# Meeting of the OSAC Research and Data Subcommittee Monday, January 27, 2025 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

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Monday, February 10, 2025 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Microsoft Teams Virtual meeting

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Members present: Paul Januszewski, Srinivas Muvvala, Lisa Deane, Gretchen Shugarts, Ebony Jackson-Shaheed, Lisa Deane

Members absent: Susan Campion

Visitors/Presenters: Luiza Barnat, Sarah Messier-Smith

Recorder: Sarah Messier-Smith

Topic	Discussion			Action			
Review Minutes and Approve	To be reviewed in a future n	neeting		Noted			
Discussion	an overview of data collecte	The subcommittee members discussed a data collection plan for OSAC recommendations approved thus far. Sarah provided an overview of data collected within the DDaP system that does not need to be separately collected. This discussion continued over two meetings. The data collection plan as identified during the meetings is as follows:					
			Reporting				
	Recommendation	Data Points	Dates				
		~Distribution Amounts ~Estimated Individuals Served ~Annual CT SSP Report (available each June/July) includes # served, # visits, # new SSP clients, demographics (gender, age, race/ethnicity), services info (# tested HIV/Hep C, treatment referrals, supply distributions),					
		<ul> <li>primary substance reported</li> <li>* Note: This report cannot be broken down by funder but provides a comprehensive outline of SSP supply</li> </ul>	Yearly and/or upon utilization				
	SSP Supplies	distribution.	of all funds				

Topic	Discussion			Action
	Mobile OTP	~DDaP Data ~Connections to Treatment (number and type) ~MOUD inductions on vehicle vs referral ~Engagement Retention in MOUD ~Harm Reduction Supplies dispersement (syringes, Naloxone kits) ~Van location (days, hours) & Individuals Served: Per Day/Location, identify number individuals prescribed MOUD/MOUD type, number individuals dosed, number individuals provided education or resources but not started on MOUD ~# individuals with reduced or eliminated substance use	July 15 January 15	
	TPP	~DDaP Data ~New individuals in reporting period per court ~Number individuals connected to treatment through TPP per court ~Number of planned successful discharges ~Number of clinical assessments completed	July 15 January 15	
	DOC OTP Expansion	Build out completion dates	Upon completion of build out	
	Naloxone Saturation	~Number of Kits purchased and distributed ~Agency/facility type (PNP, Hospitals, School, etc)	Yearly and/or upon utilization of all funds	
	Harm Reduction Vending Machines	~VM locations ~Supplies Provided by count (by VM location) ~# Unique Individuals Served (by VM location) ~Participant Zip Codes Served (by VM location)	Every 6 months upon implementation	

Topic	Discussion			Action
	Primary Prevention	~Naloxbox locations and kits disseminated per box ~Services provided and individuals reached ~Supplies disseminated ~Events (location, type, number engaged) ~Advertising communications for events hosted	Every 6 months upon implementation; presentation to OSAC after 18m of data collection	
	Deactivation Pouch Campaign	~Number pouches disseminated by zip code	Yearly and/or upon utilization of all funds	
	Contingency Management	~DDaP Data (includes substances used) ~# Individuals served ~Incentives Provided (average per person, total incentive dispersed) ~CM Program Treatment Outcomes/Discharge Reasons ~Average number of visits attended per individual engaged ~Substance Use Reduction Outcomes	Every 6 months upon implementation	
	LiveLOUD	~Engagement/Reach Data per tactic (include breakdown by language) ~Communities reached per tactic ~Outline of tactics used	Upon completion of each campaign phase	
	ED Bridge	# trainings provided/attendees # individuals served # individuals inducted on MOUD # individuals connected to community tx % retained in MOUD at 3m, 6m If return admission, reason for re-admission	Every 6 months upon implementation	

Topic	Discussion			Action
	College TA	Outcome Targets: A: Collegiate Recovery Programs/Communities built B: Opioid Overdose Prevention/Response Programs implemented C: Stigma reduction strategies (campaigns, training programs, etc) designed and implemented Example benchmarks of these outcomes include: A, B, C: Percent of involved campuses with action plans drafted A, B, C: Percent of drafted action plans that have been implemented B: Increase in checklist items for each campus (NASPA Checklist) B, C: Faculty, Staff, and Students Impacted by Trainings A, B: Each engaged campus builds a coalition of supportive offices, staff, organizations C: Individual stigma reduction, as quantified by movement between training pre/post surveys A: CRC growth as evidenced by new student engagement	6 months and 12 months post- implementation and upon project completion	
	SafeSpot	~Number of calls ~Use Events (how many times someone uses on the call) ~Zip Code (for understanding how our marketing is working) ~Type of Substance Used ~Route of use ~Hold time ~Call outcome (Mark Safe vs Overdose vs Disconnect) ~Safety Actions Taken ~Linkages to Care/Resources	Every 3 months upon implementation	

Topic	Discussion			Action
			Every 6 months upon implementation; comprehensive	
	Supportive Housing	~Number served ~Length of time from voucher approval to housed ~Referrals and connection to treatment ~Exit destinations for people leaving the program ~Demographics	eval starting at 2.5 months from implementation for report out at year 3	
	Harm Reduction Centers	~Total Visits ~Unique Individuals ~Naloxone Kits Distributed ~Harm Reduction Supplies Dispensed ~Client Demographics ~Connections to Care and Medical Support ~Medical Treatment Received (MAT Induction, Testing/Screening for HIV, Hep C, etc, Wound Care)	April 15th, October 15th	
Next steps	Next meeting scheduled for F		Octobel 19til	Noted

NEXT MEETING – February 21, 2025 at noon ADJOURNMENT – February 10, 2025 at 3pm.

#### Meeting of the OSAC Research and Data Subcommittee Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025 Microsoft Teams Virtual meeting

# **ATTENDANCE**

Members present: Srinivas Muvvala, Gretchen Shugarts, Ebony Jackson- Shaheed, Paul Januszewski, Lisa Deane, Maritza Bond

Members absent: Susan Campion

<u>Visitors/Presenters:</u> Luiza Barnat, Sarah Messier-Smith

Recorder: Melanie Richard

Topic	Discussion	Action
Welcome	Luiza welcomed all in attendance	Noted
Minutes	Minutes approved.	
Discussion	The subcommittee reviewed the following recommendations:	
	Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery (CCAR) Emergency Department Recovery Coach (EDRC) Continuation	
	The purpose of this recommendation is to provide continued funding for Recovery Coaching in the Emergency Departments at 9 acute care hospitals (Bradley Memorial, Bridgeport Hospital, Greenwich Hospital, John Dempsey Hospital, Milford Hospital, Sharon Hospital, Waterbury Hospital and the two Yale New Haven Campuses). Funding for this initiative will expire on 6/30/25.	
	In March 2017, DMHAS partnered with CCAR to pilot an initiative that pairs on-call recovery coaches with Emergency Departments in four hospitals in eastern Connecticut. The recovery coaches, who are individuals with lived addiction recovery experience, assist people who are admitted with opioid overdose and other alcohol or drug-related medical emergencies and connect them to treatment and other recovery support services. CCAR coaches provide Naloxone education bedside and educate individuals on various Harm Reduction resources, including connecting the individual to their chosen resources and services. Coaches are available 16 hours per day (8:00 am – 12:00 midnight), 7 days per week. With information from this successful pilot and support of federal grants, the program expanded to additional hospitals in 2018, serving a total of 22 emergency departments. This portion of the initiative is funded through SAMSHA SOR funding.	
	In 2022, DMHAS partnered with CCAR to expand the initiative into the last 9 acute care hospitals to cover all 31 emergency departments in CT, as well as 5 Satellite 24-Hour Emergency Departments. This made Connecticut the first state to offer this service to every emergency department. The CCAR EDRC expansion was initially funded by the McKinsey Settlement Fund, and funding will expire on 6/30/25.	
	In 2023, CCAR received 5056 referrals from the original 22 SOR-funded Hospitals and 565 referrals from the additional nine, during which time CCAR Recovery coaches aided in the connection to care to over 55 different community-based providers. In 2024, CCAR received 1250 referrals from the nine hospitals included in this recommendation. Based on the individual's identified wants and needs, individuals were connected to a variety of levels of care including Withdrawal Management, Inpatient Treatment, Intensive Outpatient, Medication for Opioid Use Disorder, and Outpatient Treatment.	
	A report compiled in 2021 by individuals with Yale Program for Recovery and Community Health identified that persons treated for an opioid-use disorder or overdose in	

Topic	Discussion	Action
	one of CT's EDs who had a CCAR Recovery Coach had a significantly reduced chance of death or likely death than those without a RC, despite presenting with greater severity of illness (including comorbid serious mental illness, history of suicide attempts, and polysubstance use). Additionally, these individuals were more likely to receive withdrawal management, IOP, MOUD treatment with Suboxone, and other therapeutic services.	
	Funding Amount Requested: \$60,000 per hospital annually for 9 hospitals Annual Amount: \$540,000 Number of years: 4	
	Total Amount Requested: \$2,160,000	
	CORE Priority: #1 Linkage to Treatment    Category: □treatment □harm reduction □ prevention ☑ recovery supports	
	Recommended Lead & Partnering Agencies: Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery	
	Vetted by Referral Subcommittee? ☑ yes  Vetted by Research and Data Subcommittee? □  • EBP ☑ or Promising Practice □ Program evaluation recommended? □yes □ no  • Pilot □ or Established Program ☑  Local □ or Statewide Rollout ☑	
	Vetted by Finance and Compliance Subcommittee? □  • Allowable Strategy ⊠ Compliant yes ⊠ no □  • Proposed Funding Amount:  • Approved Funding Amount:  • Proposed Project Dates: 7/1/25-6/30/29  • Approved Project Dates:  • Budget submitted □  RFP □ Sole Source ⊠	
	Helping Youths and Parents Enter (HYPE) Recovery: Expanding Access to OUD Treatment and Recovery for Youth and Young Adults Across Connecticut	
	This request is to expand access to opioid treatment for youth in Connecticut. Under this proposal DCF, the state's authority for children's mental health, will lead statewide expansion of Multidimensional Family Therapy (MDFT) for opioid use disorders, known locally as HYPE Recovery, from six teams currently to a total of 18 teams resulting in statewide access to this critical program. MDFT is an evidence-based youth treatment for substance use and co-occurring mental health disorders. The HYPE Recovery model also includes training MDFT Therapist Assistants to deliver post-treatment recovery supports using the evidence-based Recovery Monitoring and Support (RMS) model. DCF proposed to use OSAC funding to accomplish these goals by doing the following:	
	<ul> <li>train and certify 60 clinical staff in the 12 existing standard MDFT teams in the HYPE Recovery opioid treatment protocols,</li> <li>provide these staff enhanced MDFT case consultation and supervision consistent with the higher level of clinical acuity these youth present in treatment and to ensure fidelity to the HYPE Recovery protocols,</li> </ul>	

Topic	Discussion			Action			
	train and certi	<ul> <li>train and certify the existing 24 Therapist Assistant staff in the standard MDFT teams to deliver RMS,</li> </ul>					
	provide RMS	coaching and case consultation to TA staff in the standard	MDFT teams to ensure fidelity to the RMS model, and				
	modify existing	g data systems to collect, monitor and report on expansion	efforts, implementation progress, model fidelity and client outcomes.				
	DCF contracts with CT agencies to provide MDFT services. Currently, there are 18 MDFT Teams; six of those teams are MDFT-HYPE Teams (Standard MDFT training/capability plus HYPE Recovery training/capability) and 12 are Standard MDFT Teams. This proposal is to train the staff of the 12 existing Standard MDFT Teams to be MDFT-HYPE teams so that all 18 MDFT Teams in CT will be MDFT-HYPE Teams. This will result in the ability to serve 576 youth and their families throughout Connecticut, as outlined below:						
	DCF Region	Existing HYPE Recovery Team Service Areas	Existing Standard MDFT Teams for Proposed HYPE Recovery Expansion	_			
	Region 1	1 Team: Bridgeport, Norwalk	1 Team: Bridgeport, Norwalk				
	Region 2	1 Team: Milford, New Haven	2 Teams: Greater New Haven				
	Region 3	1 Team: New London, Norwich	2 Teams: New London, Norwich, Willimantic				
	Region 4	1 Team: Hartford, Manchester	3 Teams: Hartford, Manchester	]			
	Region 5	1 Team: Waterbury, Danbury, Torrington	2 Teams: Waterbury	1			
	Region 6	1 Team: Meriden, New Britain	2 Teams: New Britain, Meriden				
		•					

Topic	Discussion	Action
	Statement of Need: Substance use disorder is a pediatric condition. Nationwide an estimated 1 in 5 adolescents report opioid use in the past 12 months. Two out of 3 adults treated for an opioid use disorder report that they first started using opioids when they were younger than 25 (Uchitel et al., 2021). Opioid misuse among youth commonly occurs in combination with alcohol (66.9%), cannabis (49.9%) cocaine (35.5%), hallucinogen (49.4%) and other drug use. Friends and relatives are the most common sources of opioids for adolescents (33.5%) and young adults (41.4%) underscoring the importance of family-based interventions. <sup>1</sup> And while overdose deaths for youth are lower than adults, since 2019 they have been climbing particularly among boys. <sup>2</sup>	
	Unintentional Drug Overdose Death Rates Among US Youth Aged 15-19	
	3.0 — overall ••••boys — girls AQPC=2.7 (95% CI=0.4-5.1), P=.023	
	2.5  1.5  AQPC=3.2 (95% Cl=1.1-5.4), P=.003  **  **  **  **  **  **  **  **  **	
	0.0  Ant a	
	Data sources: National Vital Statistics System's multiple-cause-of-death 2019-2021 final and 2022-2023 provisional data and the U.S. census monthly data. *: Joinpoints identified indicate significant changes in nonlinear trends using Bayesian Information Criterion. AQPC=average quarter percentage change during 2019 Q1-2023 Q1.	
	Like adults, the picture of youth opioid use in Connecticut is evolving. While opioid overdose deaths among youth remain low, some forms of opioid use are on the rise placing more youth, who are more likely than their adult counterparts to be opioid naïve, at risk of overdose in the future. Between 2017-2023 self-reported misuse of prescription pain medicine among Connecticut high schoolers increased from one in 10 youth to one in eight <sup>3</sup> . During that same period, self-reported lifetime use of heroin among high schoolers declined from 2.2% to 1.1%. Thus, the source of opioids is more likely than ever to be the family's medicine cabinet further underscoring	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Hudgins, J.D., Porter, J.J., Monuteaux, M.C., Bourgeois, F.T. Prescription opioid use and misuse among adolescents and young adults in the United States: A national survey study. (2019) PLoS Med 16(11) ): e1002922. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002922

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Retrieved on November 12, 2024 from Unintentional Drug Overdose Death Rates Among US Youth Aged 15-19 | National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Connecticut Department of Public Health, 2023 Connecticut School Based Health Survey, retrieved from: ttps://portal.ct.gov/-/media/dph/cshs/2023/2023cth-graphs\_ctdph-suppression\_redacted\_for-public-release-clean07022024.pdf?rev=7a2dfa34e806492cb6f4d9eeca000f9f&hash=2DFB41D7369D0862A49C5EA941C61C82

Topic	Discuss	ion				Action		
	the need	for family treatment approaches.						
	Deticulate a UVDE December of the Medal to Former de Otatavidae							
	Rationale for HYPE Recovery as the Model to Expand Statewide:  1. The hub intervention of HYPE Recovery, MDFT, is an evidence-based practice that has demonstrated effectiveness in treating youth substance use and co-							
	1.	<u>Ine nub intervention of HYPE Recovery, MDF1, is an evidence-based practice that has demo</u> occurring conditions.	<u>nstratea errectiven</u>	ess in treating you	<u>ith substance use and co-</u>			
		The results from standard MDFT delivered across the state of Connecticut stand out	t as excentional: Di	uring the 2021-20	22 fiscal year there was a			
		66% reduction in drug use other than alcohol and cannabis among youth who were						
		abstinent from these drugs.	acing incoo anago		go, 0 1/0 0. jouan nois			
	2.	HYPE Recovery specifically was developed to address youth and young adult opioid use.						
		<ul> <li>HYPE Recovery adds to standard MDFT opioid-specific interventions to reduce over</li> </ul>	rdose risk, like Fan	nily Overdose Prev	vention Planning, Naloxone			
		and opioid family education modules, and opiate withdrawal assessments.						
		HYPE Recovery promotes youth access to MOUD directly or through formal agreem		ity MOUD provide	r(s).			
	3.	HYPE Recovery directly provides up to six months of evidence-based Recovery Monitoring and			to compositore to me			
		<ul> <li>RMS helps youth and their families build on progress made during treatment, monitors social/pro-recovery groups to help build recovery capital, and when needed rapidly remainded.</li> </ul>						
	4.	RMS is derived from multiple evidence-based practices shown to increase recovery and abstir						
		been shown to significantly increase:			9			
		<ul> <li>returns to treatment more often and more quickly when needed, and total days of tre</li> </ul>	eatment received ([	Dennis & Scott, 20	12),			
		<ul> <li>linkages and retention in continuing care after discharge from residential treatment (</li> </ul>						
		<ul> <li>participation in substance-free activities with pro-recovery peers, and significantly de</li> </ul>						
	5.	CT's existing HYPE Recovery teams demonstrate success serving a high severity population.						
		use by discharge and had other positive outcomes including reduced substance use, improved in the linguage and improved spherical functioning, and improved the large provider of the linguage and improved the large provider of the linguage and improved the large provider of the large pr			and violence, reduced			
		<ul> <li>involvement in delinquent activities, improved school or vocational functioning, and improved f</li> <li>83% of youth showed a reduction in opioid and other drug use (e.g., benzodiazepine</li> </ul>						
		<ul> <li>63% of youth with OUD were abstinent from opioids and all other drugs (other than a</li> </ul>						
	6.	Connecticut has a ready infrastructure to rapidly expand access to HYPE Recovery.	alcorror aria manjac	ina) at aloonargo.				
		Staff in the 12 standard MDFT teams already are trained and certified in the MDFT are standard.	approach.					
		·						
		2-Year Project Budget Summary						
		Category	Year 1	Year 2	TOTAL OSAC			
		Category	I Cai I	I Cai Z	Project Costs			
		1) MDFT International						
		Personnel and Fringe costs for MDFTI, Inc. (model developers) to personnel to train and						
		certify treatment team staff in the HYPE Recovery opioid use interventions and educational modules	\$162,526.55	\$113,117.45	\$275,644.00			
		2) Chestnut Health Systems	φ102,320.33	φ113,111. <del>4</del> 3	φΔ10,044.00			
		Personnel and Fringe costs for training and certifying the 24 therapist assistants to deliver						
		Recovery Monitoring and Support (RMS) continuing care recovery services by Chestnut						
		Health Systems and subcontract for RMS expert Quality Assurance raters	\$61,136.61	\$47,206.73	\$67,193.34			

Topic	Discussion				Action
	3) Travel for Trainers	\$11,820.00	\$7,320.00	\$19,140.00	
	4) Other: Wrap Funds for prosocial recovery activities: \$200/youth x 576 youth/year = 115,200/year Awareness Campaign: \$300,000/year Quality assurance and program monitoring data system subscription: \$3800/year	\$419,000.00	\$419,000.00	\$838,000.00	
	TOTAL Direct Costs	\$654,483.16	\$586,644.18	\$1,241,127.34	
	Indirect Costs	\$22,567.29	\$14,242.07	\$36,809.36	
	TOTAL Costs	\$677,050.45	\$600,886.25	\$1,277,936.70	
	CORE Priority: Priority 1 (Strategies 3 and 6): Increase Access to MOUD; Priority 2 (Strategy 4): Redu Priority 3 (Strategy 1): Improve collection, analysis, sharing, and use of data; Priority 4 (Strategies 1 and and Priority 5 (Strategy 4): Expand access to MOUD treatment for youth and young adults.  Category: ☑treatment □harm reduction □ prevention □ recovery supports Recommended Lead & Partnering Agencies: Lead Agency: Department of Children and Families Training Partners:  • Multidimensional Family Therapy International, Inc. (MDFTI, Inc.) − developer of MC Chestnut Health Systems − developer of Recovery Monitoring and Support (RMS) Vetted by Referral Subcommittee: ☑ Vetted by Research and Data Subcommittee? □  • EBP ☑ or Promising Practice □ Program evaluation recommended? □ yes ☑ no  • Pilot □ or Established Program ☑ Local □ or Statewide Rollout ☑ Vetted by Finance and Compliance Subcommittee? □  • Allowable Strategy ☑ Compliant yes ☑ no □  • Proposed Funding Amount: Year 1: \$677,051; Year 2: \$600,886; totaling: \$1,277,937  • Approved Funding Amount:  • Budget submitted ☑  • Proposed project dates: 7/1/25-6/30/27  • Approved project dates: RFP □ Sole Source ☑	l 2): Invest in Traini	ing and Support of th	he Addiction Workforce;	

Topic	Discussion	Action
_	Connecticut Drug Data Collaborative (CT-DDC)	
	Summary of Request:	
	The Connecticut Drug Data Collaborative (CT-DDC) is a transformative initiative designed to provide comprehensive, near real-time insights into the state's evolving drug landscape, empowering Connecticut's public health and safety stakeholders to make timely, informed decisions in response to the overdose epidemic. As a software-based, centralized data platform, the CT-DDC will integrate data from five community drug testing sites—Connecticut Harm Reduction Alliance (Hartford), New Haven Syringe Services Program, Liberations Program (Bridgeport), Alliance for Living (New London), and McCall Behavioral Health (Torrington)—alongside confirmatory testing results from the Connecticut Department of Public Health's Laboratory and information from other sources, such as the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection and the Office of Chief Medical Examiner. This initiative is overseen by the Connecticut Overdose Response Strategy (CT-ORS) in partnership with the Connecticut Prevention Network (CPN), who will complete statewide analysis, trend identification, and coordination of resources across regions. The CT-DDC will include an Administrator Dashboard (Phase 1) and Public-Facing Website (Phase 2), both of which are described further below.	
	The primary objective of the CT-DDC is to bridge existing data gaps in Connecticut's drug monitoring systems, which often rely on delayed and fragmented information from drug checking sites, arrests, hospitalizations, and post-mortem reports. By integrating data from diverse sources, the CT-DDC will provide a real-time, comprehensive view of the substances present in the state, enabling harm reduction, treatment, and other public health organizations to engage more effectively with their clients and empowering policymakers to make data-driven decisions on resource allocation and intervention strategies. The CT-DDC will not only facilitate integration of data for multiple stakeholders but will serve to streamline crucial workflows for harm reduction organizations undertaking community drug checking.	
	This Recommendation includes funding for the Database Build, Hosting and Maintenance; a Data Analyst position; and funding for operational costs of the 5 community drug checking sites. Connecticut Prevention Network would serve as the fiduciary for the initiative.	
	The CT-DDC will:  1. Centralize Drug Data and Expand Connectivity in three phases  • Phase I: The CT-DDC will focus on enhancing each community drug checking site's ability to enter and analyze data and respond to both site specific and state specific trends.  • Phase II: The data inputted by the community drug checking sites will be available to Harm Reduction and Treatment programs for analysis and dissemination via a public facing website.  • Phase III: CT-DDC will focus on expanding the platform's capacity to incorporate additional data points that will capture a more comprehensive view of the illicit drug environment in Connecticut.  2. Enable Near Real-Time Data Analysis and Enhance Client Communication and Harm Reduction Efforts  3. Support Evidence-Based Policymaking and Resource Allocation  4. Future-Proof the System for Comprehensive Drug Landscape Analysis  In summary, by consolidating diverse data streams, the CT-DDC will serve as a powerful tool for stakeholders across the state, creating a holistic view of Connecticut's drug environment. This unique approach will enable the early detection of dangerous trends, the issuing of rapid alerts, and the implementation of coordinated	
	interventions to safeguard communities. The CT-DDC's emphasis on breaking down silos between public health, law enforcement, and community organizations makes it more than a data system—it has the potential to become Connecticut's centralized hub for understanding and responding to the illicit drug supply, which will enhance public safety and health outcomes. Its ability to adapt to new threats, incorporate evolving data sources, and foster cross-agency collaboration will position Connecticut as a leader in innovative, evidence-based responses to the opioid crisis.	

oic	Discussion					Action
	Category	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total	
			Personnel (Employed			
	Epi/Data Scientist	\$106, 250.00	\$108,906.25	\$111,628.91	\$326,785.16	
	Supplies	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$1,800.00	
	Equipment	\$5000.00			\$5,000.00	
	(Laptop, Monitor, Printer)					
	Indirect	\$25,285.00	\$25,050.63	\$25,322.89	\$75,658.52	
			Contractual			
	Amston Health:					
	Platform Development	\$437,170.00			\$437,170.00	
	Hosting/Maintenance	\$16,000.00	\$16,000.00	\$16,000.00	\$48,000.00	
	Drug Checking Sites:					
	Drug Checking Services,	\$125,000.00	\$125,000.00	\$125,000.00	\$375,000.00	
	Maintenance, Supplies,					
	Software updates (5 sites x					
	\$25,000 per site)					
	Total	\$715,305.00	\$275,556.88	\$278,551.80	\$1,269,413.68	
	Category: ☐ treatment ☒ harm  Recommended Lead & Partneri  DMHAS	reduction □ prevention □ re		al time data on the drug supply in (	Connecticut.	
	Category: ☐ treatment ☒ harm  Recommended Lead & Partneri DMHAS  Connecticut Overdose Respons Community Drug Checking Sites Connecticut Prevention Network	reduction □ prevention □ re  ng Agencies: e Strategy (CT-ORS) s		al time data on the drug supply in C	Connecticut.	
	Category: ☐ treatment ☒ harm  Recommended Lead & Partneri DMHAS  Connecticut Overdose Respons Community Drug Checking Sites Connecticut Prevention Network  Vetted by Referral Subcommitte	reduction □ prevention □ re  ng Agencies: e Strategy (CT-ORS) s c e: ☑		al time data on the drug supply in C	Connecticut.	
	Category: ☐ treatment ☒ harm  Recommended Lead & Partneri DMHAS  Connecticut Overdose Respons Community Drug Checking Sites Connecticut Prevention Network	reduction □ prevention □ re  ng Agencies: e Strategy (CT-ORS) s c e: ☒  ubcommittee? □  Practice □ Program evaluer  I Program □			Connecticut.	
	Category: ☐ treatment ☒ harm  Recommended Lead & Partneri DMHAS  Connecticut Overdose Respons Community Drug Checking Sites Connecticut Prevention Network  Vetted by Referral Subcommitte  Vetted by Research and Data S  ■ EBP ☐ or Promising II  ■ Pilot ☐ or Established Local ☐ or Statewide Rollout ☒  Vetted by Finance and Complian	reduction	ecovery supports		Connecticut.	
	Category: ☐ treatment ☒ harm  Recommended Lead & Partneri DMHAS Connecticut Overdose Respons Community Drug Checking Sites Connecticut Prevention Network  Vetted by Referral Subcommitte  Vetted by Research and Data S  ■ EBP ☐ or Promising II  ■ Pilot ☐ or Established Local ☐ or Statewide Rollout ☒  Vetted by Finance and Complian  ■ Allowable Strategy ☒	reduction □ prevention □ re  ng Agencies: e Strategy (CT-ORS) s c e: ☒  ubcommittee? □  Practice □ Program evaluation I Program □  nce Subcommittee? □  Compliant yes ☒ no □	ecovery supports		Connecticut.	
	Category: ☐ treatment ☒ harm  Recommended Lead & Partneri DMHAS  Connecticut Overdose Respons Community Drug Checking Sites Connecticut Prevention Network  Vetted by Referral Subcommitte  Vetted by Research and Data S  ■ EBP ☐ or Promising II  ■ Pilot ☐ or Established Local ☐ or Statewide Rollout ☒  Vetted by Finance and Complian  ■ Allowable Strategy ☒  ■ Proposed Funding Am	reduction	ecovery supports		Connecticut.	
	Category: ☐ treatment ☒ harm  Recommended Lead & Partneri DMHAS  Connecticut Overdose Respons Community Drug Checking Sites Connecticut Prevention Network  Vetted by Referral Subcommitte  Vetted by Research and Data S  ■ EBP ☐ or Promising I  ■ Pilot ☐ or Established Local ☐ or Statewide Rollout ☒  Vetted by Finance and Complian  ■ Allowable Strategy ☒  ■ Proposed Funding Am  ■ Approved Funding Am	reduction	ecovery supports		Connecticut.	
	Category: □ treatment ☒ harm  Recommended Lead & Partneri DMHAS  Connecticut Overdose Respons Community Drug Checking Sites Connecticut Prevention Network  Vetted by Referral Subcommitte  Vetted by Research and Data S  ■ EBP □ or Promising I  ■ Pilot □ or Established Local □ or Statewide Rollout ☒  Vetted by Finance and Complian  ■ Allowable Strategy ☒  ■ Proposed Funding Am  ■ Approved Funding Am  ■ Budget submitted □	reduction	ecovery supports		Connecticut.	
	Category: ☐ treatment ☒ harm  Recommended Lead & Partneri DMHAS  Connecticut Overdose Respons Community Drug Checking Sites Connecticut Prevention Network  Vetted by Referral Subcommitte  Vetted by Research and Data S  ■ EBP ☐ or Promising I  ■ Pilot ☐ or Established Local ☐ or Statewide Rollout ☒  Vetted by Finance and Complian  ■ Allowable Strategy ☒  ■ Proposed Funding Am  ■ Approved Funding Am	reduction	ecovery supports		Connecticut.	

Topic	Discussion	Action
	RFP □ Sole Source ⊠	
	CT Prevention Network: Statewide Prevention Workforce Development and Life Skills Training Project	
	Key Components:	
	Evidence- Based Youth Prevention	
	<ul> <li>Community-Based learning opportunities for caregivers and other adults</li> <li>Prevention Workforce Development</li> </ul>	
	The proposal for the Connecticut Prevention Network (CPN) to partner with PreventionCorps CT (part of Americorps) and recruit a total of 10 Full-time Servicemembers (2 per DMHAS Region). These Servicemembers would become trainers in evidence-based prevention and participate in community outreach and engagement. CPN is non-profit association comprised of the five Regional Behavioral Health Action Organizations (RBHAOs) which work together to implement statewide initiatives. Together the RBHAOs serve all 169 municipalities in Connecticut. The RBHAOs have a history of success in recruiting full-time staff through the PreventionCorps initiative. There are several former PreventionCorps service members who have continued in the field of Prevention and have been employed by the RBHAOs, CT Clearinghouse and DMHAS.	
	PreventionCorps Servicemembers would be part of the Regional Behavioral Health Action Organizations (RBHAOs) and will receive professional development that	
	enhances the prevention workforce in CT. PreventionCorps Servicemembers will offer statewide Botvin Life Skills Training (LST) to elementary and/or middle school-	
	aged youth. The program consists of eight (8) class sessions of approximately 45 minutes each. Ideally these sessions run consistently across three years and will	
	engage a minimum of 60 young people per region per year. Botvin Life Skills Training is a research-validated substance use prevention program proven to reduce the	
	risks of alcohol, tobacco, drug misuse, and violence by targeting the major social and psychological factors that promote the initiation of substance use and other risky behaviors. This comprehensive and exciting program provides adolescents and young teens with the confidence and skills necessary to successfully handle challenging	
	situations. CPN will offer learning opportunities for caregivers, parents, and other involved adults while youth are engaged in the LST including Healthy Outcomes from	
	Positive Experiences (H.O.P.E.) training- Tufts Medical, Everyone's An Asset Builder- Search Institute, Talk They Hear You -SAMHSA, and Narcan Education.	
	Additionally, PreventionCorps Servicemembers will become trainers in a variety of primary and secondary prevention skills to provide training and resources across the lifespan including Suicide Prevention and Postvention Training of Trainers, Naloxone Education, Mental Health First Aid, Youth Mental Health First Aid, the Search Institute's Everyone is an Asset Builder, CT Substance Exposed Children, and Adolescent Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (A- SBIRT), and	
	more.	
	This initiative will continue to positively impact the relationships between statewide, regional and local prevention providers, youth serving organizations, parent groups and other important community groups that influence healthy youth development. Additionally, the initiative is intended to be easily and efficiently replicated in all communities across the State of Connecticut and is designed to create community level change by introducing evidence-based opportunities for families to learn skills	
	together, make connections with town services, and receive new resources.	

С	Discussion					Actio
		Year 1 Cost	Year 2 Cost	Year 3 Cost	Total Cost	
	10 Prevention Corps Staff (2 per RBHAO): \$25,000 per staff x 10	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$750,000	
	Botvin Life Skills Training (LST)  15 LST Training of the Trainers (10 Prevention Corps Staff + 1 RBHAO Coordinator per Region) = \$1070pp x 15=\$16,050 LST Trainer Materials= \$200pp x 15=\$3,000	\$67,050	\$67,050	\$67,050	\$201,150	
	Participant Materials: 300 youth participants x \$10 /youth=\$3,000 Refreshments: 300 youth x \$50pp=\$15,000 Incentives for families of youth who complete all LST sessions = \$100 x 300 possible completions=\$30,000					
	<b>Administration:</b> 5 RBHAO x \$10,000 (including supervision, marketing, supplies, mileage, professional development)	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$150,000	
	Annual Program Evaluation (Evaluator Salary, printed reports)	\$30,950	\$30,950	\$30,950	\$92,850	
	Indirect (15%)	\$59,700	\$59,700	\$59,700	\$179,100	
	Total	\$457,700	\$457,700	\$457,700	\$1,373,100	
	use among youth.  Category: □ treatment □ harm reduction ☒ prevention □ recovery supports  Recommended Lead & Partnering Agencies:					
	CT Prevention Network, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Prevention Corps, Loc Centers, Libraries, Boys and Girls Clubs, Scouts, RESCs, etc.)  Vetted by Referral Subcommittee: ⊠  Vetted by Research and Data Subcommittee? □  ■ EBP ⊠ or Promising Practice □ Program evaluation recommended? □ yes □ no	cal Partner Orgai	nizations, (ie. Yo	uth Service Age	ncies, Communit	У
	Pilot □ or Established Program □  Local □ or Statewide Rollout □					
	Vetted by Finance and Compliance Subcommittee? □					
	■ Allowable Strategy □ Compliant yes □ no □					
	<ul> <li>Proposed Funding Amount: \$488,750 annually for 3 years totaling \$1,466,250</li> </ul>					
	<ul> <li>Approved Funding Amount:</li> <li>Budget submitted □</li> </ul>					

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<ul> <li>Proposed project dates: September 1, 2025-August 31, 2028</li> </ul>	
	Approved project dates:	
	RFP □ Sole Source ⊠	
	The subcommittee passed the Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery (CCAR) Emergency Department Recovery Coach (EDRC) Continuation. The group	
	asked for an evaluation model to be included with the second recommendation, Helping Youth and Parents Enter (HYPE) Recovery: Expanding Access to OUD	
	Treatment and Recovery for Youth and Young Adults across Connecticut, and would like some follow up with DCF about what training is included for providers and	
	prescribers to take in these patients and start the medications. Sarah will go back to DCF and make certain that this information is provided to the full OSAC Committee,	
	but this recommendation passed and will be presented to the Finance and Compliance Subcommittee for review. The third recommendation, Connecticut Drug Data	
	Collaborative passed with some continuances, as they would like to see the database centralized so that the data could be shared beyond just the public dashboard and	
	with the community. The fourth recommendation, CT Prevention Network (CPN) Statewide Workforce Development and Life Skills Training Project did not pass through	
	for review from the Finance and Compliance Subcommittee, as this group would like to see this recommendation include some evidence of how they're going to	
	incorporate opioid use disorder treatments into the practice.	
Next steps	Next meeting scheduled for Friday, April 11th, 2025.	Noted

NEXT MEETING – Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. ADJOURNMENT – Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at 12:54 p.m.

# Meeting of the OSAC Research and Data Subcommittee Monday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025 Microsoft Teams Virtual meeting

# **ATTENDANCE**

Members present:
Members absent:

Srinivas Muvvala, Gretchen Shugarts, Ebony Jackson- Shaheed, Paul Januszewski, Lisa Deane, Maritza Bond, Susan Campion

Visitors/Presenters:

Luiza Barnat, Sarah Messier-Smith

Recorder: Melanie Richard

Topic	Discussion	Action
Welcome	Luiza welcomed all in attendance	Noted
Minutes	Minutes approved.	
Discussion	The subcommittee reviewed the following recommendations:	
	Opioid Treatment Program Access Expansion	
	This proposal is to fund an increase in access to admission and same-day provision of Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) at all eight existing non-profit agencies that have Outpatient Opioid Treatment Programs (OTP) in Connecticut.	
	Currently, program hours and admission availability varies across CT's OTPs. In general, both admission and dosing hours are limited, typically during weekday morning times. As a result, individuals experience long waits for admission and MOUD induction, increasing overdose risk. Additionally, insufficient admissions hours result in individuals ready for discharge at residential programs, long-term care facilities, and hospitals remaining in these settings for additional medically unnecessary days while awaiting transfer of their MOUD to an Outpatient OTP.	
	Extensive data is available indicating MOUD, particularly methadone and buprenorphine, are the most effective Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) Treatments. Methadone and Buprenorphine reduce overdose risk and all-cause mortality when compared to other OUD treatment options. Additionally, evidence shows that MOUD reduces rates of substance use, transmission of viral infections, and criminal behavior and is a cost-effective treatment. When exploring MOUD as a treatment option with an opioid-using individual, the practitioner should educate the individual on all MOUD options available to them and support them in making an informed choice on the best option available to them. OTPs are the only sites where individuals can be prescribed all 3 FDA-approved MOUD (buprenorphine, naltrexone, and methadone).	
	This expansion has the potential to increase access for under-resourced individuals. Despite recent decreases in overdose deaths, drug overdose death rates are higher among the non-Hispanic Black and Hispanic populations compared to the non-Hispanic White population.	
	OTPs are predominately located in urban areas where large populations of BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) individuals reside. OTPs provide access to all 3 FDA approved Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD); expansion of their treatment hours would help decrease disparities in treatment access and increase access to all 3 medications in urban areas and for BIPOC populations.	

Vetted by Referral Subcommittee: □

Торіс	Discussion	Action	
	Vetted by Research and Data Subcommittee? □  • EBP ☒ or Promising Practice □  • Recommended Outcome Review: Data Collection and Output Reporting □ Program Evaluation □  • Pilot □ or Established Program ☒  Local □ or Statewide Rollout ☒		
	<ul> <li>Vetted by Finance and Compliance Subcommittee? □</li> <li>Allowable Strategy ☑ Compliant yes ☑ no □</li> <li>Proposed Funding Amount: \$3,350,000 yearly for 3 years totaling \$10,050,000</li> <li>Approved Funding Amount:</li> <li>Budget submitted ☑</li> <li>Proposed anticipated project dates: 7/1/25-6/30/28</li> <li>Approved anticipated project dates:</li> </ul>		
	RFP □ Sole Source ⊠		
	Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery (CCAR) Recovery Centers Continuation		
	This request is to seek funds to keep 3 Recovery Community Centers—Torrington, Danbury, and New London—open, continue offering evening and weekend hours at the busier centers, and provide statewide young people and family support. Initial funding for these initiatives began on 9/29/23 via congressionally directed federal funding and has been exhausted.		
	CCAR offers accessible support without barriers to ensure everyone can seek help. Services are provided at no cost and do not require insurance. CCAR provides a compassionate and non-judgmental environment for everyone seeking recovery. Each person's autonomy is honored, and they are encouraged to define what recovery means to them. Staff support various recovery paths, including Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) and harm reduction strategies and offer a variety of activities and groups that support recovery and overall health and wellness.		
	This recommendation is for a 1-year continuation (7/1/25-6/30/26) for CCAR's Recovery Community Centers in Torrington, Danbury, and New London, as well as continuation of the existing Extended Hours and Young People and Services Programming. There will be a competitive bidding process for the continuation of the 3 Recovery Centers for the following 3 years starting 7/1/26. CCAR will need to develop a sustainability plan for their Extended Hours and Young People and Families Services beyond the one year of continuation funding.		
	Recovery Community Centers (RCCs):		
	<ul> <li>Recovery-oriented sanctuaries anchored in the heart of communities that serve as hubs offering a variety of recovery support services supporting the 'many pathways of recovery'. Centers attract people in recovery, family members, friends and allies.</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Services include:</li> <li>Recovery Coaching: Recovery community centers offer recovery coaching, providing personalized support to individuals at various stages of their</li> </ul>		
	recovery journey.  Recovery Support Services: A variety of Peer-run support meetings; Recovery and Advocacy trainings; Wellness Activities including Journaling, yoga, gardening, and meditation; opportunities to getting involved with the larger "Recovery Community" including building a support system and		

Topic	Discussion	Action
	connecting to community resources; volunteer opportunities via Telephone Recovery Support; and Young People and Family Services  Community Resource Navigation: Individuals are helped to connect with local resources and higher levels of care, including Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD), withdrawal management, intensive outpatient programs (IOP), and both inpatient and outpatient care. CCAR staff and volunteers are experienced in linking individuals to community and state programs that support housing, employment, food insecurity, and other resources to help build recovery capital.	
	<ul> <li>Naloxone Training: Our staff and numerous volunteers are trained to administer naloxone effectively to reverse overdoses.</li> <li>Utilization Data for Recovery Community Centers included in this recommendation (data from center opening through 2/28/25)</li> <li>Torrington (opened Feb. 2024)</li> <li># of visits= 4,084</li> <li># of unique individuals= 1,136</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Danbury (opened Apr. 2024)</li> <li># of visits= 1,211</li> <li># of unique individuals= 381</li> <li>New London (opened June 2024)</li> </ul>	
	<ul><li># of visits= 5,134</li><li># of unique individuals= 3,178</li></ul>	
	The Jail Diversion Recovery Coaching program was recently ended due to premature ending of temporary funding. Jail Diversion clients in need of Recovery Coaching can be referred to their local Recovery Center for recovery supports.	
	Extended Hours: Hours at the busiest Recovery Centers (Hartford, Bridgeport, and New Haven) were extended to Tuesday-Friday 4:30-8pm and Saturday 9am-5pm. Participants who visit the centers during the extended hours are mainly people who work during the day and young people, which generally is a different population from daytime hours. Over 3,000 individuals attended extended-hours programming in 2024.  Number of Extended Hours visits  Bridgeport (12/1/2023 – 2/28/25): 5,642  Hartford (12/1/2023 – 2/28/25): 5,298  New Haven (4/1/24 – 2/28/25): 2,845  Torrington (9/1/24 – 2/28/25): 1,167	
	Young People & Family Services: CCAR's Young People and Family Services supports young adults aged 18 to 32, as well as families with loved ones who are in recovery or struggling with substance use. The program offers peer-led groups that utilize the All-Recovery meeting format and provide a wide range of support both virtually and in person. There is a focus on engaging the community through outreach to schools, colleges, and other places where young people gather. Additionally, recreational activities are organized that provide direct peer support and make recovery enjoyable. In addition to helping young people and families build support networks, recovery coach training is offered to assist young people in recovery with finding employment and a sense of purpose.  • Total participants: Over 1,000 young individuals and families engaged in YPFS programs in 2024  • 106 Young People All Recovery Meetings were held  • 36 Parents in Recovery Meetings were held  • 66 Family, Friends, and Allies Meetings were held	
	Multiple studies highlight the effectiveness of Recovery Community Centers (RCCs) in supporting individuals with substance use disorders. Studies demonstrate significant benefits RCC participants gain from engagement, such as improved emotional well-being and stronger social support systems.	
	References: Kelly JF, Fallah-Sohy N, Cristello J, Stout RL, Jason LA, Hoeppner BB. Recovery community centers: Characteristics of new attendees and longitudinal investigation of	

pic	Discussion						
	the predictors and effects of participation. J Subst Abuse Treat. 2021;124:108						
	Kelly JF, Stout RL, Jason LA, Fallah-Sohy N, Hoffman LA, Hoeppner BB. One				rticipant Characte	ristics and Benefits	
	Derived From U.S. Recovery Community Centers. Alcohol Clin Exp Res. 2020	1;44(3):711-721. Year 1	Year 2		Voor 4	Total	,
	Budget Category	reari	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Total	ł
			•	•	•	<u>'</u>	
	CCAR:						i
	Personnel (Salaries and Fringe):						1
	New London: \$146,089						1
	Torrington: \$ 202,591						i l
	Danbury: \$148,651						i l
	Extended Hours + Young People and Family Program: \$190,286						i
	Other (Including travel, program expenses and membership, rent/utilities,						i
	information technology, phones, office supplies and program pamphlets,						1
	insurance, and volunteer support)						1
	New London: \$109,741						1
	Torrington: \$81,805						i l
	Danbury: \$137,880						ł I
	Extended Hours + Young People and Family Program: \$20,600						ł
							1
	Subtotal: \$1,037,643						ł
	Indirect (10%): \$103,76						1
	<b>Total:</b> \$1,141,407	\$1,141,407				\$1,141,407	1
	3 Recovery Community Centers (To be determined via competitive bidding		\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000	\$3,150,000	i
	process) x \$350,000 per Center						1
					Grand	Total: \$4,291,407	ł
					Grana	1 σταπ φ 1,20 1, 10 1	
	CORE Priority: Priority 1: Increase Access to the Most Effective Medications	(Methadone and	Buprenorphine) for	or Opioid Use Disc	order Across Diver	se Settings,	
	Appendix A, Recovery Support Services		,	•			
	Category: □treatment □harm reduction □ prevention ☒ recovery supports						
	Recommended Lead & Partnering Agencies:						
	Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS)						
	Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery (CCAR)						
	Vetted by Referral Subcommittee: ⊠						
	Vetted by Research and Data Subcommittee? □						
	■ EBP ⊠ or Promising Practice □						
		rtina 🗆 Dragress	. Evoluation □				
	Recommended Outcome Review: Data Collection and Output Repo	rung 🗆 Program	ı ⊏valualı011 ⊔				
	<ul> <li>Pilot □ or Established Program ☒</li> </ul>						

Topic	Discussion	Action
	Local □ or Statewide Rollout ⊠	
	Vetted by Finance and Compliance Subcommittee? □  • Allowable Strategy ⊠ Compliant yes ⊠ no □  • Proposed Funding Amount: Y1: \$1,141,407, Y2: \$1,050,000, Y3: \$1,050,000, Y4: \$1,050,000, Total: \$4,291,407  • Approved Funding Amount:  • Budget submitted ⊠  • Proposed anticipated project dates: 7/1/25-6/30/29  • Approved anticipated project dates: 7/1/25-6/30/29  • Approved anticipated project dates: RFP (Years 2-4) ⊠ Sole Source (Year 1) ⊠  For the first reviewed recommendation, members of this subcommittee approved this for review at the Finance and Compliance Subcommittee, with the understanding that if this recommendation is approved by the entire OSAC Committee, part of the contracting process would be that Gina Florenzano and her team( SODA) would be sitting down with the agency to create a plan on implementing the money. This group highlighted that we owe it to the public to be able to ensure that we are looking at measurable ways that we are tracking the spending of these funds so that we have real, tangible measurable outcomes. It is also important to note that currently many of these projects are just getting started and are in their infancies, so it is difficult to have those measurable outcomes at this stage, but it will be important as the programs grow. This recommendation has been approved with the caveat that there is a sustainment plan, a staffing plan to address shortages, and measurable outcomes. The second proposal passed with the recommendation of extending it to 18 months. Dr. Muvvala wanted to remind this subcommittee that it's purpose is to make sure that the funding recommendations are evidence-based practices and then look at the outcomes data in the future to make sure that the intention of those funds is being used correctly. The other committees are there to go into the granular details regarding funding and implementation.	
Next steps	Next meeting scheduled for Monday, June 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2025	Noted

 $\frac{\text{NEXT MEETING}}{\text{ADJOURNMENT}} - \text{Monday, June } 2^{\text{nd}}, 2025, 2:00 - 3:00 \text{ p.m.} \\ \frac{\text{ADJOURNMENT}}{\text{Monday, April }} 21^{\text{st}}, 2025 \text{ at } 1:57 \text{ p.m.}$ 

#### Meeting of the OSAC Research and Data Subcommittee Monday, June 2, 2025 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Microsoft Teams Virtual meeting

# **ATTENDANCE**

Members present: Srinivas Muvvala, Lisa Deane, Pareesa Charmichi-Goodwin, Ebony Jackson-Shaheed, Lisa Deane, Maritza Bond

Members absent: Susan Campion, Paul Januszewski

Visitors/Presenters: Luiza Barnat, Sarah Messier-Smith, Melanie Richard, Nita Asani

Recorder: Sarah Messier-Smith

Topic	Discussion	Action
Review Minutes and Approve	To be reviewed in a future meeting	Noted
Discussion	Discussion of standardized information to be included in proposal drafts: The subcommittee previously requested updates to the recommendation form to ensure OSAC members get a full but succinct picture of the recommendations for review. Feedback shared by the subcommittee includes the following:  • Specific evidence that this would work for overdose abatement	Noted
	Provide language and evidence of how the particular submission would benefit opioid/overdose abatement	
	Highlighting importance of data driven decision making	
	Concise project summary	
	Budget aligned with Exhibit E/National Settlement Agreement	
	Clearly identified target population—specific communities that will be served vs impacted	
	Defined performance indicators	
	Clarity around statewide outcomes that will be reported and monitored long-term	
	Feedback will be applied, and an updated recommendation template will be shared at a future meeting.	
	<b>Discussion of data points for recently approved initiatives</b> : The subcommittee members discussed a data collection plan for OSAC recommendations recently approved. The data collection plan as identified during the meetings is as follows:	

Topic	Discussion			
Торіс	Emergency Department Recovery Coaching  OTP Access Expansion  Recovery Centers (Torrington, Danbury, New London)	~# admissions per primary drug of choice ~# referrals by type/level of care (including MOUD) ~readmission rate ~demographics (including town of residence) ~time/day trends of admission ~length of time for RC contact post discharge ~# of follow ups post-discharge ~increased same day MOUD induction for unduplicated individuals by MOUD type (to assess caseload growth) ~increase prescribing staff hired (by FTE) ~DDaP Data ~insurance rates (private vs Medicare/Medicaid vs uninsured)  ~Referrals to services outside the RC (by type) ~Service utilization during visit (includes individual RC, groups, etc) ~# visits ~# unique participants ~# individuals served using opioids/opioid use history/at risk of OD ~Demographics (including town of residence) ~Referral source into RC e shared with subcommittee members for opportunity for additional feedbace	Every 6 months upon implementation  Every quarter upon implementation  Every 6 months upon implementation	Action
Next steps	Next meeting scheduled f	or June 24, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.		Noted

<u>NEXT MEETING</u> – June 24, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u> – June 2, 2025 at 2:57 p.m.

# Meeting of the OSAC Research and Data Subcommittee Tuesday, June 24, 2025 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Microsoft Teams Virtual meeting

# **ATTENDANCE**

Srinivas Muvvala, Lisa Deane, Pareesa Charmichi-Goodwin, Ebony Jackson-Shaheed, Maritza Bond Members present:

Members absent:

Susan Campion, Paul Januszewski Sarah Messier-Smith, Melanie Richard, Nita Asani Visitors/Presenters:

Recorder: Sarah Messier-Smith

Topic	Discussion	Action
Review Minutes and Approve	To be reviewed in a future meeting	Noted
Recommendation Review	The Group reviewed the following OSAC proposals:  Project Title: Expansion of Prevention in CT Fatherhood Initiative	Noted
	Summary of Request:  The Connecticut Fatherhood Initiative, collaborative multi-agency effort led by the Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS) aims to build capacity within its eight (8) DSS-Certified Fatherhood agencies (Madonna Place in Norwich, New Opportunities in Waterbury, GBAPP in Bridgeport, Career Resources in Bridgeport, St. Joseph's Parenting Center in Stamford, Catholic Charities of Hartford, CRT in Hartford, Family Strides in Torrington). Currently, each agency employs a 0.5 FTE Case Manager; this proposal seeks to employ an additional full-time case manager at each agency, resulting in each agency employing 1.5FTE Case Managers and increasing the annual number served from 330 to 1030 individuals. This expansion also allows the opportunity for agencies to	
	expand in new regions dependent on area need. These case managers will integrate into existing agencies, providing an extensive range of social services to fathers in need, thereby expanding their reach and/or establishing new capacities within diverse communities.  Research consistently shows that children with involved fathers have higher chances of success including lower rates of alcohol and substance use and improved performance in school. Fathers, although crucial partners in youth substance use prevention, often remain difficult to reach. By equipping fathers with essential tools and knowledge, we can significantly enhance outcomes for children, including reductions in substance use, food insecurity, poverty, and school-related issues. The fathers engaged with these programs often face substantial challenges including financial instability, not living with their children, involvement with the criminal justice system, systemic discrimination, and are generally young and single parents. The demographics of the current clients served are: 48% African American, 23% Hispanic, and 25% Caucasian. Of these, 50% of all clients were under the age of 33, and 81% were single fathers. In Bridgeport, one program specifically supports fathers under 25, and currently serves 48 young fathers	
	<ul> <li>of which 73% were African American, 23% were Hispanic, with 29 participants under the age of 23, and all were single. This highlights the critical need for comprehensive support services tailored to the unique challenges faced by at-risk fathers, fostering their development into more involved and effective parents.</li> <li>Educating CT's most at-risk demographic (black and Hispanic men aged 30-55) about the dangers of fentanyl, xylazine and fake medications is an evidence-based prevention strategy that is integral to this project. Having access to hundreds of fathers that</li> </ul>	

Topic	Discussion	Action
	make up the most at risk group for opioid overdose each year, the case managers are uniquely positioned to impart prevention knowledge and facilitate change in opioid using behaviors. For example, case managers are addressing drug and alcohol use in the 24:7 Dad ® Program (an evidence-based curriculum building parental and personal skills) group meetings and are educating fathers on how to communicate about drug and alcohol use with their children. The case managers increase the protective factors for these men (finding housing, training for and location of jobs, financial support, assistance with communication and relationships) which decreases the likelihood of recidivism, return to drug use, and potential opioid overdose. This is a wholistic strategy for prevention of opioid use by fathers, as it addresses all risk factors in their lives and provides them with the support and resources they need.	
	Training and technical assistance will be provided by the DMHAS Prevention Program Manager (in-kind) and Governor's Prevention Partnership Program staff to ensure case managers can offer substance use prevention and mental health promotion services to resource seeking fathers and their families including drug and alcohol education, suicide prevention, mental wellness, youth communication strategies, and positive coping mechanisms. Case managers will also be provided specific training around opioid education for caregivers and youths, age-appropriate resources, safe storage, and naloxone training.	
	The pilot phase has resulted in:  •An Enhanced Intake Process: Changes have been made to intake forms to explore the role of substance use or mental illness in the fathers' lives with the goal of improving access to quality services available to fathers and families.  •Increased referrals: Case managers have significantly increased referrals to mental health/substance use treatment for fathers, which can have significant impact on the lives of the fathers and children, if followed through. "Paternal substance abuse is associated with a father's guilt and shame about has failure to fulfill his parental societal role. These feelings, coupled with substance abuse and societal norms, may cause fathers to avoid involvement with their children, creating a family with an absent father."  •Substance Use Awareness: A forum has been created for teen fathers to discuss their own substance use and the full effects.  •Parental Accountability: Fathers of all ages have been given the opportunity to reflect upon their substance use choices, take accountability, and learn how that translates to their children's decisions.  •Effective Communication: Participants learn that they plan a crucial role in discussing mental health and substance use with their children.  •Family Engagement Events: Events have emphasized the importance of open communication within families.  •Suicide and Naloxone Training: Agency staff and fathers have received training on suicide prevention and naloxone administration and free naloxone kits.  •Safe Storage Solutions: Lock boxes and lock pouches have been provided for safe storage of substances or medications at home, reducing the risk of children accessing harmful substances.	
	Evaluation will be completed by CPES (Center for Prevention Evaluation and Statistics through UCONN Health). The expected evaluation will focus on the transfer of information from DMHAS/DSS to case managers, from case manager to father, and then from father to child. Surveying and interviewing case managers and fathers helps to understand how knowledge is being put into action to prevent substance use and to prevent overdose fatalities. The number of individuals trained in Naloxone administration will be tracked will include report of use of Naloxone; connection of people who use opioids to treatment/medication will also be tracked. Additionally, the Evaluator will conduct focus groups, surveys and interviews.	

Discussion	Discussion							
Description	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total				
Case Managers x 8 sites (includes salary, fringe, 2.5% increase for Y2 & Y3)	\$708,000	\$725,700	\$743,843	\$2,177,543				
Training (\$3,000 per site) + Supplies/Marketing (\$3,200 per site) x 8 sites	\$49,600	\$49,600	\$49,600	\$148,800				
Training + Technical Assistance by Governor's Prevention Partnership	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$90,000				
(staff salary and fringe)  Evaluation (UConn)  Total Cost	\$75,000 \$862,600	\$75,000 \$880,300	\$75,000 \$898,443	\$225,000				
CORE Priority: Priority 2, Strategy 1 around them including families, friend targeting people who are inadvertent community-tailored, culturally respon reduction services in populations at h Priority 5, Strategy 2 (Expand access decrease opioid initiation and progres	, Tactics 1 (Fund in ds, and caregivers) ly exposed to illicit sive, socially and ra nigh risk of overdos s to programs that a	nitiatives that directly dis , 3 (Fund outreach, edu- fentanyl when seeking o acially concordant initiat e who are currently acc	tribute naloxone to high- cation, and harm reduct other substances), & 4 (l tives to increase access essing harm reduction s	risk individuals or people ion service linkage efforts Fund initiatives that provide to and use of harm ervices at lower rates);				
Category: □ treatment ⊠ harm redu	Category: □ treatment ☒ harm reduction ☒ prevention □ recovery supports  Recommendation was reviewed by the Research and Data Subcommittee on 6/24/25 and was not approved to move forward. Primary sited concern is inability to gauge potential impact is unclear given lack of opioid/substance use data regarding participants and participant outcomes is not available.  Additional information requested/concerns:							
Primary sited concern is inability to g and participant outcomes is not avail.  Additional information requested/o								
<ul> <li>Inability to gauge potential impact participant outcomes is not availal</li> </ul>		lack of opioid/substa	nce use data regarding	g participants and				

Topic	Discussion	Action
	assess opioid use/OD risk  Outcomes of individuals with opioid use/substance use/significant risk factors  Want more info on generational impact/generational goals  More granular detail on how this will prevent opioid deaths  Streamlined list of opioid use related interventions including connections to OUD tx and Harm Reduction  Is there data to support the proposed program is relevant to OUD abatement?  Recommendation: collect data for 3-6m (or amount of time to determine SU/opioid use trends) and resubmit recommendation	
	Project Title: Statewide Opioid Prevention Support to Local Prevention Councils (LPCs) and Prevention Workforce Development	
	Key components:  •Evidence-based Prevention  •Community-based learning opportunities  •Prevention Workforce Development  •Enhanced capacity and relationships among community providers/partners  •Replicable model  •Project milestones and annual evaluations	
	Summary of Request:	
	This proposal is for funding dedicated to hiring and training five Opioid Prevention Specialists, one each per Regional Behavioral Health Action Organization, to support each of the 121 Local Prevention Councils (LPC) by conducting town level opioid prevention needs analysis, identifying resources and building coalition capacity, leading the development of LPC strategic plan and sustainability plans, increasing outreach to community partners, and coordinating opioid prevention efforts in the specific communities.	
	The three initial outcomes of this initiative will be: 1. Opioid Prevention: An increase in evidence-based prevention programs through community organizations (LPCs) across the state. 2. Capacity Building and Sustainability: Local Prevention Councils that experience stable leadership, continued growth and improved services. 3. Workforce Development: Increase in Certified Prevention Specialists The CT Prevention Network (CPN) is made up of five (5) RBHAOs covering all 169 municipalities across CT. Part of their role with CT DMHAS is to administer contracts for 121 Local Prevention Councils (LPC). LPC funding comes from the federal block grant, and the municipal amounts are determined by CT DMHAS based on population size. Funding amounts range from \$2265.16 to \$10,356.82 annually. LPC funding is used to support grassroots initiatives determined by assessing local needs and existing resources. LPCs are mostly volunteer led and vary in capacity. A few of the LPCs have hired part-time or full-time staff with financial support from federal or foundation grants, municipal dollars and, less frequently, private donations.	
	The majority of the LPCs subsist entirely on annually allocated LPC funds. Currently, only 15% of LPC funding can be used for	

Discussion						
administrative support, which is insufficier would improve long-term planning and sustate. Given the nature of small, volunteer for many of the LPCs. Each of the 5 RBH/membership of the 121 LPCs.	stainability, whil organizations,	le simultaneous long-term plan	sly increasing the ning and stead	he number of l ly leadership h	Prevention Pro ave been pers	ofessionals in our sistent challenges
The RBHAOs propose that OSAC funds to Region. The OPS will be a resident in the OPSs in evidence-based prevention pract becoming Certified Prevention Specialists support, training, and enhancement of the primary prevention focused programs and Mental Health First Aid, and Teen Mental prevention learning communities, assist in and sector representation, among other residence.	region, adding ices and coalition through the CT LPCs. OPSs will trainings acroson Health First Aid building relation	local lived expon capacity buin Certification Evill be responsion the lifespan in the Opioid F	erience and equiding. The RBH Board (CCB). To tole for building ncluding Life Serevention Spe	uity to the prod IAOs will also heir time would the capacity o kills Training, cialists will coo	cess. CPN wo prepare each d be focused e f each LPC's t SBIRT and A- ordinate region	uld train the OPS for entirely on the by providing SBIRT, Youth al and statewide
This initiative would have statewide impact awareness, providing education/skill build meaningful impact on opioid abatement we guidance and institute the use of proven equiriculum by the RBHAOs to include con LPCs; this would address local concerns a	ing, reducing ac rhen they are hi effective preven sistent skills for	ccess, peer not gh functioning tion strategies. the OPS to fol	mative message coalitions. LPC This proposal	ging, and chan s need dedica is inclusive of	iging policies L ted staff who withe design of a	PCs can have a will provide an innovative
Baseline information about the LPC's stru OPSs will assist as LPCs draft mission stated Markers of progress at each LPC include the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF progress. Local needs assessments will processed to consequences of opioid use over the term annual report.	atements, comp completion of L i), and LPC com provide baseline	plete internal as PC coalition se apletion of the se a data that will	sessments, an elf- assessment steps involved i be used to mar	d develop con t, completion o in the SPF. Prok trends, beha	nprehensive 3- of sector agree ocess measure avior change, a	-5-year plans. ments, training in es will track LPC and
Markers of progress for the OPS include leasessment, coalition capacity building, p Progress towards certification with CCB w liaison with town officials by sharing data applied.	lanning, implem vill be monitored	nentation of evi d by training ho	dence-based o urs. Additionall	pioid prevention y, Opioid Prev	on programs, a ention Special	and evaluation. ists will act as a
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	<b>Total Cost</b>
	Cost	Cost	Cost	Cost	Cost	0.054.500
5 Prevention Coordinator positions including Fringe	500,000	515,000	530,450	546,363	562,753	2,654,566

Topic	Discussion							Action
	Training of Trainers	25,000	25,000	25,000	10,000	10,000	95,000	
	Annual Program Evalua	ntion: 6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	30,000	
	10hours/month x 12mg	onths						
	x \$50/ hour							
	Administrative costs 15	79,650	81,900	84,218	84,354	86,813	416,935	
	Total	610,65	627,900	645,668	646,717	665,566	3,196,501	
	CORE Priority: CORE Priority #5: Primary Prevention.  Category: ☐ treatment ☐ harm reduction ☒ prevention ☐ recovery supports  Recommendation was reviewed by the Research and Data Subcommittee on 6/24/25 and was not approved to move forward. Primary sited concern is more information is required regarding activities that are likely to impact opioid abatement. Currently, the only EBP for OUD included is Life Skills Training. Additional requested information/concerns include:  How are these positions different than other prevention staff at RBHAOs (other than these staff would be specifically focused on engaging the LPCs)  Tying the interventions to CORE report  Sustainability concerns  More opioid response centered—more clarification on trainings/tactics/strategies specific to OUD  SBIRT listed but not evidence based for Opioid Use—what's the supporting evidence for this intervention?  Seeking more info about the new activities the LPCs will being doing the community  Include education goals to focus on MOUD, naloxone, Harm Reduction—current trainings listed are not OUD related other than Life Skills  What's the evidence that coalition building is an effective form of opioid abatement?							
Additional Discussion	Discussion of standardized information to be included in proposal drafts: The updated form was shared ahead of the meeting and reviewed for additional feedback. No modifications were offered during the meeting, though members requested to provide additional feedback via email if needed.  Discussion of data points for recently approved initiatives: The subcommittee members discussed a data collection plan for OSAC recommendations recently approved. The data collection plan as identified during the meetings is as follows:  -# admissions per primary drug of choice -# referrals by type/level of care (including MOUD) -readmission rate -demographics (including town of residence) -time/day trends of admission -length of time for RC contact post discharge -# of follow ups post-discharge -# of follow ups post-discharge							
	11 -		_			-		
	Coaching	~# of follow ups	_			-	ollementation	

	Discussion								
OTP Access Expansion	~increased same day MOUD induction for unduplicated individuals by MOUD type (to assess caseload growth) ~increase prescribing staff hired (by FTE) ~DDaP Data ~insurance rates (private vs Medicare/Medicaid vs uninsured)	Every quarter upon implementation							
<b>Recovery Centers</b> (Torrington, Danbury, New London)	~Referrals to services outside the RC (by type + outcome of connection) ~Service utilization during visit (includes individual RC, groups, etc) ~# visits ~# unique participants ~# individuals served using opioids/opioid use history/at risk of OD ~Demographics (including town of residence) ~Referral source into RC	Every 6 months upon implementation							
,	after the July 7, 2025 full OSAC meeting.	implementation	Noted						

<u>NEXT MEETING</u> – Next meeting will be scheduled after the July 7, 2025 full OSAC meeting. <u>ADJOURNMENT –</u> June 24, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.