

Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee

Date: 10/5/2022

Location and Time: 3-4 p.m. Via Teams

Present: Chief Shawn Burke, Caroline Butler, Senator Ruth Hardy, Jessica Kirby, Mark Levine, MD, Scott Pavek, Judge Madeline Motta, Rocket, Stacey Sigmon, Heather Stein, MD, Representative Dane Whitman, Deb Wright, Gwynn Zakov, Cindy Seivwright, Kelly Dougherty, David Koeninger, Stacey, Tracy Brannstrom, Lex Arthers, Selene Colburn, Jordan Redell

Absent: Mayor Weinberger, Monica Hutt, Mayor David Allaire

Meeting Facilitator and Note Taker: Mark Levine, and Sarah Gregorek

Meeting Objectives: Second meeting of the Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee		
Agenda Item	Discussion	Next Steps
Welcome		
Questions from first meeting?	None	
Current strategies to reduce opioid use disorder and overdose in Vermont <i>Cynthia Seivwright</i>	Refer to the DSU Strategies to Reduce Opioid Use Disorder & Overdose presentation, which was covered in great detail.	
Questions	Senator Hardy – 5 questions DSU workforce development – what do you mean by that? Cindy - Primary focus is on the people providing services and training people in the field also, General Fund appropriation for employment services for people in recovery, DAIL is the lead on that program.	

	<p>How is Narcan/fentanyl test strips funded? Cindy – It’s not consistently funded; we piece together funding every year through grants and general funds; sometimes we run out of funding. The cost structure has changed, it has increased, and we are now doubling up on Naloxone.</p> <p>Social autopsy, what is that? Dr. Levine - That's something that I really planted the seed for several years ago. It's taking advantage of the fact that we know these people in our state who have succumbed, unfortunately, to this epidemic and have become a statistic. And I wanted to do honor to their names. But also, I wanted to actually use the experience that they had and that perhaps we had with them in a way that would help us develop strategies and policies and programs for the future. So, it really does combine an amazing number of databases to show contact points of these individuals with state agencies, law enforcement and demographic information, we just came out with the latest report, which is now available on our web site. It comes with a long list of recommendations, but one of the main things that shows is that no matter what section of the Agency of Human Services you're thinking about, these individuals have had some contact with corrections, children and families or mental health, and that almost uniformly there are contacts with law enforcement and these provide important touch points that we</p>	
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	<p>need to learn lessons from and be proactive on. And just like you've heard about, putting trained workers in state police barracks and in city police departments who can guide people to services rather than to a jail cell. A lot was learned from the social autopsy with regard to that.</p> <p>Here is a link to the report: DSU-2019-2020-Vermont-Social-Autopsy-Report.pdf (healthvermont.gov)</p> <p>Syringe service program. Injection/harm reduction Cindy – Harm reduction is more than am I testing the drugs or am I injecting correctly, it goes further but right now the funding we have goes towards testing/needles and we did a campaign around that.</p> <p>Do you have specific programs that are targeted towards families, children and people struggling with OUD? Cindy - We support families with adolescent family providers through VT Helplink. There are resources within that. Rep Hardy wants more specific info re: children in childcare and school programs regarding treatment, etc. Cindy - MCH can do a presentation on what we are doing in that area at a future meeting.</p> <p>Rocket Most effective way to address this is prevention which is difficult to measure. Stats of lives saved</p>	
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	<p>seems quantifiable. How do we think through what money we invest in protecting children? Cindy will bring in a prevention specialist to a future meeting that has done some analysis on return on investment.</p> <p>Jess Kirby - <i>This was in the chat</i> Would love to hear more about hepatitis C treatment in the Hub's and what that looks like. A follow up email would even be great!</p>	
Public Input	<p>Tracy Brannstrom - <i>This was in the chat</i> Are the costs of MOUD drugs (Buprenorphine etc.) also high, as with Naloxone?</p>	
Next Meeting:	November 16 at 2 p.m.	