Kent County Opioid Task Force Meeting
Thursday, January 9, 2020
12:00 – 1:30 PM

Meeting Minutes

Present: Daryl Smith, NuPoint Services; Kara Felder, Joann Hoganson, Rachel Jantz, Sharon Schmidt, Kent County Health Department; Ian Reagin, Kent County Health Department Intern; Erica Bradley, Marsha Mooney, Cherry Health; Sarah Bryant, Courtney Mercado, Spectrum Health; Becca Newman, Wayne State University Center for Behavioral Health and Justice; Kathy Carruthers, Pine Rest; Ben Cammenga, Kent County Sheriff’s Office; Jan Fields, MDHHS; Seth Velderman, Guiding Light; Meridell Gracias, 8 nursing students, Grand Valley State University Kirkhof College of Nursing; Steve Alsum, Grand Rapids Red Project; Vicki Makley, Priority Health; Jim McCormick, Amanda Tarantowski, Network180; Steve Redmond, Recovery Allies; Robin Curtis, SpartanNash; Laura Luchies, Keila Pieters, Calvin University Center for Social Research; Susan DeVuyst-Miller, Lienna LaBarge, Grant Beach, Ferris State University College of Pharmacy; David Miller, Keystone Pharmacy; Gerrit Rauch, U of M Metro Health Hospital

MDHHS 2020 Opioid Strategy

Jan Fields, PhD, EdD, Program Evaluator for the Michigan Overdose Data to Action (MODA) Program, presented on the MDHHS 2020 Opioid Strategy. The strategy focuses on three major buckets: prevention, treatment, and harm reduction. Overarching buckets for the strategy can be seen below:

![Strategies Diagram]

Major strategies for each bucket are the following:

- Prevention
  - Anti-stigma media campaigns, school-based prevention curriculum, and patient education to high-risk populations

https://www.accesskent.com/Health/KCOTF.htm
- Provide resources and expert consultation for prescribers, support prescription drug takeback events
- Use MAPS to identify potentially inappropriate practices, work closely with federal partners to investigate opiate trafficking

- **Treatment**
  - Support medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) in emergency departments, office-based settings, federally qualified health centers (FQHCs), and other settings, expand incentives and outreach to health care providers to encourage MOUD use
  - Streamline treatment access process for Medicaid patients, revise regulatory requirements for substance use treatment services
  - Expand peer coaches across many settings, provide support for social determinants of health

- **Harm Reduction**
  - Expand naloxone distribution, with focus on areas most likely to experience or witness an overdose
  - Double the number of syringe service programs statewide

- **Criminal Justice-involved**
  - Expand MOUD in Michigan prisons; ensure connections to community-based services upon release, support MOUD use in jails and treatment courts
  - Streamline Medicaid re-enrollment and treatment referrals for individuals leaving jails and prisons, ensure that justice-involved individuals in the community can access Medicaid substance use services

- **Pregnant & Parenting**
  - Implement new incentives or policies to expand screening use for substance use disorder (SUD)
  - Develop and deploy new training materials on SUD and MOUD for family services workers

- **Data & Equity (can be thought of as impacting all buckets)**
  - Conduct culturally competent community outreach to address treatment access gaps and stigma
  - Ensure that surveillance information is disseminated to state departments and local partners responding

MDHHS will be seeking feedback on the strategy at a series of statewide town halls. A few key questions will guide the conversation: 1) How has the opioid epidemic affected you, your family or your community?; 2) What services, programs or policies would you recommend to help address the crisis?; 3) How can the state help combat stigma and change the narrative around opioid use disorder?

The schedule for the town halls is below:

- Detroit - January 17
- Sterling Heights - March 10
- Gaylord - July 24
- Escanaba - July 29
- Flint - September 25
- Grand Rapids - November (date TBD)

[https://www.accesskent.com/Health/KCOTF.htm](https://www.accesskent.com/Health/KCOTF.htm)
Naloxone Standing Order Policy Evaluation Update

Keila Pieters from the Calvin University Center for Social Research (CSR) provided an update on the naloxone standing order policy evaluation. The CSR completed 11 key informant interviews with pharmacies, health care organizations, recovery organizations, Grand Rapids Police Department, emergency medical services, Kent County Health Department, and the Kent County Sheriff’s Office. Key informants described the main barriers to proper implementation of the policy to be lack of education, insurance, and stigma. Key informants identified the following as measures of a successful policy: increase in education, decrease in overdose deaths, increase in naloxone access and dispensation, and de-stigmatization. Moving forward, the CSR will conduct focus groups, implement a “barriers to MAT” survey with KCOTF, and will continue with existing data collection and analysis and accessing data on naloxone distribution.

Subcommittee Updates:

All subcommittees are closing out their current A3s and will be creating new strategic plans for 2020. The gap analysis for these plans will be completed at the February 13 meetings.

Prevention

The Prevention subcommittee is looking for a new co-lead as Robin Curtis will be stepping down due to changes in her role.

Intervention

The invitation for community members to join the KCOTF speakers bureau is underway. Interested individuals can email the KCOTF at kentcountyopioidtaskforce@gmail.com if interested in being a part of this bureau. Media training will be available to those in the bureau. Flyers with perforated pull-tabs are available to post throughout the community – if you would like flyers, contact Rachel Jantz at rachel.jantz@kentcountymi.gov.

The SUD screening and naloxone co-prescription experiment continues successfully. Locations for the screening pilot have been identified but not yet confirmed.

Treatment & Recovery

The barriers to medication assisted treatment (MAT) access and retention survey is being developed with the Calvin University Center for Social Research. The survey has a few finishing touches left and will be distributed to MAT providers within the next month or so.

Kent County Data Report

According to the most recent medical examiner data, there have been 78 total drug overdose deaths in Kent County in 2019 so far, 64 of those including opioids (82%). For comparison, in 2018, there were 65 total opioid-involved overdose deaths. The average age of Kent County residents who have died from an opioid overdose is 39 years. The most common opioids involved in opioid overdose deaths are fentanyl (72%) and heroin (50%). Cocaine continues to be on the rise with opioid-involved deaths (38%). The most recent monthly surveillance report can be found online at: https://www.accesskent.com/Health/KCOTF.htm.
**Round Table**

**MIRecovery.info**

MIRecovery.info has received funding from Blue Cross Blue Shield to enhance the site to include resources for pregnant women. A website from Massachusetts has been identified as a model. Funding will also be used for quality assurance purposes, including focus groups with site users.

**BEVEL UP DOCUMENTARY SCREENING AND PANEL**

Calvin University will be hosting a screening of the documentary Bevel Up on Thursday, January 16 at 6:00pm at the Bytwerk Theater (1810 E Beltline Ave SE). The screening will be followed by a panel discussion with Susan Devuyst-Miller of Ferris State University, Rachel Jantz of Kent County Health Department, Dr. Cara Poland of Spectrum Health, and Amanda Tarantowski of Network 180. Registration and more information about the event can be found at: [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bevel-up-documentary-screening-and-panel-tickets-86682045331?aff=efbeventtix&fbclid=IwAR0074oCQeE0DCaivnplez9hg4Ru9C-N7K-Ssc_Z6xVkJTvo8ynWXvezskc](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bevel-up-documentary-screening-and-panel-tickets-86682045331?aff=efbeventtix&fbclid=IwAR0074oCQeE0DCaivnplez9hg4Ru9C-N7K-Ssc_Z6xVkJTvo8ynWXvezskc).

**BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF MICHIGAN MAT PROGRAM**

Blue Cross Blue Shield recently announced the MAT Practice Transformation Program, which launched on January 1, 2020. This program is intended to improve access to MAT, develop care teams to support patients with opioid use disorder, and engage emergency department physicians in treating patients with opioid use disorder. More information about the program can be found at: [https://www.bcbsm.com/content/dam/microsites/corpcomm/provider/the_record/2020/jan/Record_0120b.shtml](https://www.bcbsm.com/content/dam/microsites/corpcomm/provider/the_record/2020/jan/Record_0120b.shtml).

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### Upcoming Touchpoints – Subcommittees

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<tr>
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<th>Phone Calls</th>
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<td><strong>Location</strong></td>
<td><strong>January 23 &amp; 24, 2020</strong></td>
<td><strong>February 13, 2020</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Prevention</strong></td>
<td>January 24 (Fri), 9:00-10:00 AM</td>
<td>11:30 AM – 12:30 PM</td>
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<td>Call in: +1 712-832-8330 // code: 7991287</td>
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<td><strong>Intervention</strong></td>
<td>January 23 (Thurs), 12:00-1:00 PM</td>
<td>12:45 – 1:45 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Treatment &amp; Recovery</strong></td>
<td>January 23 (Thurs), 1:30-2:30 PM</td>
<td>2:00 – 3:00 PM</td>
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URL: [https://hello.freecconference.com/conf/call/7991287](https://hello.freecconference.com/conf/call/7991287)

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Lake Huron Conf. Room, Kent County HD