

## **BROOME OPIOID ABUSE COUNCIL**

**September 9, 2016**

Present: Jill Alford-Hammitt, John Bernardo, Sean Britton, Diane Brown, Carole Cassidy, Katie Cusano, Arthur Johnson, Lee Livermore, Jill Lloyd, Andrea Mazzini (guest), Tom Morellino, Kate Newcomb, Gabe Osterhout, Debra Preston, Dr. Christopher Ryan, Raymond Serowik, Susan Wheeler, Lorraine Wilmot

Absent: Robin Alpaugh, Allen Buyck, Stephen Cornwell, Kim Newell, Megan D'Introno, David Harder, Jerry Marinich, Dennis O'Keefe, Dr. Peter Ronan, Alan Wilmarth

### **Announcements:**

- Jill Lloyd was introduced as a new member of BOAC. She is the new Family Navigator for ACBC and is working with the Family Therapy Program for addicted individuals and their family members. Peer Advocates will work with addicted individuals to help them overcome some of the barriers to getting into a treatment facility.
- The 2016 Chemical Dependency Professional of the Year Award Presentation Breakfast was held this morning. Attendees said it was wonderful to hear the positive comments and accomplishments.
- Diane Brown attended a Chamber of Commerce Board meeting where the head of a large corporation discussed the cost of sending people out of state for recovery. Diane would like BOAC members to present at the Chamber of Commerce's Eggs and Issues meeting. Human resource managers may not be aware of the treatment options available locally. We are getting feedback from those suffering from substance use disorder and their family members about individuals seeking treatment being sent out of state. They are required to buy expensive insurance on the Health Exchange and then find out that there are significant copays due. Colleen O'Neil, Chemical Dependency Unit at DSS, is assisting a number of families to obtain treatment locally. Because of an insurance loophole, some insurance providers are paying more if their insured receives services from an out of network treatment center.

### **Community Education Committee:**

- Jill Alford-Hammitt is working on scheduling an event from a sports medicine perspective to include coaches, athletic directors, athletes and parents to discuss alternative treatment options for pain management besides opioids.
- Lee Livermore will present to Athletic Directors in Chenango County during November.
- Lourdes Hospital and the Southern Tier AIDS Program will host Naloxone training on October 5, 2:00-4:00 p.m. at Lourdes Youth Services, 219 Front Street in Binghamton.
- Andrea Mazzini from Adapt Pharma will provide information on free Narcan for schools. Adapt Pharma will provide all high schools in the country with a free carton of Narcan nasal spray and fund school-based opioid overdose education.
- Lorraine Wilmot discussed BOAC activities at the Family Violence Prevention Council Executive Committee meeting.
- One of the agenda items for the NYS Association of Counties meeting scheduled for September 20 is the heroin epidemic and how other states are handling problems.
- Katie Cusano and Debbie Preston will present on BOAC at the School Superintendent's meeting in October 7, 2016.

### **Law Enforcement Committee:**

- The committee did not meet during the past month.

### **Treatment and Prevention Committee:**

- BOAC received the Drug Free Communities Grant of \$125,000 a year for five years, with the opportunity to apply for another five years. With this funding BOAC will be able to expand its work with schools and the community.
- Michelle Napolitano submitted the Schedule C for the ACC capital project to build a new facility with an increase in the number of beds or renovation of the current center.
- Promise Zone is working with the Family and Children's Society to open satellite mental health clinics in the schools. The clinic in the Windsor School District started this month and the one for the Johnson City School District should be approved soon. They will be working with East Middle School next with the goal of having a center in each school district.
- ACBC will be starting their outpatient detox program.
- Katie Cusano will present on alternatives to pain management at the Broome County Library on September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Carole Kuklis from the Dual Recovery Program reached out to Dr. Caulkins from the Pain Management Center at Lourdes Hospital and Dr. Clark from the Binghamton University Prevention and Wellness Center. She will do some partnering with Professor Marzell from Binghamton University to work on the alcohol issue.
- Katie Cusano, Sean Britton, Dr. Ryan and Kate Newcomb presented to the Mee Foundation. They were impressed by BOAC's activities and encouraged them to apply for grant funding for a project. Project suggestions included: funding the prescription

drug take-back boxes, development of a DVD that memorializes the panel presentations throughout Broome County that could be provided to schools, churches, etc. and put on the BOAC website, or inviting Dr. Kolodny back for an evening presentation. Sean suggested reaching out to WBNG to see if they are able to record a video/DVD for BOAC. Gabe will follow up with WBNG. Dr. Kolodny is presenting in Syracuse on October 20<sup>th</sup>.

- A PSA will be put out next week on where addicted individuals can turn for help.
- Lee Livermore reported that a Poison Center Toxicologist gave out Naloxone kits at the NYS Fair; he will provide data on that. He will provide some information on Kratom which is in the process of becoming a Schedule 1 drug.
- The University of Wisconsin published a study about addressing stigma and is trying to change the word addiction on federal websites to address the stigma of addiction. Art Johnson suggested that Bill Moyer Jr. from the Hazelton Foundation is an expert speaker about the stigma of addiction.
- Katie Cusano is teaching a class at SUNY Broome – Psychology and Addiction.

#### **Education of Medical Professionals Committee:**

- The Naloxone Program now includes the Vestal and Deposit School Districts. Training will be scheduled for the Vestal district. The Johnson City School District has expressed interest in participating. Training was provided as part of Superintendent's Day for school nurses, social workers, and school psychologists. There are three options for school districts who want to join the Naloxone Program: 1) train and equip school nurses; 2) affiliate with an existing program such as ours; or 3) begin their own program. We offer them assistance with training regardless of which option they choose.
- There were 105 of Naloxone administrations reported from participating agencies with August being the busiest month with 11 administered in Broome County.
- Sean Britton and Dr. Ryan presented to the NYS Association of County Health Officials on the activities of BOAC. They were impressed and asked for a copy of the presentation. BOAC is being recognized in the public health community.
- Sean Britton is working with the NYS Association of County Health Officials to review our epidemiology methods and public information on opiate/heroin deaths. They offered their support after the presentation and will set up a call with the National Association of City and County Health Officials about the soundness of our methods.
- Dr. Ryan met with Julia Hunter, the newly hired Addiction Specialist for United Health Services Hospitals. She is spearheading many projects and will be involved in the Vivitrol Program at the jail for sentenced inmates before discharge.
- Dr. Ryan met with the Vestal Avenue Medicine Shoppe; they are interested in a medication take-back box. They hope to get some grant funding to cover the \$10,000 cost for a three-year rental and then assume the cost themselves.
- Tom Morellino spoke to 18 family practice residents at Wilson Hospital, 30 Binghamton University Decker School of Nursing students, and 15 dentists through the Broome County Dental Society. He will present to the Lourdes Hospital Medical Board on September 27<sup>th</sup>.

Investigator Timothy Dewey from the NYS Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement presented. They are the law enforcement arm of the NYS Department of Health and have been monitoring prescriptions written in NYS since the 1970's. There were 43,982 drug overdoses in the United State in 2013, with 51% related to prescription drugs (71.3% were for opioid painkillers and 30.6% involved benzodiazepines). Investigator Dewey provided the following statistics regarding how many opioid prescriptions were written and filled in Broome County:

- 179,252 prescriptions were written and 172,501 prescriptions filled in 2014.
- 174,998 prescriptions were written and 158,509 prescriptions filled in 2015.

The next meeting is **October 7**, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in Conference Room A at the Broome County Health Department.