

***RI Governor's Overdose Prevention and Intervention Task Force
Recovery Strategy Sub-Committee
Minutes of the Meeting held on November 24, 2015 at 1:30 pm***

Location of Meeting:

Anchor Community Center
249 Main Street
Pawtucket, Rhode Island 02861

Person Presiding: Linda Mahoney, Administrator BHDDH

Members in Attendance:

Kim Sande, Daniel McShane, Jonathan Goyer, Joshua Miller, Lori Dorsey, Ian Knowles, Lisa Tomasso, Judy Fox, Michelle Harter, Garry Bliss, Tommy Joyce, Zena Sheehan and Rosemary Petteruti

Absent: Cheryl LeClair-DOH

The meeting of the Recovery Strategy Committee was called to order at 1:30 PM on November 25, 2015 at the Anchor Community Center by Linda Mahoney.

Actions of Meeting

1. Everyone introduced themselves and talked a little about their background
2. Handouts were distributed the "Strategic Plan on Addiction and Overdose" and the "Four Strategies to Alter the Course of an Epidemic."
3. There was a discussion of the goals of the committee. A policy & cost consideration is due by the next full Task Force meeting on December 9.
4. The four sub-committees are:
 - Treatment Strategy – Becky Boss, Dr Mc Donald and Dr Jody Rich.
 - Rescue Strategy – Jenn Koziol, DOH and Mike McAfee & Jef Bratburg
 - Prevention Strategy – Dr. McDonald, Elizabeth Kretchman (BHDDH) Traci Green (expert advisors
 - Recovery Strategy – Linda Mahoney, Cheryl Le Clair and Jonathon Goyer

This committee is assigned to the Recovery Strategy. The purpose of this committee is to find ways to expand recovery supports, particularly peer recovery coaches and other items listed.

Consideration of New Business

1. Jonathan Goyer spoke about the "Dashboard". The dashboard will be multifunctional. The dashboard will collect federal data from all emergency rooms. Law enforcement and hospitals. Through the dashboard, the success of the outreach and engagement plan can be monitored. The dashboard will be able to trigger trends so there can be a rapid response

2. Prison engagement with coaches is needed. Someone is needed at the DOC in discharge for a soft handoff. Need to provide data in regards to keeping people in recovery and out of incarceration.
3. Who will pay for peers? They should be paid a reasonable rate and get proper supervision. We need a sub-committee to establish a 'train the trainer' program and create a career pathway for the coaches to enable them to build a career ladder if they want to. There are currently 86 peer recovery coaches who are certified. Trained people are needed and we have to be sure they have a place to go once trained.
4. Social media and a potential crisis tech line to reach the young adults could be established. People can then text for support and then be able to connect to local supports.
5. We need to expand to all hospitals- recovery coaches
6. We need to consider the impact of expanding recovery coaches and consider expanding community centers as well.
7. The primary goal is to reduce Overdose deaths
8. We need to maximize funds and identify new ones. Senator Miller discussed Bill 2801 which was passed in 2014. The bill addressed the increase in drug overdose deaths in the region. He said it requires parity in access to treatment. He stated we may be able to tap funds. Page 6 of the bill addresses discharge planning. ("Addressing this epidemic will require approaching it from a number of sides, through drug abuse prevention and treatment efforts and broadening doctors' ability to prescribe the safest treatments to their patients and to ensure that they are following their treatment plan," is a quote from Senator Miller posted online on the State of RI General Assembly site)
9. We need to design a recovery planning tool and develop statewide recovery planning
10. Need to review Federal money. We are encouraged to go after federal funding to match the potential approval of peer supports through Medicaid.
11. Goal: build capacity. Four sub-committees were assigned.
 - 1 - Peer recovery coach curriculum & training: Ian Knowles, Judy Fox, Michelle Harter and Tom Joyce.
 - 2 - Recovery housing: Ian Knowles, Kim Sande, Delia Aguilar and Judy Fox
 - 3 - Legislation and regulation: Joshua Miller, Lisa Tomasso and a BHDDH staff person (Either Linda Mahoney or Bette McHugh).
 - 4 - Text line international: Dan McShane & Jonathon Goyer will review
Need to find out the cost of setting up a phone/text line.

Agenda and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Recovery Strategy Sub-Committee will be held at 1:30 PM on Tuesday, December 1, 2015 at the Anchor Community Center, 249 Main Street, Pawtucket, Rhode Island 02861

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM by Linda Mahoney

Minutes submitted by: Rosemary Petteruti