

Alcohol and Drug Policy Council  
Prevention Subcommittee

Meeting Summary

Meeting Date/ Location:	Monday, September 20 <sup>th</sup> , 1:30PM-3:30PM, Microsoft Teams Meeting	
Participants in Attendance	In Attendance: Meredith, C; Ungemack, J.; Wiser, A; Stonger, J; Fulton, A; Lyon, A; Alter, A; Zambetti, C; Gillespie, I; Moran, S; Szalkiewicz, S; Anderson, R; Thangada, S; Mozzo, G; Kanehl, R  Guests: Moran, S; Kelley, L; Hanley, K; Mcree, B	
<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTIONS / DECISIONS</b>
1. Welcome /Review of Minutes	The meeting started at 1:35PM with introductions of members and guests, and a review and acceptance of the minutes.	Minutes were approved as they stand
2. Federal Grant Updates	<p><b>DPH – OD2A CDC Grant</b></p> <p>Ramona Anderson and Shobha Thangada from DPH shared an update on this grant.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of overdose deaths is looking to be similar to last year or a little over, the exact numbers are being posted. A successful bimonthly local health department meeting was held and the dashboard will be available for local health departments to access specific data.</li> <li>• A completed manuscript has been officially accepted and published regarding the drug Xylazine, an animal tranquilizer, which is used in combination with fentanyl and has been identified in many overdose deaths. Numbers for this drug are continuing to rise.</li> <li>• A successful naloxone campaign for summer, television, radio and social media generated a lot of hits on the website.</li> <li>• A fentanyl test strip video is in the works and will be linked through the website and to the NORA app.</li> <li>• PDMP narcs care update from Scott Szalkiewicz from DCP– A clinical assessment tool that gives a practitioner information about other prescriptions that have been given to the patient. The gateway activated as of sept 1<sup>st</sup> a provider authorization, and was able to on-board many additional practitioners, with a dramatic increase in searches.</li> <li>• Planned Parenthood sites doing the SBIRT, recently did a presentation and would like to present to the committee as well.</li> <li>• Participated in international overdose awareness days across the state.</li> </ul>	

**DCF – Project ASSERT**

Alison Wiser, DCF gave an ASSERT project update.

- Applied for and are awaiting approval from SAMHSA for a one-year, No Cost Extension.
- The extension would allow DCF to continue:
  - SUD workforce development activities
  - Additional development of the GAIN-Q3 tool
  - ASAM provider training to prepare for the changes taking place in DSS/Medicaid.
  - Work toward the dissemination of the Assessment Intervention Matching (AIM) tool online, which will allow community members to identify services that best match their needs
  - Expanding access to the youth opioid treatment model to two new sites –TBD

**SAMHSA –State Opioid Response, Strategic Prevention Framework for Prescription Drugs – Evaluation Findings**

Carol Meredith, DMHAS gave an update:

- It is approaching the end of the first year of the federal State Opioid Response grant that invests funds into prevention, treatment, harm reduction and recovery programs. Prevention projects include: the Change the Script campaign, college grants and mobile library operated by the Clearinghouse; online parent education and training; working with school districts to select and use curriculum for k-12 (update given by SERC in past meeting). The Governor’s Prevention Partnership’s training of law enforcement personnel; and support of recovery friendly work places and incentivizing them to get certified (Department of Labor and RBHAOs). RBHAOs continue to do nalaxone training and distribution.

Stephanie Moran gave an update for SPF RX:

- The grant ended on the 31<sup>st</sup> of August. A new grant for a 2<sup>nd</sup> round has since been awarded.

Jane Ungemack & Bonnie McRee from UConn Health gave a presentation on the evaluation findings (Full PowerPoint was emailed out to the group on 9/20)

- The Goal was to Build partnerships, raise public awareness and expand statewide prevention infrastructure to reduce prescription drug and opioid pain reliever misuse, overdose and death.
- Change the Script Campaign had both positive and negative feedback, was utilized around the state and 1 in 4 consumer respondents acknowledged seeing materials from Change the Script. Change the script campaign has

	<p>increased awareness, increasing access to naloxone to prevent OD deaths.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The statewide prescriber survey was completed and will be used to inform CPMRS enhancements in hopes of further increasing prescriber participation in CPMRS. (10% response rate, 2,167 prescribers completed the survey).</li> <li>• Total number of prescriptions for schedule II-IV controlled substances decreased, and total number of prescribers registered with CPMRS increased.</li> </ul> <p>Group discussion:</p> <p>Integration of the system as a way to improve issues with pharmacies, feedback from the provider survey reinforced this notion. CPMRS can integrate to any system, but not every practitioner has the right vendor software in the correct format. Currently connecting with the CT Health information exchange, to put this on their dashboard. There are new enhancements coming out in October that will address some of the issues covered in survey.</p> <p>Explanation of prescriber outcomes: Because the system changed there was a loss of data from the old system to new one, seeing a steady increase of onboarding of uses, the change in number of searches will come. Number of prescriptions did go down.</p> <p>Question to consider: Can we identify what is driving the decrease in prescriptions, are alternatives being offered?</p>	
<p>3. Discussion – Flavor Ban on E-Cigarettes and Oral Nicotine Products</p>	<p>There was a letter from the attorney general showing his support to ban all flavors of E-Cigarettes. Does this group want to pursue or discuss vaping, electronic delivery systems, or flavor ban policies?</p> <p>This group is interested in these issues. Brought up for discussion were</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concerns that banning only flavors and not including menthol, the use of menthol will increase, as seen in California. Ban should include both; NY, MA, RI currently have flavor ban that does include menthol.</li> <li>• Education should be provided on the methods of vaping/e-cigarettes and health concerns.</li> <li>• Smoking of Fentanyl is a rising issue that can be tied into vaping/e-cigarettes as well.</li> </ul> <p><u>Resources:</u></p> <p><a href="https://www.parentsagainstvaping.org/">https://www.parentsagainstvaping.org/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.cdcfoundation.org/National-E-CigaretteSales-DataBrief-2021-Mar21?inline">https://www.cdcfoundation.org/National-E-CigaretteSales-DataBrief-2021-Mar21?inline</a></p> <p><a href="https://truthinitiative.org/research-resources/emerging-tobacco-products/flavored-tobacco-use-among-youth-and-young-adults">https://truthinitiative.org/research-resources/emerging-tobacco-products/flavored-tobacco-use-among-youth-and-young-adults</a></p>	

<p>4. Workgroup Updates</p>	<p><b>Media &amp; Stigma</b></p> <p><b>Cannabis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update from Carol Meredith: The First work-group was held last week. There was good representation of stakeholders and groups with connections to project ECHO training model, and municipalities. Seeking to continue work on membership and who is represented as well as collecting thoughts on how to best do this work. The next meeting will focus the group on how to move ahead with its purpose: to fulfill the requirement for legislation for the ADPC. The group would like to present a proposal for the subcommittee at the next ADPC council meeting for a vote. The cannabis workgroup will be used to advise public education campaign and policy and program recommendations aimed at preventing use by individuals under age 21. This is due to governor and general assembly Jan 2023. The group is aiming to select a vendor to create and implement the campaign by 10/31. Focus will be on the campaign to start, as it's a quick turnaround time, one strategy may be to stage it, and not try to get it all out at once.</li> </ul>	
<p>5. Other/ Member Updates</p>	<p>Giovanna Mozzo, gave an update: The RBHAOs, Liberation Programs, TPAUD, and HIDTA collaborated to work on a statewide campaign called "you think you know." This campaign targets teens, young adults, and parents/caregivers and is an awareness campaign aiming to prevent OD deaths from counterfeit prescription drugs. There will be a press release coming soon. You can find it on Instagram/Facebook/Twitter. Currently Finalizing outreach with billboards, buses and pinging cell phones to promote this campaign. <a href="http://www.youthinkyounowct.org/">http://www.youthinkyounowct.org/</a></p> <p>Lynn Kelley from Beacon gave an update on work with the support act planning grant, to assess treatment and recovery systems. Currently planning a stakeholder engagement tour to bring back findings and data soon. Right now, we are leaning into independent practitioners and want to provide an opportunity for them to engage. An independent practitioner's forum is being held this Wednesday, if you or anyone you know would like to join please reach out to Lynn Kelley at Beacon.</p>	
	<p>The meeting adjourned at 3:26pm.</p> <p><b><u>Next Prevention Subcommittee Meeting:</u></b> Monday, October 18<sup>th</sup> 1:30 – 3:30pm</p> <p><b><u>Next Full ADPC Meeting:</u></b> Tuesday, October 19<sup>th</sup> 10:00am-12:00pm</p>	