



Wednesday March 18, 2026, 2:00-3:30PM

Broome County Health Department: Conference Rooms A & B

225 Front Street, Binghamton, NY 13905

2:01 PM
2:02 PM
2:04 PM

1. **Welcome and Call to Order**
2. **Moment of Silence and Meeting Expectations,**
3. **Introductions:** Amanda Florance-BC Parks, Dustin Ross-Guthrie ED, Jules Cole-BCHD PHEP, David Brennan-Lupardo's office, Ben Harting-BCSO, John Barry-STAP, Kathy Staples-Truth Pharm, Kianna King-Public Defender Intern, Kristin Oliver-SUNY Broome, Lena Meyer-Helio, Tonya Ridgway-Helio, Murph Shea-VOICES, Hannah Driskell-BCSO, Alexis Savidge- FPSCNY, Kristin Beylo BCDA, Heather Heavey-BCPD, Katie Medinosky-DSS, Tami Robinson-BHA, Kurt Zumbach-Probation, Olivia Catalano-BCHD Director, Michael Bender-BCOES, Paul Suarez-SUNY Broome CASAC Intern, Kayleigh Hubbard-Conifer Park, Morgan Congdon-Conifer Park, , Jess Saeman-FCCS, Megan Olmstead-BCMh, Sidney Graham-GLYS, Kate Pritchard-Fidelis, Chris Streno-BCHD OPP PHPSL, Marissa Knapp-BCHD OPP, Michelle Bertoni-BCHD OPP, Scott Spicer-BCHD OPP, Abby Kaiser-BCHD OPP
4. **Presentation: Recovery with Heart** Kayleigh C. Hubbard, Director of Business Development Conifer Park Inpatient, Recovery Center of Niagara and Morgan Congdon CRPA Regional Service Coordinator, Conifer Park

2:14 PM

- Please see attached PDF presentation
- Morgan handles all referrals from Onondaga County through the Southern Tier as the regional coordinator
- Recovery with Heart is under new management with 6 sites and 1,500 inpatient beds and outpatient services, offer MAT-both Methadone and Suboxone, services vary by location, but may include outdoor therapy, therapy dog visits, music and art therapy. Detox centers for 3, 5, or 7 days, then transfer to a 28 day program. Three sites are offering nicotine harm reduction, which allows 8-10 smoke breaks a day with a goal of tapering down.
- Questions:
 - How does referral work?
 - Call, text, or e-mail Morgan and he will coordinate

- Can be program, family, or self-referral
- What would cause someone to not be approved for admission; insurance, psychological needs?
 - Accepts Medicaid and Managed Medicaid, just not straight Medicare
 - Morgan can assist with Medicaid enrollment
 - Enrollment can take place after they are in the facility
 - Higher acuity medical or psychological needs will be evaluated for appropriate services, e.g. if primary concern is mental health and SUD is secondary
- Transportation?
 - Fleet leaves from sites every morning for following day pick-up, but Uber for same day transport is also available
 - Door to door service for anyone self-referred or leaving incarceration
- Bed availability?
 - 3 upstate locations have been pretty full, working to expand with 20 more beds in 1 month and 50 more in Buffalo in six months, also trouble staffing, both hiring and training process
- Programs?
 - pool, basketball, event nights, gardening, holiday meals, anything that makes site feel like home
- Pregnant or new mom specific program?
 - Helio in Syracuse can take pregnant women
- Available to transgender patients?
 - Yes

2:34 PM

5. Public Safety in-service recap: Christopher Streno, Public Health-Public Safety Liaison, OPP

- Fifteen in-service sessions over 7 weeks training 203 officers from Binghamton, Johnson City, and Endicott police departments
- Leave-behind
 - Public safety giving naloxone kits to people who use drugs, friends, family, bystanders, community members
 - Binghamton, Johnson City, Endicott, Vestal, and Port Dickinson police departments along with Broome Security have committed to leave-behind initiative
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UObZiEPsvU&t=1s>
- ODMAPS-How to communicate information to dispatch to ensure entry
- Promoting compassion, empathy, professionalism, and de-escalation
- Adjusted presentation to include success stories at the local level-decreased overdoses and increased naloxone distribution
- Adjusted evaluation to ask length of time in law enforcement
- Future:
 - Outreach to dispatch and fire departments
 - Peer co-presenter
- Feedback
 - Officers welcomed information about Naloxboxes and medication drop boxes

- Reported increase in knowledge about person-centered language, ODMAPS, and naloxone availability in our community
- Some feedback still showed stigma, e.g. people need to be forced into rehab
- Questions
 - In response to everyone going to treatment, nobody has enough beds, when surveying syringe exchange participants, 80% have been to treatment
 - Presentation emphasized treatment as personal, and drug use not as a personal failure but medical issue that is treatable and needs constant maintenance
 - What about the overdose response team, like the one in Onondaga County?
 - Broome does not have one due to difficulty staffing nights and weekends
 - Could be modeled like the mobile crisis team
 - SUNY Broome students could be a source of peers to go to trainings
 - Goal to present at law enforcement academy also

6. Broome County Health Department Overdose Prevention Program

- Community Narcan training on Wednesday, April 8, 4-6 pm
- Completing Year 4 workplan for CDC OD2A grant
- Many applications were received for Opioid Settlement Fund RFPs, will be reviewed soon
- DEA Takeback day is Saturday, April 25, look for more information from BCSO
- OOPPs will receive a request for Narcan numbers, due 4/8/26
- Peer Response is being revived and the first meeting will be Wednesday, April 22, 10 AM
 - Law enforcement and lived experience round table to get information from sources beyond the numbers
- Partners reached out for more Narcan last week due to a gap during supplier change, the new naloxone will have purple plunger instead of red,
- Rumble Ponies agreed to Naloxobox and there will be an ad promoting Rowdy and Ruby getting a naloxone kit.
 - What about the sober seating section? Won't be this season, but open to future discussion
- When Naloxoboxes are found empty in the community, what is best process?
 - Fill with a whole kit, not just naloxone
 - Phone call?
 - QR Code?
 - App?
 - Numbered boxes to enter on form QR code goes to?
- Kit making party after next BOAC meeting, 12-1, welcome all kit making help, opportunity for students or interns who need hours

7. Agency/group announcements/program updates

- **BC Parks:** Come visit Broome County Parks!
- **Truth Pharm:** Potluck Wednesday, all welcome to access support

- **SUNY Broome:** Looking for a large number of internship placements including summer, especially CASAC sites
 - OASAS recognizes that there are not enough supervising CASACs so there is some flexibility
 - Social work model: licensed supervisor with task supervisor on site
 - This semester is first cohort graduating with opioid settlement funded program
 - 65 students are currently being funded
 - First portion of funding runs out after this semester but it will be continuing with a comparable amount
 - Largest class in 13 years with 12 graduates
 - Pinning ceremony Tuesday, May 19, 2026 at 4 pm, all are welcome
 - **Helio:** last OSF cycle Tonya worked with patients in detox and rehab, but is now focusing on working with patients for 60 days after discharge, especially warm hand-offs to peers
 - Ramping up transportation efforts—24/7 transport available
 - Detox numbers have increased dramatically—Focus on Broome and rural counties
 - **VOICES:** taking on problem gambling and looking for a person with lived experience with gambling
 - Open House will be the first week of May
 - **BCSO:** RFP for supports went out and is due on Bidnet 4/1/26
 - **Fidelis:** Mobile RV will be back in Broome in April and May and is looking for sites, especially in rural areas
 - Behavioral health grant for up to \$20,000 due 4/1/2026 [Behavioral Health Grant](#)
 - **Guthrie Lourdes Youth Services:** looking to hire CASACs, wants to see naloxone in schools but is getting pushback from lawyers.
 - OSHA requirement to have on site by December
 - School legislation is pending--call your elected officials!
8. Meeting evaluation <https://forms.office.com/g/wzXjS56Xc9>

Next BOAC Meeting: Thursday May 14, 2026, 9:00AM-10:30AM