

## **BROOME OPIOID ABUSE COUNCIL**

**January 8, 2016**

Present: Jill Alford-Hammitt, John Bernardo, Sean Britton, Diane Brown, Carole Cassidy, Katie Cusano, David Harder, Alan Hertel, Karel Kurst-Swanger, Jerry Marinich, Debra Preston, Dr. Christopher Ryan, Raymond Serowik, Susan Wheeler, Lorraine Wilmot

Absent: Tina Barber, Sean Britton, Allen Buyck, Stephen Cornwell, Claudia Edwards, Arthur Johnson, Lee Livermore, Kate Newcomb, Dennis O'Keefe, Gabe Osterhout, Dr. Peter Ronan

Guests: Charles Compton and Bret Jaspers-WSKG, Timothy Giordani-Hope 607 Project

Karel Kurst-Swanger called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. As a point of clarification, these are open meetings and anyone can attend. Karel prepared the year-end BOAC report; she will forward it to members today for final comments.

Hope 607 Project: Tim Giordani attended the meeting to discuss the Hope 607 Project. They started at the NYS Department of Labor and now have 501(c)(3) status and have applied to OASAS to be a certified provider. They are developing a safe supportive house at 212 Court Street with 12 beds for the addicted population. They utilize a SMART Recovery Program using tools and strategies developed through the Rational Emotive Behavior Therapy approach. It is a four-part program: building and maintaining motivation, coping with urges, problem solving, and achieving a more balanced lifestyle. They want to be a resource to the community and this program can be used hand-in-hand with Narcotics Anonymous or Alcoholics Anonymous. This is a volunteer program that meets at the Broome County Urban League on Wednesday evenings at 5:30 p.m. Tim can be reached at 372-0034 for more information.

Carole Cassidy is now working as an Assistant County Attorney for the Health Department. As part of her role she will serve as the BOAC Coordinator.

Opioid Take-Back Boxes: During 2010-2014, the Federal government created a framework for pharmacies to offer take-back boxes for unused medications that did not have to be under the supervision of law enforcement. In the Fall of 2015, Governor Cuomo signed into law provisions for retail pharmacies to offer this service as long as they complied with federal regulations. BOAC discussed several different options to secure additional drug take back boxes. Sheriff Harder is researching the purchase of additional drug take back boxes and will meet with Dr. Ryan to discuss the issue further.

Community Education Committee:

- A drug awareness night will be held on Wednesday, January 20 at 7:00 p.m. at the Newark Valley United Church of Christ, 32 South Main Street in Newark Valley. Presenters include: Dreams Over Drugs; Lourdes Hospital; STAP (providing Narcan training); and the Tioga County Sheriff's Department.
- An awareness night (Heroin and our Community: Dinner and Dialogue) will be held on January 21, 5:30-8:00 p.m. at the Vestal High School Auditorium. Speakers include: Captain Pat Garey-NYS Police; John Barry-STAP; Alan Wilmarth-UHS New Horizons; Gerald Mollen-Former District Attorney; Sgt. Chris Streno-Vestal Police Department; a person in recovery; and a parent.
- Alan Wilmarth will present at the Chenango Forks School District in the High School Library on January 28, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

- A drug awareness night (Parent Education and Community Connection) will be held on Wednesday, January 27, 6-8:30 p.m. at the Windsor Central High School and on Thursday, February 4, 6:00-8:30 p.m. at the Deposit Central High School. Alan Wilmarth will present at both, followed by small group sessions. Participants can choose two sessions each night: Signs and Symptoms of Heroin and Other Substance Abuse-How to Connect the Dots; Changes in Families and Support Structures- How to Build a Pre-emptive Support Network for your Child; What's Yours is Mine-Tips to Manage Your Child's Technology in Support of Substance Abuse Prevention; and When Loving My Child Hurts: How to Provide Structure, Balance and Boundaries.
- There will be an awareness event in Sidney on February 10.
- Legislator Shaw is working with the Maine-Endwell School District and the Rotary to schedule an awareness event on February 24 or March 2.
- The Waverly School District contacted Jill to schedule an event there.
- The committee is developing wallet cards for parents with facts on one side and questions they should ask their child's physician on the other to advise them that it is okay to say no to the physician who wants to prescribe opioids for their child, to ask why it is needed, what their other options are, how long their child should take the medication, and what the consequences could be.
- Assemblywoman Lupardo had a press conference asking the Governor to provide funding to increase the number of counselors in schools and funding for Fairview to bring back their case management program.
- The Community Association of the Southern Tier contacted Diane Brown about a presentation on BOAC; Jill will provide an overview of BOAC's accomplishments.
- Lourdes Hospital is starting the second session of their Support Group for people who have lost someone to addiction on January 16. This is a six week program on Mondays, 5:00-6:30 at the Lourdes Hospice Office on Old Vestal Road. A third group will begin in May/June.

#### Law Enforcement Committee:

- Sheriff Harder was asked to have a Sheriff's Department representative participate in a panel discussion for Broome Leadership Institute held at the Press & Sun Bulletin on January 7<sup>th</sup>. The panel consisted of Legislator Ron Heebner, Alan Wilmarth-UHS, Theresa Rajner-Deposit High School Principal, and Detective Sergeant Matthew Cower-BC Sheriff's Department Special Investigations Unit Task Force.
- A committee meeting is scheduled for next week.

#### Treatment and Prevention Committee:

- A meeting was held with UHS, Fairview and TruthPharm representatives to move forward the Angel Program. TruthPharm is compiling a list of volunteers.
- Diane Brown will forward a PowerPoint presentation developed by the Oxford Police Department on their Angel Program.
- Katie Cusano is convening a group to complete a Substance Abuse Prevention Grant application for funding to work with adolescents which is due March 18.
- Lourdes Hospital has been receiving a lot of referrals to their Teen Intervene Program which serves youth identified with early onset use of alcohol or substances.
- The committee would like to develop a flow chart on how to navigate the system that could be put on the website. A Resource Guide will be developed.

- The two bed waiver was approved for the Addiction Crisis Center. Four of the twenty beds at Fairview are dedicated to the Angel Program. Chenango Bridge Medical has extended hours and could be utilized rather than the emergency room. UHS has "sit and wait" appointments with a clinician every day at New Horizons. ACBC is scheduled out to mid-February and New Horizons to the end of January. Both have emergency appointments (same day/next day) available. There are always empty beds at the New Horizons Inpatient Program. It is just a matter of whether or not the person meets the criteria for inpatient treatment. There are no inpatient beds for detox except the medically monitored beds at the Addiction Crisis Center. New Horizons can do mild to moderate detox with patients. If someone is experiencing severe withdrawal symptoms they will be admitted to the hospital.

#### Education of Medical Professionals Committee:

- Dr. Ryan is working with Drs. Ronan, Campbell and Hastings to craft a quick and memorable academic detailing message for providers.
- The Centers for Disease Control has put Clinical Practice Guidelines on opioid prescribing for chronic pain out for comment.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 5, 2016 in Conference Room A at the Broome County Health Department.