Alcohol and Drug Policy Council Prevention Subcommittee

Meeting Summary

Me	Meeting Date / Location: September 1 Teams Meet			023		
х	Alison Karimi (DCF Agen	cy Support)	х	Giovanna Mozzo	Х	Robert Kanehl
х	Allison Fulton		x	Ingrid Gillespie		Robert Lawlor
х	Andrew Lyon		x	Jennifer Sussman	х	Sarju Shah (DMHAS Agency Support)
	Anna Gasinski		x	Judith Stonger	х	Scott Szalkiewicz
х	Carleen Zambetti		x	Kristi Olds		Shobha Thangada
х	Colleen Violette			Nancy Kingwood	х	Surita Rao
	Daniel Tobin			Nathaniel Rickles	х	Tom Fulton
Х	Deborah Lake			Rebecca Allen		Tom Russo
	Don Maleto			Rodrick Marriott		
Su	pporting Leadership & Ot	her Participa	nts			
х	Diana Shaw (DCP)		х	Stephanie Welch (DMHAS)	х	Katie Ramos (Presenter)
х	Samantha Allard (DCP)		х	Kelly Edwards (DMHAS)	х	Sara Moriarty
х	Ramona Anderson (DCP))	х	Kelly Leppard (DMHAS)	х	Wendy Mill
х	Karonesa Logan (DCP)		х	Denique Weidema-Lewis		Kris Robles (DCF)
х	Steven Wolf (DCP)		х	Alison Wiser		
Х	Allison Sullivan (DPH)		х	Allyson Nadeau		
	Seth Baker (DPH)			Cynthia Petronia-Vazquez		
	Robin-Tousey Ayers (DP	H)				
х	Erica Previti (DPH)					
х	Sara Moriarty (DPH)					

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTIONS / DECISIONS
Welcome Review of Minutes	The meeting began at 1:30p.m.	
	Approval of meeting minutes from last meeting Bob Kanehl.	Minutes Approved
CT Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee	Katie Ramos the Opioid Settlement Advisory committee administrator shared some highlights along with slides on the committee. For Core Report Update can be found on the OSAC website https://portal.ct.gov/COSAC .	Action Items https://yalesurvey.cal.qualtri cs.com/jfe/form/SV_d5Smcc jWJAAAD7o
	A press release went out last week and is also on the website. The public comment period for any suggestions or feedback for the core report will be open for 60 days and it will close on November 12th. All are encouraged, if you have an opportunity to go through the report to provide any feedback and inform them as they prepare for the final report which is anticipated to roll out February of 2024.	
	Effective on September 1, all municipalities must report. A notice was sent out to all municipalities with a link to the website. Looking at all 169 towns to make sure that they all submit on how they're spending their funds. Once this data is collected, it'll be posted following the October 1 deadline, all of municipalities, received 15% of the settlement directly.	

OSAC is opening a portal to receive input regarding recommendations for funding. Recommendations should be evidence-based or a promising practice. The link to submit funding recommendations can be found on the OSAC website https://portal.ct.gov/COSAC. The link will be active for a 30-day period from October 16, - November 16, 2023. Notification will be sent out well in advance to all of the ADPC all sister agencies as well as holding a press release.

The next OSAC meeting is Tuesday, November 14th 10-12PM all virtual, open to the public. The committee also has a designated email address osac@ct.gov. Any questions may be directed to Katherine.Ramos@ct.gov

Quarterly Grant Reports DPH-DMHAS

Colleen Violette, Health Program Supervisor at DPH provided a brief update along with slides on the overdose data to action in state (OD2A-S). As of September 1st, Connecticut DPH was awarded five years of funding. This is an enhancement to the last four years of funding through CDC Overdose Data 2 Action (OD2A). DPH was also awarded additional funding for Biosurveillance.

Primary overview focused on the strategies 6,7,8 & 9. **Strategy 6** – Expanding PDMP data sharing across state

lines/interstate interoperability.

Strategy 7 – Public Health Partnerships/Interventions – Overdose Fatality Review Panel, OCME Family Navigator, Narcan Coordinator and Family Navigator at DOC.

Strategy 8 – Harm Reduction- using navigators to connect people to service and the following are being set-up:

- RFP for Overdose Response Technicians
- The Alliance for Living and Connecticut Harm Reduction Alliance
- DPH HIV/Harm Reduction Collaboration
- NORA Saves App

Strategy 9 – Community Based Linkage to Care - focus will be on CCAR Recovery Coaches - supporting retention in care, using navigators to facilitate monitoring programs following discharge from acute care to prevent treatment interruption, maintaining recovery.

Stephanie Welch provided a brief update with slides on three grants. The first being the Strategic Prevention Framework for prescription drugs (SPF-Rx) funded in 2021 to DMHAS from SAMHSA a total \$1.92 million. This funding is for five years and ends in September of 2026. The purpose is to reduce non-medical use of prescription drugs and prevent opioid overdoses. Next steps with this initiative are to continue to identify and engage key partners and to continue to look at outcomes as well as comply with federal reporting requirements.

Secondly, the State Opioid Response (SOR) Prevention Initiative grant funded in 2022 from DMHAS to SAMHSA. The funding is for

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two years and will end in 2024. The purpose is to reduce opioid overdose related deaths for year two. Additional funding was received an increase of \$502,000, which all went to the purchase and distribution of naloxone. The primary focus of this initiative is education, awareness training, workforce development, an outreach. 25 towns were awarded coalition mini grant as well as 14 campuses were awarded, with a focus on opioid danger and mental health workshops, naloxone trainings, recovery, allies, sessions, and also different tabling events.

The fatherhood initiative works with male clients with very diverse backgrounds. Received alcohol, tobacco and other drug information through sessions. The fatherhood program will be working with fathers in prison as they transition from prison to society to help them understand the role of prevention.

Lastly, Partnerships For Success 2022 initiative (PFS) funded in 2022 to DMHAS from SAMSHA a total of \$6.25 million was awarded through a competitive process. Funding is for five years and ends in September of 2027. The purpose is to reduce underage drinking among 12- to 17-year-olds and are focusing on education, awareness, training, enforcement and capacity, building. Also, to reduce alcohol consumption among youth ages 12 to 17, build community readiness and capacity, increase awareness of an education on underage drinking, and reduce retail access to alcohol among this age range.

DMHAS Regional Prioritization and Reports 2022-23 Process and Selection Results Jennifer Sussman reported on the regional prioritization process and report development process that DMHAS regional behavioral action organizations undergo annually along with slides.

SAMHSA (SAPT) and Mental Health (MH) Block Grant funding requires that Sates assess needs, strengths, and gaps in their deliverable services as well as identify target populations and priorities for that populations.

Some existing emerging prevention, treatment or recovery issues:

- Heroin and fentanyl were in the top 3 of 5 regions.
- Alcohol was in the top 3 of 4 regions.
- Depression, suicide, anxiety, trauma, PTSD and then serious mental illness for children and adults were concerns.
- Accidental ingestion of edible cannabis products by children was identified as an emerging issue.

Other emerging issues for this year were the use of benzodiazepines, gabapentin, polysubstance use in Region 1, methamphetamine and ecstasy among young adults and adults in region 2.

Alcohol use among women, teen girls and the Latinx population.

In general, various mental health effects of COVID, suicidal ideation in some regions were identified.

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	Also highlighted, new mother's battling postpartum depression and anxiety which is a long-standing issue became more prevalent during COVID and access to care during COVID. This contributed to isolation as the result of COVID.				
	Prevention recommendations is focused in general, on increasing funding.				
	Treatment recommendations focused more on increases in specific treatment resources, increasing ease of access to needed services through a wide variety of community-based linkages. And then expansion of culturally informed and sensitive treatment through community outreach but also through workforce development.				
	Concerns about agencies that misgender people when they come in or they're not familiar with, how to best serve that community. Thoughts about the LGBTQIA particular community and their specific needs maybe being identified separately when it pertains to recommendations.				
	How to connect to the immigrant undocumented populations which is underrepresented. Many would be afraid to come forward even if resources are available because of the fear of deportation. It is important to stay engaged with local prevention councils, and through other entities establishing those relationships. to build that trust, to then provide those services to the undocumented population.				
Work Group Updates	Judith Stonger talked about the process in which the ADPC workgroup decides on what recommendations can be done and shared a draft of the recommendations based on availability of funding. The naloxone workgroup came up with about 18 or 19 best practices, ideas, strategies, things that should be done around the state.				
	These recommendations get disseminated to the full Council members so that they can look at them in advance. All questions or comments were entertained in order to move forward with the recommendations. Any further thoughts, ideas, questions, comments, please feel free to reach out to Judith.				
Other / Member updates	No updates				
Meeting Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm				
	Next Prevention Subcommittee Meeting:				
	Next Full ADPC Meeting:				
	Tuesday, October 17, 2023, 10:00 – 12:00pm in person at the LOB				