

## Vermont Governor's Opioid Coordination Council

**Meeting Minutes: December 11, 2017**

**Waterbury State Office Complex, Sally Fox, Cherry 1:00 -4:30 p.m.**

**Present:** A. Gobeille, T. Anderson, J. Leddy (Co-Chairs). D. Allaire, L. Augustyniak, B. Bick, S. Byers, A. Chetwynd (for J. DeLena), G. Cowles, S. DiSanto, L. Genge, B. Grearson, M. Levine, MD, M. Maksym, P. Mallary, R. Marcoux, D. Ricker, K. Sigsbury, S. Thompson. Staff: J. LaClair, R. Gowdey.

**Absent:** J. Bowen, M. Bucossi, A. Bunting, T. Donovan

**Visitors:** Chris Bell, Paul Dragon, Will Eberle, Cory Gustafson, Jane Helmstetter, Mary Kate Mohlman, Candace Morgan, Judith Parrish, James Pepper, Yashira Pepin, Judy Rex, Beth Tanzman, Kathryn Van Haste, Kevin Veller, Stephanie Winters

<b>Meeting Objectives:</b> Review recommended strategies, priorities. Consider nexus of marijuana and opioids.		
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Notes/Next Steps</b>
Welcome (chairs), Introductions (A. Gobeille, T. Anderson, J. Leddy)	Introduction of Special Agent Adam Chetwynd, for Jon DeLena, Dept. of Justice/Burlington; regrets from Christina Nolan, U.S. Attorney, VT	1:03
Approval of Minutes	Minutes Accepted (moved S. Byers, second R. Marcoux)	Approved
Director's Report (J. LaClair)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• January OCC meeting canceled</li> <li>• February OCC meeting, focus on report from ADAP</li> </ul>	Report
Review of the Draft OCC Initial Report of Recommended Strategies, as presented to Governor Phil Scott by the Executive Committee on November 21, 2017; review priority strategies; next steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report on first meeting with Governor Scott on draft report (Gobeille, Anderson, Leddy, Levine, LaClair). Highlights:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Priorities evolving and important</li> <li>○ Governor is engaged; change will come through partnerships</li> <li>○ Data needed</li> <li>○ Appears no legislation needed at this point</li> <li>○ Some strategies may have financial needs</li> <li>○ Governor requests 3-5 priorities</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Review of the priorities document (LaClair)</li> </ul>	Report and discussion

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Continuum of care – high</li> <li>○ To reduce the number of high priorities, note importance, however remove strategies that are underway (e.g., treatment, prevention messaging campaign, VPMS. May need more work, but less urgent.)</li> <li>○ How to treat Recovery items – Combine or separate -- in order to focus attention.</li> <li>○ Supporting evaluation of Hub and Spoke as a priority -- We have treatment successes, but need to know how success is defined and evaluated in light of the rate of relapse after treatment.</li> <li>○ Discussion: Need to address causes as well as effects – success in providing treatment is not enough – need to get at the causes of addiction. At the same time, must address the effects as well (When the house is on fire, you don’t divert resources from firefighting to preventing fires – “and our house is on fire!”) Must do both.</li> <li>○ Discussion: Two streams of thought: a) How to reduce the number of priorities. B) Current list works – don’t narrow too much.</li> <li>○ Prevention methods and recovery methods can work together – how to define the nexus</li> <li>○ Organize by drivers.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>In language, use the lens of a speechwriter – vivid language.</p>	
<p><b>Marijuana Panel: Exploring the Impact of Cannabis on Vermont’s Opioid Crisis:</b> Moderators: T. Anderson, M. Levine.</p>	<p><u>Dr. Bertha Madras, Ph.D.</u>, Professor of Psychobiology, Harvard Medical School; President’s Commission on Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis (by Skype): <b>Nexus between marijuana and opioids</b></p> <p><u>John Searles, Ph.D.</u>, Substance Abuse Research and Policy Analyst, VT Dept. of Health/Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs Division: <b>Vermont information, trends</b></p> <p><u>Kreig Pinkham</u>, Director, Washington County Youth Services Bureau: <b>The adolescent brain and marijuana; VT’s Youth Risk Behavior Survey findings</b></p> <p><u>Captain John Merrigan</u>, Commander of Special Investigations, VT State Police: <b>Law enforcement perspectives</b></p>	<p>Panel presentations</p>
<p><b>Council Discussion</b></p>	<p>Commissioner Anderson will provide a redraft of marijuana statement in draft OCC report. This will be circulated to OCC members for approval.</p>	<p>Rewrite and poll for approval</p>
<p>Public Comment</p>	<p>No comments.</p>	
<p>Adjourn</p>	<p>Moved P. Mallary, seconded S. DiSanto</p>	<p>Approved, 4:30</p>

