



BOAC Meeting Minutes
May 7, 2021 10AM – 11AM
ZOOM

Present: Marissa Knapp, Deb Gregory, Courtney Cashman, Danica Vasa, Lisa Wilson, Lynne Esquivel, Megan Wise, Maria Fabrizi, Alexis Pleus, Terry Carry, Ray Serowik, Erica Robinson, Sidney Graham, Jim Hawley

Introductions were made and meeting was brought to order by Marissa Knapp.

UPDATES:

- **BCHD - Marissa Knapp**
 - Marissa updated us that the mini grants will be awarded in the next few days.
 - The public service announcement on substance abuse had run in February, March, and April, and informed where Narcan was available due to the increase in overdoses.
 - CDC has approved the BCHD to purchase Fentanyl strips, more information to come.
 - There is an Empire Pandemic Response Fund that reimburses essential workers and first responders with COVID hardship expenses up to \$1000. Apply at <https://pandemicfundny.smapply.org>
- **BC Mental Health / DFC - Maria Fabrizi**
 - Maria informed us Drug Take Back Day was a success; 600lbs of drugs were collected, 200 Deterra bags were given away, along with 30 lock boxes. Thanks to TruthPharm for bringing a sharps lock box. It was an opportunity to educate on medications in the home. Some folks took Deterra bags with them for future use. Maria hopes this will be an annual event.
 - Maria has also applied for 5 more years of funding with the Drug Free Communities.
 - Lourdes is hosting scavenger hunt will be running through National Prevention Week which is May 7- 16, 2021.
 - Parks and Rec will host movies in the county parks during July and August.
 - Chalk the Walk and Have the Talk with BC Safe, an annual event in honor of National Suicide Awareness Day, the kickoff day is September 10, 2021.
- **Truth Pharmacy - Alexis Pleus**
 - Alexis continues to offer harm reduction groups, a grief support program. All program details are listed on the TruthPharm Facebook page.
- **OFA - Courtney Cashman**
 - Courtney advised the Senior Centers are not open at this time.
 - OFA is assisting seniors set up appointments for the COVID vaccines.
 - The Meals on Wheels program is still in great demand.



- **BC Emergency Services - Ray Serowik**
 - Ray shared the OD statistics for the last month.

- **HIITA - Jim Hawley**
 - Jim informed us on the new Spike Alert Program and is looking forward to having it up and running soon.
 - Stacy shared the latest OD trend is with 50–60-year-olds trying stimulants that include Fentanyl. One thought in trying to educate this generation is with coasters at bars, or stickers on takeout containers.

- **Healing Project - Lynne Esquivel**
 - Lynne shared that May is Mental Health month. There are many great resources available on the Broome County web site.

- **Helio Health - Erica Robinson**
 - Erica stated Helio Health is operating as normal.
 - Erica will distribute the information on classes Helio Health offers.
 - Helio Health is also trying to collaborate with Broome and Tioga county police to help members of the communities within patient detox, Helio has 20 beds available

- **BC Mental Health - Megan Wise**
 - Megan updated up that Women’s Health Week is May 9 – May 15, 2021.

- **DSS – Tina**
 - Tina informed us DSS has a new emergency rental program for low and moderate folks who need help with rent or utilities on or after March 13, 2021. One does not need to be receiving benefits with DSS to be eligible for this program. NYS will determine the eligibility and will pay landlords and utilities directly.

- **Lourdes Youth Services - Sidney Graham**
 - Sidney shared many of the virtual evidence-based programs have been successful. The preventative counseling has not been quite as successful as previous years, the barrier is students are not as responsive to virtual counseling as the in-person counseling. The “All Star Program” currently has 21 students across Broome County receiving active counseling for their substance abuse.

Next meeting June 4, 2021.