake Berry with New Futures shared they have been in touch with DHHS to determine the process of telehealth services at the legislative level. The Governor announced a long term care stabilization program that applies to providers in all fields, providing a \$300/week stipend to keep providers working on the front lines who are unable to provide telehealth services. Henry Lipman, Medicaid director has a stabilization plan for organizations through CMS, which will be reviewed at the governor council for MCOs. A survey from New Futures was generated, collecting data around the COVID-19 impact on provider organizations. This data will be reviewed to determine how to spend money through the CARES Act. A discussion was held around the lack of representation from the SUD field. New Futures is working with the Behavioral Health Association to conduct a survey specifically for SUD treatment. The state senate will meet in the Representatives Hall and the House will meet at the Whittemore Center in June for 2-3 days to review high priority bills, including MAT in telehealth. New Futures is pushing to prioritize SUD related bills. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Futures/CHI will share the survey to the task force.
New Business and Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jaime Powers announced The Doorways transitioned from Granite Pathways to Southern NH Medical and CMC. Both Manchester and Nashua locations are operational. Susan Latham with Health Care Resource Center shared they are still providing intake services in Hudson, working to reduce the waiting list, and provide a 	

	<p>combination of telehealth and in-person services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shanna Large shared Riverbend has a new CEO, who started on Monday.• Stephanie shared Families in Transition-New Horizons has a new President, Maria Devlin, starting June 15th.• Jenny O’Higgins with DHHS is looking at monitoring behavioral health, 211 calls, the suicide prevention helpline, and CMHCs. DHHS has provided treatment calls weekly to monitor how things are going and monitor pharmacy and Medicaid claims data.• Stephanie shared the challenge for homeless shelters have been how to operate in the future and restructure shelters. New Horizons is looking at reducing the number down to approximately 60 residents.• Dianne Castrucci asked if providers would want training to continue to provide virtual services for the remainder of the year. NHADACA is considering sending out a survey. Members provided feedback on virtual being acceptable.	
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Next Meeting: Friday July 17, 2020, 9am-11am (Virtually); **Zoom Information:** <https://jsi.zoom.us/j/819262402>;
Call-In Information: 646-558-8656; **Meeting ID:** 819 262 402