

**Opioid Coordination Council
Recovery Strategies Committee
March 22, 2018
Meeting Notes**

Participants:

Sara Byers (Co-Chair), Sarah Munro (Co-Chair), Liz Genge (Housing focus chair). Ed Baker, Cindy Boyd, Hugh Bradshaw, Kim Bushey, Stefani Capizzi, Will Eberle, Daniel Franklin, Charles Gurney, Deborah Hopkins, Amanda Hudak, Christine Johnson, Stacy Jones, Steve Kline, Jim Leddy, Melinda Lussier, Pat MacDonald, Peter Mallary, Brandon Malshuk, Mairead O'Reilly, Hal Porter, Kristin Prior, Judy Rex, David Riegel, Sierra Ruth, Ron Stankevich, Melissa Story, Kathryn Van Haste, Kevin Veller, Micky Wiles, Sheila Young

Guests/Presenters: Cindy Thomas, Megan Mitchell (ADAP). Ross MacDonald (Agency of Transportation). Peter Espenshade (VAMHAR). Gary DeCarolis, Kelly Breeyear (Turning Point Center of Chittenden County).

OCC staff: Jolinda LaClair, Director; Rose Gowdey, Community Engagement Liaison

1. **OCC Director Update:** Jolinda LaClair

2. **Presentation on Recovery Coaching, and Discussion**

Overview of Recovery Coaching in Vermont, Peter Espenshade, Executive Director, VAMHAR

- History of recovery coaching (Motley Crue, Aerosmith)
- Vermont's origins: 2007 (peer-to-peer)
- How do we pay for recovery coaching in Vermont?
- Licensure (advised by Office of Professional Regulation not to pursue licensure at this point)
- Current model – certificate. VAMHAR.
- Content – motivational interviewing, strengths-based approach, sound resources
- Specializations: Mothers/parents; Corrections/Community and Restorative Justice; court diversion; emergency departments; medication assisted treatment
- Private sector: Working Bridges
- Pursuing college credits for training (currently, CCV=3 credits)
- Supervision of recovery coaches – loosely defined at this point

The VT Dept. of Health/Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs (ADAP) Cindy Thomas, Director, VDH ADAP; Megan Mitchell

- SBR/CURES grant – 2 years, and eligible for another round. Carryover time is 5 years.
- Need to focus on recovery
- Emergency departments pilot: 9 positions in 3 areas
- Telephone recovery supports
- Employment in recovery pilot – Chittenden, Washington, NEK. Employment consultant may work from both Hub and Recovery Center
- Next steps – SAMHSA technical assistance granted to focus on inventory of recovery centers and services. VT can choose the consultant.

Recovery Coaching Example: Supporting New Moms in Recovery Gary DeCarolis, Executive Director, and Kelly Breeyear, Program Lead, Turning Point Center, Burlington

- 60-80 people every day for peer support

- “The real magic is the peer to peer work”
- Kelly’s role: – moms are coming. Kelly attracts participants person-to-person took a while to realize recovery center was a good place.
- Need a separate space/safe space for the children
- Changing the atmosphere at the center
- There are also couples – men supporting moms
- Next: Whole family support groups/whole family approach

Discussion

- Note “Rocking Horse Program” – 10 week support group for women
- Note federal omnibus bill has various grant streams

3. **Transportation Supports for People in Treatment and Recovery**

Hugh Bradshaw, Vocational Rehabilitation; Ross MacDonald, VTrans

- About getting people to jobs (and the services they need in order to hold the job)
- Leverage Federal Highway money
- Examples of ways it might work
- Described current transportation programs
- Go-Vermont has one call/one click, deviated fixed routes and people can flag stops
- Considerations for Medicaid funding for rides (depending on eligibility)
- Need volunteers for demand-response rides
- Ideas generated during discussion – funneled to Transportation Working Group for follow-up
- St. Albans has surveyed/has data on transportation needs
- **Transportation working group formed:**
 - Melinda Lussier
 - Ross MacDonald
 - Hugh Bradshaw
 - Cindy Boyd
 - Dave Riegel
 - Stefani Capizzi
 - Someone from Medicaid (Peter McNichol)
 - Plus – someone from ACCD, Northern Border Regional Commission, . . .

4. **Snapshot from the Recovery Centers**

Best practices – collaborations-- partnerships/what’s working/challenges/ opportunities

Next meeting: Thursday, April 19, 1:00 – 4:00