



Broome Overdose Action Collaborative

July 13, 2023 | 9am – 10:30pm
Broome County Health Department, Conference Rooms A, B,C
225 Front Street Binghamton, NY 13905

Present: Mary McFadden, Marissa Knapp, Kristin Russell, Rasheema Wright, Jillian Beloch, Maria Fabrizi, Kurt Zumbach, Sidney Graham, Kylie Holochak, Cara Fraser, Colleen O'Connell, Christopher Scott, Daniella Cerchez, Megan Olmstead, Katie deVaries, Stacey Rodzinka, John Barry, Leigh Stevens, Christie Finch, Hannah Driskell, Megan Collins-Dale, Calvin Brown, Amber Coyne, Dorian, Patrick Jones, Julianne Lee, Erica Robinson, Jim Hawley, Christopher Ryan, Alexis Pleus, Carmela Pirich, Scott Baker

1. Call to Order & Introductions

Marissa Knapp began the meeting at 9:05 and members went around the table with introductions. A sign-in sheet was passed around for members to sign in.

2. Welcome

Mary McFadden and Marissa Knapp welcomed the group back after the first meeting after the Strategic Planning session. Mary McFadden discussed the positive discussions that took place amongst BOAC members during the Strategic Planning session and thanked everyone for their participation as part of this. Mary McFadden mentioned Marissa Knapp and Kristin Russell submitted a 6.5-million-dollar federal grant to improve the resources available to Broome County to address the overdose crisis. Mary McFadden shared the success of adding another team member to the BCHD Team at the Health Department due to the feedback from BOAC members.

3. Group Expectations

Marissa Knapp thanked everyone for their honest feedback on the Strategic Planning survey and during

the planning meeting. Marissa Knapp discussed the expectations of the group as follows:

- Everyone at the BOAC table comes with experiences and expertise that is unique and needed at the table. While there's history and relationships, both positive and negative, the work is hard, sometimes tireless, but we are all connected in this way and the BCHD team wants to acknowledge that.
- While BOAC is in session, it is asked that everyone is present and respectful of one another, as everyone at the table is there with a common goal to save lives in Broome County. The BCHD Team's goal is to convene partners for better collaboration in the spirit of this goal.
- The BCHD Team asks that partners respectfully challenge each other to be their best and reach out to one of the BCHD Team members if someone doesn't feel valid, heard, or respected.

Marissa Knapp thanked everyone for their commitment to BOAC and asked for everyone to take a moment of silence in memory of those lives that have been lost.

4. Strategic Plan Summary & Small Group/Breakout Activity

BOAC members were separated into groups of 3 to discuss activities/projects for each of the three main goals from the Strategic Planning Session- Improve Access to Basic Needs, Improve Interagency Collaborations, and Advocate for Policy/Systems Change. 40 minutes was dedicated to the activity, with the goal of sharing the group's top 3-5 ideas from each category. The activity was adjusted to groups discussing more broad ideas before getting into specific projects.

5. Large Group Discussion: Report Out

- Group 1:
 - Improve Interagency Collaboration:
 - Create a new team (multidisciplinary team) to work with high-risk clients
 - Create trainings to increase access to telehealth
 - Basic Needs:
 - Partner with schools/other locations with showers to increase access to laundry, showers, and other basic needs
 - Quarterly hygiene donation drive (Drug Take Back Day?)
 - Advocacy:
 - Advocate for Broome County to using findings from the housing report to determine what actions can be taken and utilizing the report
 - Amending policies to include trauma-informed care

- Reduce the amount of DSS sanctions
 - Increase funding for appropriate spending on housing
- Group 2:
 - Basic Needs:
 - Mobile van- 1 stop shop
 - Funding is limited- Grant writing committee to sustain funds and basic needs
 - Housing- biggest issue, not enough time to discuss
 - Interagency Collaboration:
 - Consent as an issue for interagency collaboration
 - Universal consent for public and private consent- start on a small scale, but goal is to be state-wide
- Group 3:
 - Basic Needs, Interagency Collaboration, Advocacy for policy/systems change (many ended up intertwining):
 - Increasing access to assistance already receiving from DSS. Having DSS join us to discuss their experience. Raising the salary of DSS workers, creating a satellite office, peer services at DSS
 - Universal basic income- piloting through an agency
 - Housing- in safe places, vetting landlords, STAP does physical inspection for their housing- using that as a model for other agencies, finding the best fit for the client, assessment of barriers and seeing the reports
 - Cell phone charging- swapping system with portable chargers- possibly through libraries or other agencies that have high-risk touch points, charging stations in public places
 - Transportation- no shows from cabs causing consistency issues, how to hold them accountable?
 - Inviting new people for a “reason” having a conversation with people who are at the table to get them engaged and keep them engaged. Possible orientation.
- Data Sharing:
 - A partner recommended data sharing at each meeting.
 - Marissa Knapp mentioned there was data that was shared while Ray Serowik was attending, but due to the nature finalizing the details of the Strategic Plan, the meetings are structured on continuing these discussions.
 - The BCHD Team has a goal of implementing a data dashboard for sharing with the public and BOAC partners.
 - HEALing Community Study has a staff member that works on data that is willing to assist in determining data that can be collected.
 - A few partners recommended specifying the types of data that will be shared included number of persons who are sanctioned by DSS, demographics of persons who experience an overdose, and general locations.
- Structure of BOAC:
 - A discussion on if the BOAC recommendation of being autonomous was brought up.
 - A member question on whether County leadership provided input on the recommendation and what the outcome was determined to be was asked.
 - Mary McFadden discussed that due to county resources being provided, the Health

Department would remain the as the coordinating role of BOAC.

- A member suggested having a person who was not affiliated with a county position act as a spokesperson for BOAC when recommendation is made that may put a county employee in a position in the middle of BOAC and County leadership.

Announcements:

- The Health Department received an order of Xylazine test strips that are available for partners, also BOAC members were encouraged to do an order through NY MATTERS to get their own supply.
- A doodle poll will be sent out for the next meeting to be held in late August/early September. Members should expect this to come within the next few weeks.