

Opioid Crisis Community Council (OCCC) meeting  
September 5, 2018

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Allen at 5:19 p.m.

Individuals present: Barbara Allen, Flora, Betro, Theresa Collins, Mark Donovan, Joanie Elder, Beth Harbinson, Roger Hoff, Sean Hughes, Kathy Kirchner, Caryn Lasser, James LeMon, Pam Long, Deidre McCabe, Christopher McCabe, Kim Oldham, Ana Park, Teron Powell, Roe Rodgers-Bonaccorsy, Dwayne Sumpter, Laura Torres, Joan Webb Scornaienchi, Leslie Wood and Robin Rynn. On phone: Quentin Askew, and Maria Bernadzikowski

Recorder: Rich Philps

Minutes of August 1 meeting were approved as published.

A rundown of upcoming opioid awareness activities was presented, such as the Sept. 15 recovery walk, Open Presentation on Opioids at Howard County General Hospital on Oct. 9, and Opioid Panel at Slayton House on Oct. 24. Also noted was the declaration of September as Recovery Month for Maryland by Governor Hogan.

Theresa Collins of Howard County Police Department presented statistics on opioid overdoses in the County, both fatal and non-fatal, comparing this year and last. Although this information was not for publication, it provided a very stark reality of the current situation in Howard County to all OCCC participants.

Members then broke into committee groups: Prevention, Treatment/Recovery, Communications, Business/Community Engagement, and Enforcement/Adjudication. Groups were tasked with refining their lists of priorities, and spent approximately 30 minutes on this task. The scribes in each group were then asked to put together their written lists of group members and priorities and forward them to Barbara when complete for inclusion in these minutes. As follows:

**Business/Community Engagement** – no report submitted.

#### **Communications**

Key pts re Communication discussion:

- Consider simplifying messaging and focus on audience(s) we want to target. Perhaps schools and non-school.
- Utilize Help Hope Howard website.
- Healing Tree at Mall- could be a project worked on toward an event day launch and then upkeep should be established for the display if it is to remain and stay current.
- PSA-perhaps put that on back burner for now due to time and resources and we can utilize and draw attention to the many good ones out there at present.
- How can we best get comm. into the school system to make an impact?

**Enforcement/Adjudication** – No report submitted.

## Prevention

1. Continue to engage school system to increase educational opportunities among students of different ages and interests (i.e. athletes vs. non-athletes).
  - a. Expand “school age” definition to include college students (i.e HCC)
  - b. Reach out to Recreation and Parks
  - c. Asian community PTA at Centennial HS (through My Life Foundation)
  - d. Guiding Good Choices workshops begin:
  - e. My Life Foundation – September
  - f. State’s Attorney Office/HC Drug Free – October
  - g. HC Local Health Improvement Coalition (HCLHIC) - September
2. Promote “Talk to your Doctor” campaign.
  - a. Advertise:
    - i. “In the Know” campaign – A list of questions to take to each appointment with your doctor/dentist that can be found on the HC Drug Free website. (Featured in HC Drug Free’s current back-to-school video).
    - ii. Safe medication disposal practices such as Deterra pouches, semi-annual drug take-back days, and drop-boxes.
    - iii. Chronic Pain Self-Management Program – A series of five workshops to learn new ways to manage pain, promote self-advocacy and reduce risk of opioid misuse, dependency, or overdose. (Health Department is offering a Train-the-Trainer course for potential lay-leaders in the community 1,2,8,9 November).
3. Promote educational opportunities for discussion.
  - a. Health Department CME (continuing medical education) events to educate providers.
  - b. HCLHIC Behavioral Health workgroup planning educational presentations to Dentists.
  - c. Korean Festival on 9/15 will be an opportunity to reach Asian community physicians.

## Treatment & Recovery

- For #1, crisis stabilization, recommend we use the HC list of providers and have each committee member share resources great that are aware of. Perhaps even take a poll from the larger committee members to ensure we have captured all resources before determining what is needed.
- A similar strategy should be used for #2
- For #3 perhaps compile a list and then do some checking before using them as resources. There may be a way can mobilize groups like Alannon to provide some of the education & support that was identified by the consumers/parents in our group. Not a fully baked concept yet.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 3.

Meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.