



OPIOID TASK FORCE

Governor's Commission on Alcohol and other Drugs

**December 10, 2020
Meeting Minutes**

<p>Welcome & Introductions</p>	<p>Members present: Seddon Savage, Laura Chambers, Ken Bradley, Alex Casale, Joe Hannon, Kiera Latham, Stacey Lazzar, Nick Mercuri, Helen Pervanas, Jamie Powers, Nicole Rodler, Chief John Bryfonski, Chris Shambarger, Jeffrey Stewart</p> <p>Members not present: James Boffetti, Ryan Fowler, Kate Frey, Matt McKenney, Paula Mattis, Judge Tina Nadeau, James Potter</p> <p>Public participants: Melissa Jacob, Alexandra Caron, Lynne Sullivan, Tim Keleher, Rob Rizkalla, Eliza Zarka, Michaela Hedberg, Dan Goonan, Mark Cioffi, Sara Cleveland, Anna Thomas, Sydney Lewis, Emily Rice, Joey Lineback, Kerry Nolte</p> <p>JSI/CHI Staff: Adriana Lopera, Anna Laurence</p>
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Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Steps
<p>Welcome and Introduction with approval of November minutes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief John J. Bryfonski has replaced Chief Denise Roy as the representative from the NH Association of Chiefs of Police. • Quorum was reached. • Helen Pervanas made the motion to approve the meeting minutes, Jeffrey Stewart seconded motion to approve meeting minutes. • Roll call vote. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously from the November 12th meeting. 	<p>The approved meeting minutes will be posted on the Task Force website by the CHI team.</p>
<p>2021 Calendar and Membership</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Task Force is working on its yearly update of the Task Force membership. The Chair will nominate a membership list for Patrick Tufts' approval. • The Task Force will seek representation from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - State Opioid Response (SOR) funded agencies: DHHS is involved and represented on the TF - Drug Overdose Fatality Review Committee: David Mara sits on this - Doorways - Opioid Prescribing Advisory Council: David Mara, Eliza Zarka, and Alex Casale are all on the advisory council. - Business and Industry Association – Matt McKenney represents this organization. - Department of Education – lacking representation on the Task Force 	<p>CHI will send out a survey to determine if members are interested in continuing as Task Force members, and a set monthly date and frequency of meeting for the Task Force.</p>



OPIOID TASK FORCE

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<p>Drug Monitoring Initiative Update- October 2020 - <i>Kiera Latham</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kiera Latham presented October DMI report. • 2020 data is in yellow as yearlong data is not complete yet. • Drug Overdose Deaths: 297 overdose deaths confirmed with 54 pending deaths for 2020. Projected number so far is 351 deaths. 30-39 are the largest age group with overdose deaths. Strafford County has the most overdose deaths. • EMS naloxone Administration decreased by 17% from September to October. This data only shows EMS provider administration of naloxone and does not including bystanders. Naloxone has become more available to public. While it may look like administration is decreasing, that is not necessarily the case due to greater access to naloxone • Opioid related Emergency Department visits decreased 13% from September to October. Starting in January will be able to compare data. Due to Overdose to Action grants, the reporting criteria was different for 2020, and not comparable to previous years. • Treatment Admissions overall decreased by 18% from September to October. This data does not include Medicaid, private insurance, or self-pay. This data is for state funded facilities. 	
<p>Syringe Service Program Data Presentation and Discussion – Kerry Nolte, NHHRC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kerry Nolte, Board Chair of the NH Harm Reduction Coalition (NHHRC), presented on NHHRC activities. • NHHRC mission is to promote compassionate care for people who use drugs through harm reduction by supporting syringe service programs (SSPs). Follow harm reduction principles from the National Harm Reduction Coalition. NHHRC was established in 2017 and became an official nonprofit in 2019. The NHHRC Services have been volunteer led, but new funding is permitting hiring of a staff Executive Director. • There are currently some funding opportunities through the state for SSPs. There are currently six SSPs in New Hampshire. • NHHRC leadership has been working on resource development, including the National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD) best practice guide. This has passed NASTAD and CDC review but has not yet passed DHHS review. Kerry Nolte shared the NASTAD best practice guide as well as the NHHRC SSP Best Practices Resources. • Two main projects at NHHRC include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ HAND UP Health Services, which began street outreach in July 2019, with 600 new participants in 2020. 	



OPIOID TASK FORCE

Governor's Commission on Alcohol and other Drugs

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Queen City Exchange began outreach in April 2019 after receiving calls and visits to HAND UP that syringe access in Manchester had become dire. QCE now has 12 volunteers who provide outreach one day per week and look to expand services with adequate funding. ○ NHHRC tracks client data by unique ID to see participant pathway through program. Have seen an increase in return rate. Visits per month sharply increased during COVID-19. April – June 2020 increased to a 87% return rate and in the last month they saw a 90% return rate. ● NHHRC/HealSS Study Collaboration, ongoing data collection at four SSPs in NH. Prioritize data collection for study in Manchester SSP participants. ● Distributing 8000-1000 syringes in 2 hours, and getting about 85% of that number back. With budget, not able to provide more than that, running out of supplies in the two hour time frame. New participants drive down return rates for syringes. ● Collecting and distributing 8500 syringes in a two-hour period, reinforces a significant need for these services. ● Through the NHHRC/HealSS study, they have found that primary barriers to services include transportation and stigma. ● Kerry Nolte will share the SSP Best Practice document for CHI to send out to the Task Force. ● City of Manchester representatives were invited to speak to concerns the City has had related to Queen City Exchange. Anna Thomas Director of Public Health for the City of Manchester spoke briefly, given limited remaining meeting time, expressing concerns around the need for a full spectrum of harm reduction services beyond collection and dissemination of syringes and for greater collaboration with the City and other local stakeholders. It was noted that the City, the NHHRC and DHHS representatives would be meeting the following week to discuss these and other issues and that the City was in process of developing a comprehensive harm reduction plan for the City. The City was invited to present further at a future meeting. 	
Legislative Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No updates. 	
Other Business & Sector Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● “Stimulant Use – Current Trends, Impact on the Brain, and Implications for Treatment and Recovery”, December 10th from 12:00 – 1:30 pm ET ● Telehealth Working Group Webinar, December 21st, CHI will share information on this webinar 	



OPIOID TASK FORCE

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Task Force Chair: Seddon Savage

Next Meeting: January 14, 2021 // Community Health Institute (Virtual Meeting Only)

Zoom Information: <https://jsi.zoom.us/j/601328716?pwd=ZmlTaVVJVkdhWTxb2FsQWNnVFBxZz09>

Meeting ID: 601-328-716; **Password:** 394029