
STRATEGIC OPIOID ADVANCED RESPONSE (SOAR) MEETING MINUTES

Date: October 15, 2020

Time: 9:00 am- 10:30 am

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

Attendees: Aaron McDonald (RHA Mobile Crisis), Alyssa Antczak (OCHD), Angela Todd (FOA), Brandy Quinn (OCHD), Brendan Gartner (OCS), Brittany Meade (True Justice International), Catherine Memelli (OCHD, CCSAP), Chief Mike Yaniero (JPD), Christopher Thomas (OCSO), David Grovdahl (Onslow County EMS), Dr. Tobi Gilbert (JPD), Farrah Ramsey (Coastal Horizons), Hans Miller (OCSO), Htoo Soe (OCHD Intern), Jeffery Sieber (OCHD, CCSAP), Karen Reaves (Trillium Health Resources), Kim Bailey (Onslow County DSS), Krissy Hoover (OCHD), Lee Stiles (NC Cooperation Ext., From the Pit to the Palace), Michelle Wheeler (Oasis Recovery), Natalie Cebular (OCHD Intern), Paul Siverson (Jacksonville Vet Center), Robin Seitz (OCHD), Sam West (OMH), Sophia Hayes (OCHD), Tamara Jones (Carteret County Health Department), Teresa Beacham (VIAMark Advertising), Traci Klein (True Justice International)

1. Welcome & Agenda Overview

2. Data Sharing

- Overdose Data YTD (January- September 2020)
This data comes from our Community Paramedics and is the closest to real time data that is available. Currently have 43 overdose deaths reported so far this year and to put that into perspective there was 32 deaths in 2019.
- Community Paramedics report seeing an uptick in overdoses; projecting to be over 300 overdoses by the end of the year which is about 30% higher than years previous.
- County recently established an Overdose Fatality Review (OFR) team through the City of Jacksonville's COSSAP grant. This team met last week and reviewed cases from the first quarter of 2020. Top reported substances according to toxicology: fentanyl, cocaine, and meth.
- CDC recently issued a health advisory due to the increase of HIV cases among people who inject drugs. If anyone is needing more information or resources for hepatitis and HIV, contact Sophia.

3. PSA Campaign

- Virtual campaign ended in August
 - Ran for 3.5 months, total impressions: ~ 415K, total clicks: 5,416
- Now utilizing the city's electronic billboards- 11 locations
 - Average of 154 views a day per billboard

Community outreach ideas:

- Short informational videos
 - Run on G10, social media, commercials
 - Include resource link at the bottom
 - Duration: 30 sec-1 minute
 - Speaker ideas: first responders talking about the increase in overdoses they've seen or individuals in recovery who would like to share their story
 - Several members have individuals in mind who would be willing to assist
- Community Paramedics will be promoting the Good Samaritan Law more with new SAMHSA grant funding
 - Could do in conjunction with SOAR campaign
- Recovery event with speakers
 - Lee Stiles hosts similar events in Carteret County to raise awareness

4. Presentation: Traci Klein, True Justice International Crossroads between addiction and human trafficking

*Presentation in follow-up email

5. Agency Updates & Check-in

Jeff Sieber, Onslow County Health Department/ CCSAP: We have Med-drop flyers available that list the 9 permanent disposal boxes in Onslow County where residents can safely dispose of medications.

Michelle Wheeler, Oasis Recovery Center: Lives in Snead's Ferry with son in recovery in Asheville who is 10 months clean. I am interested in helping family members learn from experience.

Lee Stiles, Program Associate- NC State Ext. Office: Empowering Youth and Families Program (EYFP) will start later this month in Onslow and Carteret counties. It is an education-based curriculum with different activities and games for youth and their caregivers centered around building family relationships and opioid prevention. We want to prevent the misuse of drugs before it begins. If anyone knows any families who may be interested with middle school aged children, please reach out to me at 252-342-8490.

Sheriff Miller, Onslow County Sheriff's Office: We are working very closely to the federal agents, City of Jacksonville, health department, DSS, and the school system to make a difference and work towards prevention.

Brendan Gartner, Onslow County Schools: Currently hiring for an opioid counselor position and having difficulty finding a candidate. If anyone knows someone who may be interested, please encourage them to apply.

Dr. Tobi Gilbert, Jacksonville Police Department: I have an intern from UNCW who is working with me and we are working closely with the community paramedics. We are continuing to do our diversion efforts and trying to identify additional resources for those after an overdose.

Sam West, Onslow Memorial Hospital: We have our fun run coming up that supports under and uninsured patients pay for mammograms. Yesterday, we had the opportunity to participate in workshops for our elder abuse team

Aaron McDonald, RHA Mobile Crisis: We are still 100% responding unless someone is reporting symptoms of covid. We are still staying linked with individuals until they get to long term services after they finish detox or psychiatric inpatient, whichever it may be.

David Grovdahl, Onslow County EMS: We were awarded a federal grant for \$1.3 million over 4 years to expand the community paramedic program and work on the opiate program, specifically Narcan, community training, and connecting individuals to recovery. We will be adding two more additional community paramedics and either an LCSW or a position along those lines working with Dr. Gilbert. One trend we noticed in our Overdose Fatality Review meeting was that we are seeing a lot of fentanyl-laced drugs. EMS reports will say the primary drug then the pathologist will note secondary drugs after the toxicology is done that maybe the individual wasn't aware of. We have seen marijuana and heroin laced with fentanyl and it is happening all over the county.

6. Next Steps

- Monthly Digest of Resources
 - Send in anything that you would like to share with the group
- Follow-up email with True Justice presentation, EYFP program info., and Med-drop location flyer will be sent out shortly

Next Meeting: December 17th