

STRATEGIC OPIOID ADVANCED RESPONSE (SOAR) MEETING MINUTES

Date: February 20, 2020

Time: 9:00 am- 10:30 am

Location: OCHD Room 1013-14

1. Welcome & Introductions

Past events:

- Community Opioid Input Meeting 2/13
 - The City of Jacksonville and Trinity United Methodist Church hosted an opioid input meeting last week. This event included a public discussion about addiction in the community and how to help those affected.
- TASC Treatment Capacity Mapping Final Report Meeting 2/18
 - Joint City and County meeting was held on Tuesday about the final report findings of the mapping project. This final report out went over the next steps to take in treating the opioid crisis following the opening of the DIX Crisis Intervention Center.
 - This meeting also included the official signing of the COAP contracts for the COAP Coordinator position and the agreement with Onslow County Schools.

Upcoming event:

- Vaping Assembly @ SWHS 3/20 and 3/27
 - We will be hosting a vaping assembly at Southwest High School in March. This will be two 1-hour presentations for the 9th and 10th grade (around 400 students). We currently have 3 panelists who will be speaking: a JPD officer, an ER nurse from Navy Medical, and a tobacco specialist from the NC Tobacco Prevention branch. If anyone is interested in being a part of this event, we are looking for a 4th panelist.

2. Updates

a. Data Sharing

- i. Showed InjuryFreeNC data from opioid overdose ER visits from 2019
- ii. Compared data with Community Paramedic overdose stats
- iii. At our last meeting, we discussed the state #s in comparison to our local data and some concerns were expressed that the state's data may be skewed. Victoria reached out and spoke with Amy from NCDHHS and she said that the data is pulled from billing codes when they come in.

b. PSA Campaign

- i. Looking to get some additional footage out in the community
- ii. County and City media teams are going to be filming and putting together this for us
- iii. Goal for the video is to show the journey of an individual to recovery and highlight some of our local partners

c. Community Training

- i. Looking for more ways to be active out in the community and engage residents
- ii. County Commissioner, Jack Bright, mentioned in the city/county meeting on Tuesday that there is a need for Narcan training to be as prevalent as CPR training. Our community paramedics provide this at a couple events through out the year and we are looking for more ways to provide this
 - 1. Jacksonville Jamboree is coming up in May and would be an ideal place to provide this training along with some local resources for recovery
 - 2. Trillium and the NCHRC may have some funding for kits to be available for a give-away
 - 3. It was suggested to create a training video to send out to different community organizations to broaden reach
- iii. Prevention week is the second week of May which would be another good opportunity to have a community event

Other community initiatives mentioned included:

- o NC State Extension Office provides an *Empowering Youth & Families Program* which is for youth 10-14 years old and their parents. It is focused around opioid prevention. Lee Stiles is the contact.
- o Carteret County School System has started providing the *Botvin LifeSkills Training* curriculum in their schools. It is an evidence-based curriculum and has had significant success. It is not focused around drugs; it's about empowering the child to be able to make decisions that make sense for them.
 - Carteret County is starting something similar in their schools

3. Speaker- Tammy Thomas, Miriam Rehab, Carteret County

Tammy retired from the Sheriff's Office back in 2015 providing law enforcement for 30 years. She felt strongly led to do something for the women seeking recovery in her county and opened up Miriam rehab. She can handle up to 12 females at a time and has branched out into another program called the transitional house where females can stay for up to 6 months. They provide Christian mentors and counseling. Miriam rehab has served 85 women so far. Over 20 churches in the area support Miriam rehab which helps build community support. Residents come from all over; New Jersey, New York, Orlando, Michigan, etc. They also provide technical skills to help the women get jobs, life skills like balancing their checkbook, and other training skills. It's an intense training program that goes from 9:30 am- 5 pm, Monday- Friday. Community service is also recommended and teaches residents about giving back to the community.

4. Discussion

- a. Jeff Sieber facilitated a group discussion on barriers to employment, housing, job placement for individuals in recovery

Barriers mentioned included:

- Having a prior record when apartments do background checks
- Low-income housing (section 8) runs out of funds quickly and the waiting list is so long it may take years
- Housing Readiness vs. Housing First models

5. Agency Updates

- Dix Crisis Center began accepting IVC clients on February 1st
- Wilmington Treatment Center hosting lunch and learn over self-care on February 27th
- Carteret County is hosting an internal human services fair and has 27 vendors that are coming to their civic center
- From the Pit to the Palace, Lee Stiles, has another recovery event coming up in April in Morehead City at the auditorium at the community college
- Onslow County Health Department has a vaping assembly coming up on March 20th and 27th at Southwest High School for their freshmen and sophomore classes. Also, will be involved with the National Drug Take-back day in April

6. Next Steps

- Additional filming for PSA. We will be reaching out to some of you to be featured
- Narcan training in May
- Monthly Digest of Resources- please share with me any training or events coming up that you would like me to share with the team

Next Meeting: April 16th