



State of New York County of Broome Government Offices

Broome County Health Department

Jason T. Garnar, County Executive · Rebecca A. Kaufman, MS, Director of Public Health

BROOME OPIOID ABUSE COUNCIL

May 5, 2017

Present: Jill Alford-Hammitt, Scott Baker, Iris Borilla, Don Bowersox, Diane Brown, Katie Cusano, Valerie Datta, Jason Garnar, Jim Hawley, Nancy Johnson, Rebecca Kaufman, Jill Lloyd, Harris Weiss for Donna Lupardo, Haley McCrory, Jim Mullins, Kate Newcomb, Michael Ponticiello, Dr. Christopher Ryan, Raymond Serowik, Kara Skellett, Penny Stringfield, Susan Wheeler, Lorraine Wilmot

Absent: Robin Alpaugh, Stephen Cornwell, Rich David, Megan D'Introno, Matthew Gawors, David Harder, Dr. Julia Hunter, Ben Lainhart, Lee Livermore, Mary McFadden, Kevin McManus, Kimberly Newell, Dennis O'Keefe, Dr. Peter Ronan, Colleen Wagner, Chris Whalen, Alan Wilmarth

Guests: Theresa Bovier (YWCA), Phil Ginter (HealthlinkNY), Adam Hughes (HealthlinkNY), Andrea Mazzini (Adapt)

Announcements:

- This is Nancy Johnson's last meeting. Theresa Bovier will be the new YWCA Residential Director and will attend BOAC meetings.
- Rebecca Kaufman asked to be notified of all subcommittee meetings so she can attend when possible.
- A community forum will be held at the Broome County Library on May 10th, 5:30-7:30 p.m. regarding a potential drug treatment center at the Broome Developmental Center facility.

HealthlinkNY: Phil Ginter and Adam Hughes attended the meeting to provide information on the Community Coalition Grant Resources. Last Fall, the Governor's Office provided funding to establish coalitions aligned with the NYS Economic Development Councils. HealthlinkNY worked with partners to submit a grant application and was awarded funding to work with OASAS and Tioga County Mental Health to be the local governing unit handling the grant. Start-up funds will be received for 7/1/17-12/31/17. All eight counties involved in the project will receive some funding. They will pull various community coalitions together to leverage resources to look at substance use issues across the region to complement and support what is already being done. They will work with 211 in the eight- county region to make sure that available resources are comprehensive and up-to-date so people can search one site to see what is available in their county. There will be an initial meeting in June with organizations to begin the conversation about a new strategic approach and to develop the workplan through the end of the year. They will convene quarterly summits to highlight best practices to address substance use issues and determine what can be done moving forward.

There is a LIFT grant in Orange County where they create alerts for pre-diabetic patients which sends information to the local health department to tie into their diabetes program to combine clinical intervention with community health. They would like to create a similar program to create the connections for a real-time drug surveillance program using real time data to inform interventions across the continuum of services so policymakers and programs know what the community is looking at in terms of current drug use and what is showing up at emergency rooms. Concerns about HIPAA and confidentiality were expressed. This is being addressed at the state level.

BOAC Communication and Promotion Plan: Haley McCrory is working on a communication plan to include the webpage, Facebook page and earned media to make sure the media is aware of what we are doing. Letters to the editor and guest viewpoints will be part of the plan. She is updating the BOAC website (gobroomecounty.com/boac) to make it more organized, visual and user friendly with a comprehensive resource guide so people can find what they need easily and immediately. An updated membership list will be added as well as a community calendar of upcoming events. Let Haley know what is going on to promote BOAC's activities on the webpage and Facebook. There will be a BOAC email address soon.

Community Education Committee:

- The pocket guide is being updated and will be distributed.
- Kara will be going to florist in the area to hand out prom cards. The back of the card reads "Make Memories.... Not Regrets" 5,202 teens are injured and 48 teens are killed nationwide in car crashes involving alcohol on a typical prom weekend. 52% of teens report getting alcohol from their parents on prom night. 73% of teens felt pressure from their peers to drink alcohol. Attend your school's after prom party and win prizes. Stay smart, speak up and get a sober ride. 92% of teens report not driving after drinking alcohol and 80% chose not to ride with a driver who consumed alcohol. Which side of the statistics will you be on? A "Make a Plan" applications will be incorporated. The Chenango Forks and Windsor School Districts are including a brochure like this to provide with prom tickets. We can work with all schools next year for something similar.
- After two rain out nights, the new date for the substance abuse prevention Rumble Ponies game is scheduled for May 16th. Tickets from the April 19th or May 1st games can be exchanged for this event. Before the May 1st game was cancelled due to the weather, Kara secured pledges from 50 people to be drug-free.
- The Drug Free Communities Grant has planned tentative dates for Family Fun Nights: August 2nd at Endicott Northside Park; August 16th at Windsor Klumpp Park; August 30th at Johnson City CFJ Park.
- A panel has been put together to judge entries for the commercial contest.
- There was a good response to the press conference that Jason Garnar held on April 14th.
- Kara is working with the Broome County Promise Zone on the School Resource Mapping Project.
- The County Executive, Drug Free Communities, BC STOP DWI Program and BC Sheriff's Office sent a letter out advising that there is an increase in underage drinking throughout prom and graduation season. They asked hotels, restaurants, convenience stores and limousine/charter bus companies to join parents and community organizations to ensure that activities remain alcohol-free for teens and where to report underage drinking.
- The winner of the underage drinking poster contest was announced at a press conference last Friday. The poster will be added to the BOAC website. The winner will throw out the first pitch at the May 16th Rumble Ponies game. They are working with the STOP-DWI Program and Broome County Sheriff's Office to increase patrols during prom and graduation season.
- Jill is working with Joshua Wright, an athlete in recovery and Caitly Garey, a person in recovery, to speak at a student assembly on May 16th, 8-11 p.m. at Maine-Endwell. Deposit is scheduling a student assembly in the afternoon of May 16th. Caitly spoke to health classes at Binghamton High School yesterday. Chenango Valley would like to host an event in August and Union-Endicott is interested in scheduling a Sports Injury/Opiates event. Jill will ask Joshua and Caitly if we can tape their presentation for Maine-Endwell assembly and post it on the BOAC website.
- The AmeriCorps member will be assisting with the social norms misperceptions campaign to get the message out that there are more teens not using substances and making healthy choices.
- Free Naloxone training will be held on May 23rd at 219 Front Street, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. This will be posted on the website.
- The funding initiative from Senator Akshar put five counselors in six school districts. The funding has been extended through at least January 2018.

Law Enforcement Committee:

- Kate Newcomb reported on the SARI (Sheriff Assisted Recovery Initiative) Program. There were 11 calls in January, 13 in February, 8 in March, 12 in April and 1 so far in May for a total of 45. There have been over 130 calls since the program's inception on March 30, 2016.
- The Broome County Sheriff's Department took in about 1,000 pounds of drugs (and other products that people dropped off) from the prescription drug take back boxes on National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. Last year, they collected 1,200 pounds.
- Sheriff Harder was invited to present at the Juvenile Detention Association of New York State meeting about street level drugs. He discussed BOAC, the SARI program and prescription drug take back boxes.
- The Broome County Sheriff's Department completed training for their staff and other police agencies on administration of the new Narcan product which is much more easily deployed.

Treatment and Prevention Committee:

- The 2017 Day of Recovery is scheduled for May 10 at the State Office Building from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. People can attend part of the presentation if unable to attend the all-day event.
- The Press printed an article on the SARI Program last week that was unfortunately not accurate or factual. BOAC would like to promote accurate information on the Sheriff's Department's SARI Program and the District Attorney's Operation Safe Program so the public knows what each program does and the differences between the programs. The committee brainstormed ideas on how to work together to promote both programs. One idea was for treatment providers to meet with the reporter from the Press. A tabling event at the mall was suggested to provide outreach on what services are available in the county. The message must be accurate and truthful about what services we have and where there are gaps in services in this community. We should talk about successes. A weekly spotlight on the website was suggested. Support groups could be highlighted. We need a patient centered approach to talk about risks, demographics and need to provide a comprehensive understanding of the problems in our area.
- Iris Borilla will join this subcommittee.
- Katie reported that all programs are at capacity right now; there has been an increase in need that providers are trying to address.
- ACBC may be able to help with the wait time for assessments with referrals to New Horizons, rather than someone needing two assessments. They can address housing and insurance issues if needed. Peer counselors will work one-on-one with people until they get into services. Family navigators worked with 18 new families in the past month and there were 31 individuals using peer counselor services. There is about a week wait time for services at UHS; people will be assessed and in a group within two weeks.
- The ACBC community grief group met last night. Jill reported that it was an amazing meeting with a combination of active addicts and parents and families who have experienced recent overdose deaths. The group meets on Thursdays, 6:00-7:30 p.m. at ACBC. The grief group began at the jail.
- Chris Herren (who is in recovery) from the Boston Celtics will speak at a forum on September 28th, 6:00-8:00 p.m. This is being funded through ACBC's education dollars. Agencies can table at the event to provide information and education about their services. This is a free event for the community to promote education on the dangers of drug use.
- ACBC's multi-family co-occurring disorders group will be on Tuesdays beginning at the end of June. This will be a problem-solving group for individuals suffering from mental health disorders and substance use.
- ACBC has been receiving a lot of calls from parents of older adolescents looking for help and from the older generation who have been on long-term opioid prescriptions and their doctors have discontinued their opioid prescriptions. Judicious prescribing comes into play for some of these individuals who have been handling long-term opioid prescriptions for chronic pain. These individuals could be referred to the Suboxone Program.

- Jason Shaw said that there is a new bill in Pennsylvania that doctors who are authorized to prescribe Suboxone may be required to pay \$10,000 per year to prescribe Suboxone.
- Excellus revised their health insurance plan. For 2016, substance abuse and mental health treatment was #3 in cost. In Broome County, they spent \$750,000 on three individuals with the top claim at \$314,000.
- The Binghamton University magazine for the Spring of 2017 contained a lot of good articles about addiction.
- There are six women in the YWCA Bridge Program. One woman in the program has been sober for one year and will have a drug-free child in June. One woman relapsed after seven months in the program but did not leave the program and is back on track.
- Seven members from the Children's Home of Wyoming Conference boy's home are involved in an adolescent group. They are looking for a location for group meetings; they cannot be held at ACBC because they serve a criminal population and no adolescents are allowed in the building.
- The Ancillary Detox Program is close to opening. They will have two providers able to prescribe Suboxone.
- Mike Kettle from Conifer Park provided training to Probation Department employees on changes in legislation for people to get into treatment.

Education of Medical Professionals Committee:

- All prescribers in New York State who have a DEA number now must have three hours of training in judicious prescribing of opioids for pain management. The deadline to complete the free training is July 1st. There is a course available through the SUNY Buffalo School of Pharmacy or the NYS Academy of Family Physicians. Dr. Ryan completed the training and provided the information to the two hospital systems.
- Dr. Ryan continues to encourage Suboxone training to medical practices.

Data and Statistics Committee:

- The committee will meet for the first time today. Kara Skellett and Katie Cusano will join.

Rural Committee:

- This committee has not held their first meeting yet.
- The Rural Health Network applied for the new AmeriCorps grant.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, June 2nd at 10:00 a.m. at the Broome County Health Department.