



RECOVERY TASK FORCE

Governor's Commission on Alcohol and other Drugs

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

December 18th, 2020 Meeting Minutes

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

Call-in Number: 1-646-558-8656 Meeting ID: 926 720 035 Meeting Password: 482613

Welcome & Introductions	<p>Members present: Keith Howard, Kristine Paquette, Lindy Keller, Donna Marston, Cheryl Pacapelli, Brian Mooney, Elizabeth Miller, Jess Parnell, Jake Berry, Carolee Longley</p> <p>Public participants: Brooke Holton, Donna Harbison, Adam Aquizap, Dustin Ward, Elyssa Clairmont, Polly Morris, Laina Reavis, Erica Gilbert, Nicole Haas, Rachel Azotea, Mark LeFebvre, David Mara, Sydney Lewis, Kim Bock</p> <p>JSI/CHI Staff : Melissa Schoemmell, Victoria Babcock</p>
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Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Steps
Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roll call performed. Quorum was established. 	
Approval of November Meeting Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carolee Longley motioned to accept the November minutes as written, Donna Marston seconded. Keith Howard abstained, all other present members approved. Quorum reached. 	CHI will post the November meeting minutes on the Task Force's webpage.
Governor's Commission Update- Keith Howard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keith reported that the homelessness-funding request was approved. 	
Housing Update- NHCORR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kim Bock asked that NHCORR be put forward to the Governor's Commission for funding in FY21, 22, and 23. Kim mentioned that due to the COVID-19 pandemic it has been difficult to estimate what actual costs and needs will be. The largest increase in their budget has been from rental assistance rollover. They will need \$475,000 in housing/rental assistance. Total expenses are expected to be raised from \$427,349 to \$775,000. Keith asked if there was a source of income where funds could be pulled from. Kim reported that there is an initial certification fee of \$275, so while there is income it is minimal. Kim shared recent updates and achievements that NHCORR has been able to champion for NH. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NHCORR has developed and published a NH standard for 	

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	<p>certification following NARR guidelines.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ They have built a coalition of 46 certified recovery houses, which they estimate is ~600 beds. They started a weekly round table meeting with house operators to support them through COVID-19. This has fostered inter-house relationships and collaboration. ○ TA/Training is being offered on meeting certification criteria, best COVID practices, MAT/MAR, and best practices in housing. ○ They have developed a housing assistance program that has managed to distribute \$220,000 to 450 applicants over a 9-month period. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Question about the housing desert and mentioned drug courts difficulty in placing participants. Kim Bock has met with organizations who are attempting to put housing funds together and she is working with them to define recovery housing and address where the gaps in services are. ● Comment that funding requires houses to provide all forms of MAT. ● Comment there is potential discriminatory practices around tracking resident medication. Response that they are addressing this and taking measures to ensure that discrimination is not happening. This issue will be brought forward to encourage education around the burden this places on houses and housing managers. ● The FO and RCOs are conducting interviews with residents to look into how being on MAT affects residents and how to best advocate for these individuals. ● The FO and RCOs are currently operating on a 34% decrease from the last budget. This funding is expected to be supplemented by SOR funds, but these have yet to be awarded. 	
<p>Legislative Update- Jake Berry/New Futures</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jake Berry reported that only bill titles are currently available, not bill text. There are a few titles that have been filed related to drug courts. These bills include provisional driver's licenses and vocational training. ● Other bill titles New Futures is watching include recovery housing- state exemption for fire codes and a statewide bill to create mental health court 	

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	<p>systems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Futures has identified their budget priorities, one of them will be full funding for RCOs. 	
<p>Other Business/Events/ Announcements, including updates on re-opening status</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2021 meeting date and time - 2021 membership update 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cheryle Pacapelli motioned to meet monthly from 9:00 AM- 10:00 AM. Jess Parnell seconded. Keith Howard abstained, all other present members approved. • Everyone on the membership list has been attending on a regular basis, so there is no need to change members. • Cheryle Pacapelli requests that her email be updated to c.pacapelli@harborcarenh.care.org and her organization to be changed to harbor care. • Next month a guest from the treatment task force will be coming to present. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Taskforce would like them to discuss potential collaboration. ○ Discussion on the benefit of regularly incorporating informal reports from members that are a part of more than one task force. Adam Aquizap and Donna Marston would like to attend the Treatment Task Force. Mark Lefebvre and Brian Mooney will attend the Prevention Task Force. <p>Re-Opening Status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hope for Recovery is closed to the public. Keith Howard mentioned his concern around the lack of community and ability to encourage/support members in recovery. • Carolee Longley reported their offices remain closed to the public. • Process Recovery Center in Nashua has a safe meeting place to bring clients to (thanks to Revive Recovery). They are doing about four in-house meetings a week and three small in-house group meetings a week. It has been challenging. • Safe Harbor Recovery Center is still open and running at limited capacity. Reaching out to existing members, volunteers and community partners. 	

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- **Homestead** is experiencing a lot of fear among residents with COVID cases on the rise in the area. There have been several reoccurrences among residents.
- **Revive Recovery** is by appointment only and staff shifts have been staggered. There have been instances of 1-1 in person meetings. They have been able to distribute ~\$40,000 to the community to address immediate needs. Most of their groups run on zoom.
- **NH Works for Recovery** inbound referrals have been on the up, they've received 260 referrals and given skills assessments, career advice, direct placement, and on the job training. They are planning to apply for a 4th year extension. Elizabeth Miller will be taking over Mark Lefebvre's position.
- **Makin' it Happen**- There is a concern with not being able to see how people are doing and offer support. They are working on a harm reduction strategy for the city. There have been disruptions in the distribution of naloxone because of COVID-19 and winter. The Board of Alderman is challenging the safe station model and the Manchester Doorway has not adopted a 24/hour schedule. The Manchester Health Department received a grant that will allow for social media campaigns and tracking higher risk populations to ensure these folks and their families have naloxone. They will also be tracking mortality and looking into prevention overdose fatality.
- **Navigating Recovery** conducting remote telehealth via zoom and on the phone. The LRGH Doorway is operating the same. There are meetings still occurring in the area, but they are beginning to all move to remote.
- **The Governor's Office** is tracking legislation and monitoring the marijuana bill. They are also monitoring the Federal government funding from the CARES act. Question if GOFERR funds will be extended past December? Response that it's too late for them to extend these funds, but they may increase them in the next round. Comment regarding the need for funding and concern of the recovery centers not having the resources to support their communities.
- **BDAS**- On 12/17 the legislature approved interim rules around recovery

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	<p>housing. These rules will ensure that all houses on the registry are certified. NHCORR was ruled as the certifying body in New Hampshire. Lindy Keller believes that the family support funds will be going through soon.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connections for Health is providing avenues for individuals to connect with long term supports surrounding health, shelter, treatment and benefits as our program is winding down over the next six months. Remain primarily remote, but do connect with folks out in the community when necessary.• Concerns around Friendship House closing due to lack of a fiscal agent. Response that the bureau is committed to getting something up and running in that area to replace those services.• NHCORR is trying to get sober living in the North Country. <p>Brian Mooney motions to adjourn, Mark LeFebvre seconded. Quorum was not met as members had to leave for other meetings, but meeting was adjourned.</p>	
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