



PERINATAL SUBSTANCE EXPOSURE TASK FORCE

Governor's Commission on Alcohol and other Drugs

Task Force Chair: Monica Edgar

Wednesday, November 18, 2020 - 2:30PM-4:30PM

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Farrah Sheehan Deselle, Rebecca Ewing, David Laflamme, Heidi Knoblauch, Louise Brassard, Kristi Hart, Donald McNally, Courtney Tanner, Daisy Goodman, Katie White, Deborah Schachter, Maggie Minnock, Emily Lawrence, Kate Frey, Molly Rossignol, Gabrielle Teed, Alyssa Cohen, Eliza Zarka, Lucy Hodder

Members Not Present: Christine Campbell, Steven Chapman, Ann Collins, Erin Collins, Monica Edgar, Maryanne Evers, Kali Giovanditto, Savitri Horrigan, Annmarie Macissac-Paramenter, Renee Maloney, Linda Parker, Patricia Tilley, Lindsey Wyma

Public Participants: Kerran Vigroux, Ian Lemmo, Lauren LaRochelle, Melissa Davis, Kate Coulter, Jennifer Ross Ferguson, Jennifer Steaglad, Amanda Letendre, Shannon Rondeau

JSI/CHI Staff: Adriana Lopera, Rekha Sreedhara, Hannah Lessels, Melissa Schoemmell, Martha Bradley, Christin D'Ovidio

| Agenda Item | Discussion | Next Steps |
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| Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introductions ● Approve September Meeting Minutes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Daisy Goodman motioned to approve the September Minutes as presented. Louise Brassard seconded the motion. ● The task force called a roll call vote to approve. Vote passed unanimously. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CHI team will post meeting minutes from September. |
| 2021 Meeting Dates & Membership | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Task Force will continue with the same schedule as 2020 and will meet the third Wednesday, every other month from 2:30-4:30 pm. ● The Governor's Commission requires task forces to update membership lists annually. The CHI team will request confirmation from all members who would like to serve as a task force member for 2021 via email. The expectation is that all members participate consistently and, ideally, attend every meeting. ● If members do not confirm their membership, they will be removed as an official member and be listed as a public member. ● If members have suggestions about other areas of expertise for the task force or potential new members, please let Rekha know. Patrick Tufts ultimately approves all members. ● All meetings are open to the public to attend. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CHI will send out calendar invitations for 2021 as well as a document containing all dates and times which will be posted on the Center website. ● CHI will follow up with task force members to confirm membership. |

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| <p>Task Force Priority Area Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Telehealth ● Doula Services ● Other Updates | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The task force identified six priority areas for the year and objectives under each area. Doula Services and Technology/Telehealth were identified as the first areas to focus on. ● Telehealth: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Challenges/Resources List: Adriana Lopera shared the list of challenges and resources created by members of the task force and asked for feedback and edits. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Kristi Hart indicated that her organization did not receive the AMCHP grant as listed. ▪ Challenges include patients being able to find a quiet place to have a telehealth appointment, especially with children who are home doing virtual learning. ▪ Privacy in general has been a common patient concern. ▪ There is a telehealth group in the state, who worked on the legislation that is discussing this topic from a regulatory point of view. ▪ The Governor has authorized the allocation of \$500,000 in state’s CARES ACT Coronavirus Relief Funds to support the COVID-19 specific needs of communities of color and other historically marginalized communities in New Hampshire. The NH Community Support Program is administered by the Governor’s COVID-19 Equity Response Team. ○ SafeLink Findings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CHI team and UNH IHP team conducted research into SafeLink to see how clients in NH might benefit from this resource. ▪ Melissa Schoemmell shared a compilation of key points. Refer to summary document. ▪ SafeLink is a federally funded service for individuals to have free or reduced cost cellphone coverage. ▪ Eligibility is tied to other government programs like Medicaid or SNAP. ▪ MCO participation: Both Well Sense and AmeriHealth connect members to this service. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CHI team will share the challenges and resources document as well as the SafeLink summary. ● Meeting with West Virginia group to share information about the task force and how it might look in WV has been moved to December. Please let Rekha know if you would like to attend. |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Service lasts for a year and requires re-application. ▪ Video calls use a large amount of data, but additional data can be purchased. Wi-Fi calling is available. Unlimited plans exist at a cost. ▪ If any task members have experience using this service or know providers who do, please share with Melissa and the team. ▪ Daisy Goodman shared that Dartmouth community health workers found this resource difficult to access. ▪ Don McNally shared that AmeriHealth had been authorizing unlimited data and extra minutes during COVID in order to access telehealth. Please contact Don if you need more information about AmeriHealth offerings. This tends to be month by month for clients. ▪ Well Sense had been doing a similar program with minutes and data for telehealth. Please contact Heidi Knoblauch with any questions. ○ Meeting with Hope Labs/Go Mama <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lucy Hodder is working to coordinate a meeting with the task force and Hopelab about Goal Mama to find out more about the platform, uses and possibility for expansion. ○ CHI shared a policy memo from the Dupont Group and UNH about telehealth. There is a webinar scheduled to accompany this memo. More information will follow. ● Doula Services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ On 10/23, the CHI team along with some task force members met with doulas and doula organizations from Oregon, California, Pennsylvania and NH. The purpose was to collect additional information about doula services to inform BDAS' RFP on training recovery coaches as doulas as well as meetings with MCOs. ○ AmeriHealth Meeting – On 11/5 members of the task force presented on doula services to the organization's leadership team. ○ NH Healthy Families Meeting - 12/11 this will also be a presentation on doula services. | |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ After meeting with the MCOs separately, the next step will be to bring the MCOs together to discuss reimbursement in NH and then meet with the NH Medicaid Office. ○ Private insurers have been considered in the conversation, but MCOs are the starting point as the Task Force has an established relationship with them. ○ Farrah shared that AmeriHealth’s CEO was engaged in learning about the model and how best to make doulas a crucial part of the system. Should they be hospital employees? Independent contractors? Separate organizations? This will be an important question for the other MCOs as well. This is crucial for sustainability so that doula services are not the first thing to go when budget cuts occur. ○ The BDAS RFP is specific to those affected to substance use, but the services would be beneficial to all clients and taking a broader approach to the conversation will help with stigma and prevent siloing doula services. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● These services also address other areas of inequity, which can affect maternal and infant mortality more broadly. | |
| <p>Situational Surveillance and Birth Certificate Data Dashboard</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● David Laflamme presented the data dashboard. ● Slides include new births from May 1st, 2020 until October 31st, 2020. ● These data come from new fields on the birth certificate worksheet. ● Question 82B updated to say “substance misuse” instead of “substance abuse”. ● About 6.5% of birth certificates indicated that the infant was monitored for in-utero substance exposure. Cannabis, opioids and nicotine were the most common substances. ● About 2.6% were identified as being affected by substance misuse withdrawal. ● About 6% has a POSC created. Of those who were identified as being affected by withdrawal, about 96% had a POSC created. ● The data dashboard indicates hospital name and payer. | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The dashboard is user friendly and easy to manipulate. • Temporary questions have been updated since 1/1/2018 when they first became active. • Is it possible to work towards standardization across hospitals? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ David will work with a birth group in NH on this, but expects that he will need to work with staff from each hospital to hear about their challenges and successes using these questions. • Can the dashboard show co-occurring use compared to isolated use? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This will hopefully be possible in the future. With more detailed analyses, confidentiality becomes a concern. • Public will likely have access once there is an entire year of data and will likely be up on the state’s public facing tableau server. | |
| <p>Member Updates</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families Flourish (FF) – Daisy Goodman & Courtney Tanner <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ FF has filed for non-profit 501(C)-3 status with the goal of opening a program for pregnant and parenting people in the Upper Valley region. FF sought Request for Grant Application funding through BDAS and have not yet heard back. ○ There are two perinatal substance use programs in southern NH, which are not easily accessible to those in central and northern NH. The goal of this program is to address moderate to severe SUD and comorbidity. FF is collaborating with UNC program called Horizons. FF will have access to the Horizons curriculum and staffing model as well as ancillary programs. Proximity to DHMC will be beneficial for BH services. ○ They are hoping to disseminate this model to more rural areas, and FF is also initiating a grass roots funding campaign. • Friendship House will be closing in the coming weeks. Participants shared that this will be a huge loss in the North Country. • POSC training for Judicial Council and Primer for Other Audiences – Lucy Hodder <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Invitation will go out today or tomorrow. Daisy Goodman will present on clinical aspects of POSC. Lucy will present on the legal process and statutes. Jennifer Ross Ferguson from DCYF will present about the statutory changes and the rebuttable presumption. Sixty minutes of | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farrah will send out the Trauma Informed Care provider toolkit “at a glance”. • If you have any CHC contacts, please ask them to contact Louise Brassard or Becky Ewing about the HRSA FASD Grant. • Deborah will connect Becky and Louise to Bi-State Primary Care Association. • People should not have their Medicaid coverage ending right now, if you have clients |

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| | <p>presentations with fifteen minutes of Q&A. This will be the first of many primers and presentations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FASD HRSA Grant – Rebecca Ewing & Louise Brassard <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) occurs in up to 5% of school-aged children. HRSA put together a grant to address this problem. Boston Medical along with Proof Alliance were awarded the grant. ○ The funding will target community health centers with two cohorts: one targeting pregnant people teaching the science behind FASD and one targeting children and those who work with them. ○ The grant consists of an introductory session and ten virtual sessions. ○ Proof alliance is working to recruit Community Health Centers for this program. CHCs will receive free continuing education credits and a stipend for a “champion” for the program. • Federal Public Health Emergency Update - Alyssa Cohen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This was slated to expire in October and was extended to January 20, 2021. This is likely to be extended again. This means that the continuous eligibility requirement for Medicaid continues. Any individual enrolled in Medicaid since March cannot be removed for any reason except: if they request to be removed, they move out of state, or they pass away. Since the continuation, two more exceptions have been added: if the individual has committed Medicaid fraud or if the Department opened their case in error. ○ Once the public health emergency ends, many will lose Medicaid coverage. The Medicaid Office is working on how to wind down these cases and determine who should be eligible for Medicaid. There are still passive redeterminations happening. If additional information is required, the individual will receive a notice, but their case will not be closed if documents are not submitted. ○ Alyssa will find out if the feds will allow open enrollment in marketplace plans when this coverage ends. • Trauma Informed Care Workgroup – Farrah Sheehan Deselle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A group from the task force has created an “at a glance” for the perinatal provider toolkit. Icons identify how each resource can be used. Next step will be to build more NH specific tools. | <p>experiencing this, please let Alyssa know.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second TIC Workgroup meeting 11/30/2020 1pm – 2pm. Please reach out to Farrah if you would like to attend. |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Question to the task force: Where should this resource live? ○ Farrah shared evidence to support TIC ongoing efforts. Survey respondents shared a need for education and high value of TIC information. ERASE Maternal Mortality and NH Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (AIM) work to reduce racial and ethnic disparities. NH births are becoming more diverse. Higher rates of negative outcomes and obstetric mistreatment for BIPOC. ○ NNEPQIN Conference TIC and TRC workshops. ○ Content for TIC page on the NH Center for Excellence webpage. ○ Prenatal Practice Outreach ○ Aligning TIC education with POSC implementation | |
| Adjournment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● David Laflamme motioned to adjourn the meeting. Bonny Whalen seconded the motion. Motion was unanimously passed. | |

Next Meeting (Via Zoom):

Wednesday, January 20th, 2021