



RECOVERY TASK FORCE

Governor's Commission on Alcohol and other Drugs

Task Force Chair: Keith Howard Co-Chair: Kristine Paquette

July 10, 2020

Meeting

Minutes

ZOOM OPTION: <https://jsi.zoom.us/j/926720035>

Call-in Number: 1-646-558-8656 Meeting ID: 926 720 035

Welcome & Introductions	Participants: Keith Howard, Kristine Paquette, Melissa Schoemmell, Victoria Babcock, Lindy Keller, Carolee Longley, Kim Bock, Renee Brooks, Jon Martin, Laina Reavis, Kerran Vigroux, Elizabeth Miller, Polly Morris, Donna Marston, Whitney Brown, Jess Parnell, Ryan Fowler, Michele Merritt, Donna Harbison, Jake Berry, Bradford Volz, Mark Lefebvre, Eva Shephard	
Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Steps
NHCORR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NHCORR's annual report is online and ready to view. • There are now 32 certified houses • Almost \$80,000 in rental assistance distributed during the COVID-19 Pandemic. • There have been weekly meetings with every house, but this has now moved to monthly and has brought the houses together and increased communication. • Elizabeth Miller sent out information on the Community Action program to help people with rental assistance, utilities, and food access. The assistance is not just for people in recovery. 	
Subcommittee Report – CRSW's in ED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several members of the subcommittee met virtually to look at guidelines for recovery coaches in emergency departments and in the hospital at large. • The subcommittee has met twice with Concord Hospital and the Foundation for Healthy Communities to go over these guidelines. They would like to share this information with all RCO's. Their hope is that hospitals can contract with RCO's for CRSWs to improve consistency in hiring and MOUs. • The subcommittee hopes to have a draft of guidelines for the task force to 	

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	<p>review and provide feedback by August. After approval from the task force, Keith will present it to the governor's commission.</p>	
<p>Reopening Status</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carolee Longley- Beginning to reopen to staff and have been able to utilize telehealth and virtual meetings. Staff with compromised health conditions remain home. • Renee Brooks- Concord Center- July 29th focus groups have been scheduled Monica Stanley Smith will be facilitating these focus groups via zoom. • NHCORR- They have started taking in new residents within the past two weeks. They are moving slowly as to allow for social distancing and ensure there is enough space. They are resuming "walk-throughs" at houses that previously had temporary certifications from virtual walkthroughs. • NH Works for Recovery- They remain closed to the public, but are meeting people virtually and over the phone. They have seen an increase in clients enrolling in schools and trade programs. Online courses have allowed more clients to take advantage of education benefits. • Family Groups- There are still no physical meetings. It has been difficult to convene members. Donna has created a three-week series to take parents and loved ones through the stages of recovery processes. She has had positive feedback, and is looking for more ways to engage these members. • Ryan Fowler- Has been able to offer technical assistance and virtual trainings. He has had record-breaking naloxone distribution in Sullivan County. He has also done harm reduction trainings. If agencies would like trainings on harm reduction Ryan would be happy to meet and discuss this. They are hoping to rollout Hep C and HIV testing soon. They can do direct referrals with DH for Hep C and are able to use telemedicine. • Revive Recovery Center- The drug court program has taken on the Rockingham County's program as well. Revive Nashua is open for sessions by appointment only. They are looking to open to the public August 1st. The next CRSW boot camp is fully booked. They are looking to create a comparable program to Nashua's safe station program. 	

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- **Connections for Health-** The seacoast and Salem offices are still up and running- thanks to telehealth there was never a gap in services. Intakes are either telehealth or in-person. The Salem office is looking to return in person, but these conversations are just beginning.
- **Peer Recovery Support Services, Harbor Homes-** Parenting journey in recovery-revised materials are on their way to their six centers. These centers are meeting either virtually or on hold. Folks are also doing hybrid in-person and virtual meetings. Scheduling site visits for September, but staff is still working remotely.
- **NH Providers Association-** Kerran is reaching out to task force members to rebuild their board. They are planning their annual meeting for Sept. 17, please save the date, as more information will be forthcoming. The [NH behavioral health conference](#) is still moving forward 12/7 and 12/8. The conference will be virtual.
- **Reality Check-** Staff is staggered in the office
- **Addiction Recovery Center-** Milford RCO has been open for about a month now. Their schedule is Tuesday-Thurs 9 to 5. They are waiting for restrictions to be lifted. 12 Step programs are starting in two weeks.
- **Harbor Homes-** many RCOs are looking to reopen and Laina will be working with Jess Parnell to do some trainings in Nashua. The PRSS community grant is being switched over to a recovery database and RCOs and staff are being trained in these systems.
- **Safe Harbor Recovery Center-** They have opened in a limited capacity and are doing temperature checks at the entrance. AA, NA, and other meetings are restarting in small numbers. Job Launch face-to-face meetings have started and in-person meetings are optional.
- **NH Center for Excellence-** If you have a TA need we are accepting them case by case via our website. The community of practice is on hold at this point. Our office is closed and we are currently in planning to do a soft re-open, but most likely won't be open to the public for the foreseeable future.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hope for Recovery- There have been in-person meetings in parks practicing social distancing. They have alerted the 12 step communities that there is space outside of Hope, and they will provide chairs and set-up assistance. They will be opening next Monday from 3-7pm. 	
Approval of June Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kristine Paquette motions to accept the minutes and Elizabeth Miller seconded the motion. The motion is unanimously approved. 	CHI will post the minutes.
Legislative Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Futures staff has been working on several webinars that have been recorded and can be found here: • The SUD COVID provider survey had a 20% response rate. That report will be coming out in the next week and will be used as an advocacy tool to ensure that funding is available for these providers. • Summer planning for FY21's budget, and are trying to understand where changes will be needed to inform New Futures priority setting. These include budget requests, legislative fixes, and changes to administrative rules. If there are issues you'd like to chat about please feel free to contact Jake Berry. • HB1245 now includes strengthening measures for recovery housing and has passed both the house and the senate. • HB1234 has also passed the house and senate; it allows recovery houses to apply for exemptions from the fire marshal. The governor has not confirmed whether he will sign them, veto them, or pass without signature, because they encompass so many pieces Jake is unsure of their future. • HB1623 would make permanent the changes that were enacted to telehealth during the COVID-19 pandemic. This would require equal insurance coverage for telehealth and in-person visits. It establishes that telehealth can be provided via video and telephone. This has also passed both the house and senate; the governor has given early indications that he will sign this bill. 	Jake will follow up with task force members who were interested in bills.

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New Business/Events/ Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carolee would like to discuss the session concerning involuntary emergency admissions (IEA). Keith was on this call and represented several groups. He reported that there were serious concerns about ICC, and represented both the task force and parents with children in recovery.• Mike Fitzpatrick from Grateful Café Sober Club (Sat. July 18 Riverfront Park in Tilton from 5-8 pm) will be hosting an event for people in recovery and families in recovery.• Elizabeth Miller motions to adjourn, all in favor. Motion passed.	
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