



Thursday, October 16, 2025 | 10:00am-11:30am

Broome County Health Department: Conference Rooms A & B

225 Front Street Binghamton, NY 13905

Virtual Option: <https://broome.zoom.us/j/85031762374> (Meeting ID: 850 3176 2374)

10:02 AM

**1. Welcome and Call to Order**

10:03 AM

**2. Moment of Silence, Meeting Expectations, Introductions:**

*In Person:* Samantha Basile (MBPN MSW Intern), Rachel Leri (MBPN), Maura Beard (MBPN MSW Intern), Michael Bender (BCOES), Chris Streno (BCHD PHPSL), Emma Nalin (RHN), Steven Cornejo (STCAC), Katie Medinosky (DSS), John Barry (STAP), Sidney Graham (GLYS), Emily Georgia (FCCS), Jess Saeman (FCCS), Don Garren (VOICES), Murph Shea (VOICES), Erica Robinson (Helio), Kathy Staples (Truth Pharm), Alexis Savidge (FPSCNY), Mike Gazdik (DA's Office), Carmela Pirich (ACBC), Jules Cole (BCHD PHEP), Marissa Knapp (BCHD OPP) Michelle Bertoni (BCHD OPP), Scott Spicer (BCHD OPP), Abby Kaiser (BCHD OPP).

*Virtual:* Jack Augenstein (Bridgewater), David Brennan (NYS Assembly), Alicia Detrick (OfA), Amanda Parker (ACBC), Dustin Ross (GL ED), Madelyn Shantillo (CoB), Mary Beth Dreyer (Upstate Poison), Morgan Congdon (Conifer Park), Kelly Robinson (Excellus), Katie Pritchard (Fidelis), Rasheema Wright (BU), April Stoeckel, Emily Juozitis (BU), Dave Tinklepaugh (BCOES).

**3. Presentations by:**

- **Guthrie Lourdes Youth Services** Sidney Graham Behavioral Health Intake Supervisor  
Student Assistance Program
  - OSF Project Reporting
    - Provided 2 districts with behavioral health counselors
      - Harpursville and Union Endicott
      - UE: 3 sites: UEHS, JFSMS, and Tiger Ventures
    - EBP
      - All Stars, Teen Intervene
      - 41 students were met with 1:1

10:08 AM

10:15 AM

- 7 series of ATOD presentations-82 students
- 14 classes of refusal skills
- Looking to triple those numbers--UE became a permanent site for all 3 locations
- Also provided training for the team: Too Good for Drugs (costly training) pilot training
- Working with 5th grade now, then 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th with prevention and intervention skills.
- **Family and Children's Counseling Services** –Emily Georgia, CASAC-A, ROAR Supervisor (Rapid Opioid Assistance in Recovery – Low Threshold) and Jessica Saeman, CASAC-T, CRPA Behavioral Health Clinician
  - Overview of ROAR program
    - Get people on MAT and keep them engaged with as few barriers as possible
    - HR approach-maintaining access to treatment with flexibility
    - 45 min assessment, get to prescriber same day for Buprenorphine or Suboxone
    - Telehealth intakes available
    - All intakes get Narcan
    - Reduced expectations, especially number of monthly contacts
    - Treatment plan is focused on getting needs met
    - Referrals to programs beyond low threshold
    - Looks different for every client, keep them connected, meeting them where they are geographically too. Going to houses to check in if appt missed. If need ID to get meds.
    - CCBHC-access to case management and crisis services also
  - New peer in Broome starting today
  - BUPE-AP— covers cost of oral Bupe--FCCS can help anyone, no client requirement,
  - Referrals
    - Can be a phone call that someone is interested-they will try to find them
    - Call Emily for in person or phone intake
    - Scheduled for same day focused assessment
    - Know about 1st appt before leaving try to have it while they are in the office
    - Getting info ahead of time can reduce barrier of waiting in the office.
  - Jess
    - Earned CASAC and has been using that, was meeting people at the library, looking for places to meet people safely
    - Vending machine filled weekly: wound care, safe sex, feminine hygiene, Narcan and test strips
      - How has neighborhood responded?
        - High needs
        - Some days a lot of trash—asking for city to put garbage can there
        - Madelyn will bring that up with DPW--should work on that

10:37 AM

#### 4. Broome County Health Department Overdose Prevention Program Updates

- OOPP Data: 9 OOPPs in Broome County, 8 of 9 reporting
  - 1,519 people trained
  - 5,301 kits/10,602 doses give out this quarter (July-September)

- 2025 Total as of 9/30: 29,852! Surpassed all of 2024: 20,068
- BCHD Program Spotlight Video: Please see pinned post on Facebook.
- BCHD has Naloxboxes for anyone interested-small totes, newspaper stands and wall mount.
  - Let us know if you see empty boxes in the community so we can refill as needed.
  - We are getting questions about naloxone being outside--not worried about temps due to research that shows how little efficacy is lost.
- BCHD also has wound care and wellness and some undergarments and socks available
- If there is a group that wants to put kits together, we would provide materials.
  - BU MPH program is working on some currently.
- Fatal and Non-Fatal ODs this year
  - 18 suspected fatal overdoses
  - 19 suspected non-fatal know it is not the full picture. Drug supply is more stable.
  - John Barry: supply is toxic, not short-term toxic, but long-term toxic due to chemicals
  - Steven Cornejo: October has been quiet
- Contracted with a Public Health Public Safety Liaison, Chris Streno
  - Retired from law enforcement after 33 years
  - Regularly attended peer response meetings and is looking forward to starting that up
  - Will be providing harm reduction and stigma reduction education to public safety
  - Would like to hear what law enforcement can do better from groups here—email PHPSL@BroomCountyNY.gov
  - Will be expanding to fire and EMS as well
- CDC on furlough so we have no feedback, guidance, or contact about the OD2A grant.

## 5. Agency/group announcements/program updates

10:57 AM

- Carmela Pirich (ACBC)
  - Always wonders about ODMAPS data as they have had 2 non-fatal overdoses in their waiting room and 1 in comfort center recently.
    - Unclear if public safety was called and if these should have been captured in ODMAPS
    - Let BCHD staff and Steven Cornejo know of date/time/location of known suspected overdoses so that we can crosscheck data.
    - BCHD staff is working to keep numbers updated; spoke at chief's meeting and dispatch to educate about ODMAPS
  - Seeing a lot more meth use than opioids
  - ACBC has been flooded with homelessness and overwhelmed with the difficulty of coordinating without a phone or address
  - Will be holding diaper and formula drives in the future
    - Don Garren: VOICES offered to be a drop-off location for diapers and formula
    - Rachel Leri: MBPN can provide ~15 diapers monthly. First Presbyterian Church in Binghamton has a diaper give away for one hour the first Wednesday of the month.
- Emma Nalin (Rural Health Network)

- Offering Mental Health First Aid, QPR, Talk Saves Lives, along with Narcan training for communities. If you have a group that wants training, reach out to RHN.
    - Mental Health First Aid is 8-hour training—1 day or 2 four-hour sessions
    - QPR: 60-90 minutes
    - Talk Saves Lives: 60-90 minutes
    - It's real (for teens): 90 minutes
- Steven Cornejo (Southern Tier Crime Analysis Center)
  - National Guard can also provide Narcan and has given to VPD and BPD
- Katie Medinosky (DSS)
  - Notified of ABAWD requirements changing
    - <https://otda.ny.gov/programs/snap/work-requirements.asp>
    - If anyone has mailings or basic work to be done, that could qualify as volunteer work
    - Someone engaged in drug and alcohol treatment can be exempt-including dosing
    - Concern for population who is older
  - DSS Naloxbox has been successful with plastic bags going faster
    - Kathy Staples: the blue bags are good for in person trainings, but plastic are popular everywhere else.
- John Barry (STAP)
  - has worked with RHN for MH fist aid--fantastic, easy to work with, encourage working with them for training.
  - Riverside Dr. food pantry--seeing 60 families/week
    - Cupboards are bare. Bare at CHOW also.
    - Occasionally have diapers, but call first
  - Also seeing overdoses. Veterinary drugs are doing a number on people, not the fatal effect of fentanyl, but long term toxicity
    - MK: Seeing that in drug testing too?
    - BTMPS-causes cardiac toxicity
  - Also seeing ppl using meth and Adderall
  - Uptick in HIV cases, started end of 2022. Normal 3-5/year in Broome. Last 12ish months, pushing up on 30.
    - Clinical work at your org, please push getting HIV test
      - Injection drug users and transactional sex work
      - Rural is a smaller pool of people
      - IVD users is small pool and can spread very quickly
- Don Garren and Murph Shea (VOICES)
  - 340 Prospect M-R: 9-8, F/S 9-5 with a homelike atmosphere
    - 2/week food
    - Clothes/1 week--also brings clothing to others--
    - Laundry 11 and 1 on Tuesdays 2x month
    - AA 3x week
    - NA 1x week
    - Provide bus passes and transport for those engaged with peer services
    - Peer services--Murph, Jess, and Sean to remove any barriers

- Nov. 16 bowling tournament @ Midway--all proceeds \$30/team--all goes to VOICES, Silent auction. Planning to use that money to purchase tents for the impending increase
  - VOICES' favorite word is yes, always ready to help; can provide space for kits put together by DSS
  - See their calendar pinned at the top of VOICES Facebook page
- Erica Robinson (Helio Health)
  - People have moved into Helio portion of housing on Court Street, other providers have not yet.
    - Helio has 30 units: single occupancy
    - Helio will always take referrals to fill an openings
    - Current and former OUD
    - Helio 30 units: single occupancy, own referral process, Kelly and Nick,
    - Helio will always take referrals to fill an openings
    - Current and former OUD
    - Housing Visions are property managers: and has final oversight of approval
    - Emotional support animals are allowed
    - Looking to have a housewarming party to welcome residents
    - Erica can show a vacant unit to those interested
  - Seeing lots of people coming in for detox from meth and cocaine
  - Working with VOICES to apply for foundation grant to get tents
- Kathy Staples (Truth Pharm)
  - 10/18--virtual raffle on Saturday and party in March
  - 10/27 potluck--family services, grief services,
  - 10/28 UHS Hep C testing
  - 11/3 STAP testing
  - Scheduling See Me Hear Me Treat Me for January with a focus on barriers of being unhoused and accessing harm reduction in medical offices.
    - Evidence based learning and include real life stories
- Mike Gazdik (BCDA)
  - NYS prosecutors handling drug crimes also report that fatal and non-fatal overdoses are trending significantly downward
  - Meth and cocaine use are up
  - Not seeing xylazine or nitazine as much yet

## 6. Meeting evaluation (Scan code below or click the link)

<https://forms.office.com/g/uYKR7Yr3PZ>



11:51 AM

## 7. Meeting adjournment

**Next BOAC Meeting: Tuesday, January 13, 2026, 9am-10:30am**

**\*In person only\***