

STRATEGIC OPIOID ADVANCED RESPONSE (SOAR) MEETING MINUTES

Date: August 20, 2020

Time: 9:00 am- 10:30 am

Location: Zoom (<https://zoom.us/j/5700692203>)

1. Welcome & Agenda Overview

2. Data Sharing

- Overdose Fatalities by Year (2015-2019)
Reviewed unintentional overdose mortality data from the past 5 years in Onslow County. Fatalities reported from January-June of 2020 already surpass the 2019 total; trends show that this year will be the county's record high for overdose deaths.
- Community Paramedic OD stats from January-June 2020
 - 183 total overdoses; 152 overdose reversals; 31 DOA
- Trends?
 - Increase in meth and LSD use
 - Decrease in CPS reports by number, but significant increase in the severity of cases in the last 6 months
 - OCSO- first Narcan deployment on 1-year old child yesterday

3. UNC Grant

This is the grant from UNC School of Government and Blue Cross Blue Shield that formed our SOAR team back in 2018. It was a two-year collaborative project that was awarded to ten North Carolina communities working in response to their local opioid crises. It was required that our core team attend five forums hosted by the university. These forums provided guidance on how to plan our efforts, educational sessions, and allowed for us to collaborate with other teams who were also awarded funding. This grant was also instrumental in bringing other resources to our community; program funding, etc.

Final Grant Presentation

Each team was required to create and record a presentation displaying their efforts and share it at the final virtual forum.

**Team watched recorded presentation submitted to UNC

4. PSA Campaign

Partnered with VIAmark advertising to create online ads highlighting on overdose education, virtual resources and local data.

Campaign Reach Data: Over 138,000 views and 1,500 click throughs in July

Next steps:

- PSA campaign will run through the end of August
- Potential to use local billboards to also market our message

5. New Program- State Opioid Response Intensive Family Preservation Services Program

Coastal Horizons Center's SOR-IFPS Program serves Pender and Onslow counties. Case qualifications include having a past or current issue with opiates and an open DSS case. We are accepting referrals from area providers in order to better serve the community. We provide \$500.00 in flex funds for opiate treatment concerns to better assist families that are trying to prevent foster care placement and also families that are working toward reunification. We have 24/7 on-call service as part of the program and as the program is grant funded, there is no cost to the family. For more information on this program, contact Farrah Ramsey at (910) 612-0642 or framsey@coastalhorizons.org.

Short video overview available at

<https://www.loom.com/share/a97c152119984843bfb21e1cdad3fa09>

6. Agency Updates & Check-in

Dr. Tobi Gilbert, Jacksonville Police Department: We have recently seen an uptick in suicides as well as overdoses. That is both city-wide and county-wide. The COSSAP grant is going really well and our partners in that are doing a phenomenal job. With respect to some of the community efforts, we are focusing on our homeless program and working to assist these individuals with getting more permanent housing. National Night Out will be held virtually this year in the first week of October. More information will be shared shortly.

Karen Reaves, Trillium Health Resources: Has reached out to Dr. Auman, a local pain management physician, about speaking at our October meeting. We also have some internship opportunities available for social work students.

Kelli Knapp, Community Prevention Services: We are currently conducting our needs assessment and will be reaching out for data regarding opioid overdoses.

Sheri Slater, Onslow County Government: We will continue to seek grants and any other opportunities to expand our efforts. We are also moving forward finally with the Health IM project which is a justice grant that we received. This grant involves an app that would help our first responders and law enforcement officers screen for a mental health crisis in the field and give the individual direction. Additional training for that is scheduled for October. We will also be hiring a case manager for the detention center to provide case management. We expect to go live with that position in January.

Angela Todd, Families of Addicts (FOA): Virtual addiction rally taking place next weekend if anyone would like to attend. FOA was started 6 years ago in Dayton, Ohio and we are looking to start another group here in North Carolina. My daughter just celebrated 18 months in recovery this month.

Jeffery Sieber, Onslow County Health Department/ CCSAP: Our next CCSAP meeting will be on September 16th at 3:30 pm on Zoom. This is a taskforce that works on initiatives regarding underage drinking and substance use.

Sam West, Onslow Memorial Hospital: Starting here shortly, we will be working with Grace and the Dix Crisis Center to connect individuals from the ER to their peer support program.

Aaron McDonald, RHA Mobile Crisis: I just want to remind everyone that we are still responding in-person. We have been running into a lot of people who didn't know that mobile crisis is still working but we are responding to 100% of clients in person for mental health, substance abuse, and IDD.

Brendan Gartner, Onslow County Schools: We have a grant funded counselor position that was filled but then the individual dropped out at the last moment, so we have renewed the search for that position.

Traci Klein, True Justice: We received another small grant that allows us to place survivors that have opioid addiction in rehabilitation, and it would pay for them to go for 3 months. This would start around September and I believe we will be able to serve at least 6 individuals who meet the criteria. We would also be happy to provide some training on the crossroads between human trafficking and addiction to anyone who is interested.

Hans Miller, Onslow County Sheriff's Office: We just got a federal conviction for a supplier that resulted in the death of a young man down in the Snead's Ferry area. Our DWI taskforce is going into its 3rd year is also trained to detect drugs coming into the area. We have over 300 people in our jail right now and have changed our protocol for admission of arrestees to ensure that we don't have any outbreak.

7. Next Steps

- Collect data from messaging campaign
- Monthly Digest of Resources
 - Send in anything that you would like to share with the group
- Follow-up email with SOR-IFPS program and FOA virtual rally will be sent out shortly

Next Meeting: October 15th