



Kent County Opioid Task Force Meeting

Thursday, July 11, 2019

12:00 – 1:30 PM

Meeting Minutes

Present: Sara Paxton, Steve Redmond, Recovery Allies; Rachel Jantz, Joann Hoganson, Sharon Schmidt, KCHD; Jan Fields, Jen Rosebery, Nicole Creviere, Fonda Kingsley, MDHHS; Robin Curtis, SpartanNash; Kathy Carruthers, Student/Outpatient Therapist; Amanda Tarantowski, Network180; Marsha Mooney, Cherry Health; Ken Fawcett, Cara Poland, Sarah Bryant, Spectrum Health; Steve Williams, MI-CCSI; Jill O'Connor, Family Outreach Center; Amanda Smith, NuPoint Services; Lindsay Belcastro, RIYCC.org; Laura Luchies, Yena Kim, Calvin Center for Social Research; Chris Becker, Kent County Prosecutor's Office; Joe Berlin, Sonya Boss, 61st District Court; Eloy Baez-Fernandez, Auxilio!!! Peer-Support Group, Megan Rocha-Adams, The Grand Rapids Red Project, David Miller, Keystone Pharmacy

Subcommittee Updates:

Prevention (Robin Curtis)

The Prevention subcommittee continues to work through A3 project. They have identified the group's business case as: "Residents of Kent County are not adequately educated on the dangers associated with opioids at all ages as evidenced by the 300% increase in opioid-related overdose deaths over the last 10 years in Kent County." The group has developed five aims and are looking for any contributions/influences that the larger group may be able to offer towards these aims.

1. Have all emergency departments with a standard protocol for fentanyl screening in routine clinical toxicology testing in Kent County.
2. Increase the number of middle school and high school students who receive life skills curriculum in schools by 20%.
3. We will increase the number of Kent County student athletes who view the "Danger Of The Game" (<https://youtu.be/S8HP7cyxLkY>).
4. Prevention resources will be compiled and posted on the Kent County Opioid Task Force website.
5. Fifteen sites will have an opioid-related awareness video displayed on their primary website.

Intervention (Marsha Mooney)

This group has identified their business case as: "We are not able to save lives due to lack of resources in the moment of overdose due to lack of education, stigma, and providers not believing this is within their scope of practice." The group has identified three areas of focus:

1. Decrease stigma and increase awareness around OUD and SUD by sharing experiences and stories.
2. Create a fatality review board that will identify trends of overdose deaths in Kent County to better understand opportunities for intervention.
3. Identify current process in Kent County for SUD and OUD screening, co-prescribing naloxone and referral process to appropriate services when SUD or OUD.

Treatment & Recovery (Amanda Tarantowski)

This group has identified their business case as: “The services and resources available for treatment and recovery do not meet the needs of our communities.” Multiple PDSA cycles have been developed:

1. Using the MI Recovery tool (mirecovery.info), isolate opioid treatment providers and send them a short survey around barriers to access and retention.
2. Improve utilization of Project ASSERT at Spectrum Health by 200%.
3. Expand medication-assisted treatment (MAT) to any individual in KCCF with an OUD to 100% of individuals with a pre-existing MAT prescription.

Kent County Data Report (Rachel Jantz)

In 2018, opioid-related deaths were about 2/3 of total overdose deaths in Kent County. Two-thirds of those deaths were poly substance. Methamphetamine is included in the data report due to the potential for a fourth wave of the opioid epidemic (stimulants). Higher death rate in men compared to females. Will send out the 2018 annual opioid report when it is completed. Reports can also be found on accessKent:

<https://www.accesskent.com/Health/KCOTF.htm>.

Naloxone Standing Order Policy Evaluation (Jan Fields)

Presented on the MDHHS Public Health Approach to the Opioid Crisis. Working on a naloxone standing order policy evaluation and looking for key informants in Kent County to interview to lay the groundwork for the data collection and analysis steps. Also working with the Calvin University Center for Social Research (Laura Luchies, Associate Director, and Research Assistants Yena Kim and Keila Pieters). Reach out to Jan Fields (fieldsj2@michigan.gov) if willing/able to participate in a key informant interview.

Community Partner Highlight: Grand Rapids Red Project (Steve Alsum – to be rescheduled)

Community Partner Highlight: Auxilio!!! Peer-Support Group (Eloy Baez)

This community partner comes from the Hispanic Center of West Michigan and is also the founder of War Against Addiction peer support group called Auxilio!!! (Help). These meetings are held by peers on Thursdays from 6:30-8:00pm, with the last Thursday of the month being a special community event. This month’s event is about Minority Mental Health Awareness Month, held on July 25. They are hoping to increase collaboration with other organizations. Find them on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/guerracontralaadiccion/>.

Community Partner Highlight: 61st District Court Drug Court (Joe Berlin)

The Drug Court has been around Grand Rapids since 1998. It is 1 of 7 drug courts in the state of Michigan. Pursuing high risk and high needs individuals. This year the programs have changed to a 5-phase program which is 18-24 months. They realized that there is greater success for those who stay in treatment longer. Currently, 35 people enrolled in drug treatment court, which is typically low. This program is for felony offenders and misdemeanors. Since 2004, 61% of people who enter specialty drug court program graduate.

Round Table – Nothing was discussed; meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting – Subcommittees

Thursday, August 8, 2019

Kent County Health Department, Lake Huron Conference Room

Prevention: 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Intervention: 12:45 – 1:45 PM

Treatment & Recovery: 2:00 – 3:00 PM