

OPIOID SETTLEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (OSAC)
Meeting of Wednesday, May 9th, 2023
Teams Virtual Meeting
10:00 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Members/Designees: Nancy Navarretta, Commissioner, DMHAS; Mayor Neil O’Leary, Waterbury; William Tong, Attorney General, AGO; Manisha Juthani, Commissioner, DPH; Vanessa Dorantes, Commissioner, DCF; Jennifer Kolakowski, Shayne Ember, Dr. Srinivas Muvvala; Judy Dowd, OPM; Timothy Birch, AGO; Susan Campion; Kimberly Grove; Liz Fitzgerald; Kyle Zimmer; Lisa Deane; Senator Cathy Osten; Representative Toni Walker; Mayor Luke Bronin, Hartford; Mayor Elinor Carbone, Torrington; Dr. Mehul Dalal; Mayor Thomas Dunn, Wolcott; Bridget Fox; First Selectwoman Tracey Hanson, Voluntown; Paul Januszewski; First Selectman Rudy Marconi, Ridgefield; Mayor Lisa Marotta, Rocky Hill; Jeanne Milstein; First Selectwoman Maureen Nicholson, Pomfret; Ebony Jackson-Shaheed; Dawn Niles; Erica Teixeira; Russell Melmed; Pareesa Charmchi-Goodwin; Donna Culbert; John Lally; Christine Gagnon; Kennard Ray, Jody Terranova, Deputy Commissioner, DPH

Visitors/Presenters: Katherine Ramos; Luiza Barnat; Keith Radziwon; Christopher McClure; Christy Knowles; Sandra Violette; Sarju Shah; Diana Shaw; Mike Starkowski; PJ Cimini; Andrew Brown; Mike T.; Ryan; Ana Gopoian; William J. Gardner; Ciarra Lofstrom; Rosalyn Liss; Colleen Harrington; Shauna Pangilinan; Katherine Hart; David Fiellin; Kimberly Haugabook; Kelly Ramsey-Fuhlbridge; Kimberly Karanda; Danielle Ebrahimi; Arthur Mongillo; Matthew Fitzsimmons; Elizabeth Benton; Sara Nadim; Angela Duhaime; Evan Dantos; Colleen Violette; Kris Robles; Deborah Lake; Allison Fulton; Divik Verma; Emma Biegacki; Cara Passaro; Mary-Kate Mason; Brian Kiluk; Maria Coutant Skinner; Lisa (Guest); Kelley Edwards; John Simoncelli; Ginger Katz; Giovanna Mozzo; Cristin McCarthy Vahey; Rianne; Robin Deutsch, MD; Nicole Hampton; Robert Heimer; Benjamin Howell; Elsa Ward; Roland Harmon; Joe Lindbeck; Ken Przybysz; Allyson Nadeau; Nicole Hampton

Recorder: Melanie Richard

The May 9th, 2023 meeting of the Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee (OSAC) was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Commissioner Nancy Navarretta, DMHAS. The meeting was co-chaired by Mayor Neil O’Leary, Waterbury.

Topic	Discussion	Action
Welcome and Meeting Guidelines	Commissioner Navarretta welcomed all in attendance.	Noted
Review and Approval of Minutes	The minutes from the last Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee from March 14 th , 2023, were approved and moved. First: Rudy Marconi; Second: Tim Birch	Noted
Opioid Services Overview	Commissioner Navarretta introduced Luiza Barnat, Opioid Services Director. She has done a fantastic job with the SOR(State Opioid Resource) grant, which has grown over the years from \$5m to \$14m from a Federal Grant. She has managed that for us and is involved in other parts of this organization that works with prevention treatment, recovery supports, and harm reduction. Luiza Barnat gave the presentation on the Opioid Services Overview. Please see the PowerPoint for the Opioid Services Overview here: Opioid Services Overview Questions: Representative Toni Walker: You mentioned earlier that recovery was more expedient or successful with recovery coaching along with medication. Do we have a lot of facilities that are required to provide a certain amount recovery coaching when they are dispensing methadone? Luiza Barnat: The preferred method is medication for opiate use disorder along with counseling. The belief is that they do require people to be in counseling while they’re receiving medication. There is research that shows that the medication will reduce the likelihood of death, and as a therapist, I definitely want people to be involved with therapy, but would prefer them being on	Informational

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>medication than not at all. Representative Toni Walker: I agree that they should not be on nothing at all, as it does not help. But how do we get more recovery coaching implemented?</p> <p>Luiza Barnat: We have embedded a lot of recovery coaching within the methadone clinics and we support nine programs to have recovery coaches there. I believe that they're pretty well utilized under this program.</p> <p>If anyone else has any questions, please type it in the chat and we'll get back to you, or email Luiza Barnat directly at Luiza.Barnat@ct.gov and we will provide an answer. If there are specific programs that you're interested in, we can certainly send you more material on that or we are happy to provide presentations in this form as well.</p>	
Update on CORE Report	<p>Dr. Fiellin gave the following presentation on an update of the CORE Report.</p> <p>The Connecticut Opioid Response Initiative was an initiative under Governor Malloy and it was the recognition that the number of deaths in the state of Connecticut had risen dramatically in from 2010-2015. It was designed to essentially provide a road map for services that could and should be expanded. I'm please to say that many of the things that we are reflecting on and listing in that report are being acted upon and put into place.</p> <p>The goal now is to reassess where we are in 2023 to make a decision with respect to services that exist that need additional support and acknowledge the changes in the pandemic that may have taken place. The goal here today is to briefly introduce you to the CORE team to educate you or point you to the 2016 CORE report recommendations. The document goes into the rationale for the recommendations, and it acknowledges that while there may be hundreds and thousands of things that we can be doing, that there are likely a subset of those that would provide the largest return on investment and allow us to make an immediate reduction in the rise in deaths over the years.</p> <p>Please see the presentation for the Connecticut Opioid REsponse(CORE) Strategic Plan, 2023 Update: Connecticut Opioid REsponse(CORE) Strategic Plan, 2023 Update</p> <p>Questions: Commissioner Dorantes, DCF: As the subcommittees continue to work through the details of those recommendations to recognize specific funding related to some iteration of people that fit into high-risk categories, which of the impacted people are children of parents that have overdosed? The related costs associated with the care of children whose parents have overdosed or have had a near overdose has been significantly growing, so I just wanted to make sure we explicitly called out parents as where some of the funding can be directed towards.</p> <p>Dr. Fiellin: I agree 100 percent that that's a high-risk population, and it was enumerated in Exhibit E with both pregnant women and parenting women should be a focus on our efforts and funding.</p>	Informational
Sub-committee Update a. Time Limited Process b. Research / Compliance c. Research / Data d. Public Participation Guidelines	<p>Please see the presentation for the Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee update presentation: Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee Updates Presentation</p> <p>List of subcommittees and who chairs them:</p> <p>Time Limited Process: Jeanne Milstein</p>	Informational Motion Approved

Topic	Discussion	Action
<p>e. Governance Committee / Bylaws</p>	<p>Finance/Compliance: Representative Toni Walker Research/Date: Dr. Srinivas Muvvala Public Participation Guidelines: Shayn Ember Governance Committee/Bylaws: Jennifer Kolakowski</p> <p>We do have five subcommittees right now, but several of them will be winding down once the completion of the task they are working on. We are suggesting establishing a referral subcommittee to assist with summarizing and prioritizing recommendations that are received and help with managing the time limited portal in our designated website that we discussed. It does not have a final process yet but was discussed in the Process Committee.</p> <p>This subcommittee would be embedded in the Alcohol and Drug Policy Committee (ADPC). The ADPC have already established subcommittees for prevention, treatment, recovery supports, and criminal justice, so the goal would be to utilize these content experts, avoid being duplicative, and use their expertise to review the recommendations that this group receives from the referral subcommittee.</p> <p>If anyone would like to volunteer for the new subcommittee, please contact Katie Ramos directly.</p>	
<p>Committee Comment / Discussion</p>	<p>None at this time.</p>	<p>Informational</p>
<p>Next Steps</p>	<p>We will be working on the bylaws and would like to present that at the next OSAC meeting as well as the public participation guidelines. Our next meeting is July 11th 2023 and will be virtual via Teams. We do need a motion to see if everyone is in agreement to establish the Referral Subcommittee.</p> <p>First: Jeanne Milstein Second: Dawn Niles</p> <p>No further questions at this time, but please feel free to contact Katie Ramos directly at Katherine.Ramos@ct.gov</p>	<p>Informational Motion Approved</p>

NEXT MEETING – Tuesday, July 11th, 2023, Video Conference Call through Teams

ADJOURNMENT – May 9th, 2023 meeting of the Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee adjourned at 11:15 a.m.