

Opiate Task Force Meeting Notes – 12/16/2022

Phillip Titterington

- Reminder to take ADAMH Board and OTF surveys that were sent out via email.
 - Preliminary survey responses show individuals would like to see recovery supports and detox services increased.
 - We don't have detox facilities in Medina County, but do have several contracts with numerous detox facilities in nearby counties. We are hearing that individuals are getting into detox quickly, usually the same day.
- The Youth Resiliency and Counseling Center – trauma sensitive facility for youth and families – is nearly complete.
- Loveland Farm collaboration with the Medina County Park District, HRC and Cathy's House is under way.
- House Bill 526 will decriminalize fentanyl test strips, stating that possessing these testing strips would no longer be illegal. The Bill has passed and been sent to the governor for his signature. Start thinking about approaches and a heads up for future conversation.
- State Opioid Response (SOR) funding will continue to support current projects.

Krista Wasowski

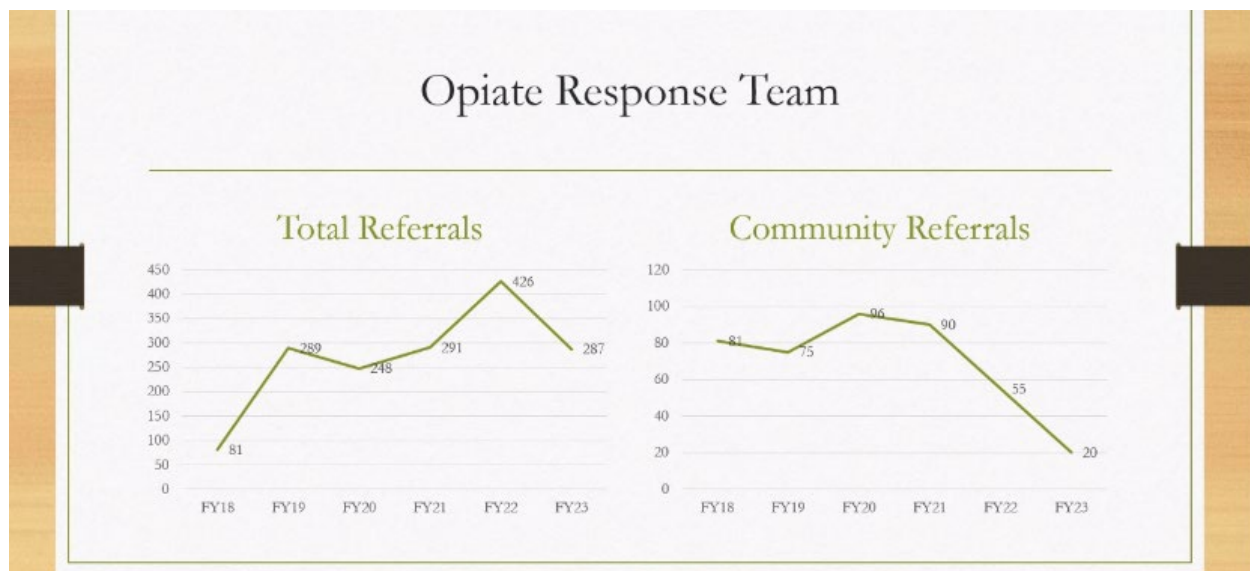
- Health Department Levy passed! Thank you to all who supported the levy.
- Project DAWN update from Holly – mail order naloxone – last month over 50 kits through mail order. Can go directly to the website and order for free to be mailed to them or pickup at the lobby. 250% increase in distribution from 2021 to 2022. Multiple dispensing locations throughout the county.

Stefanie Robinson

- The Discovery Recovery House (DRH) has been certified by Ohio Recovery Housing. Funding cannot be used for uncertified homes, so this is important.
- DRH is setting a standard in Medina of what recovery housing should be.
- At the Ohio Recovery Housing Conference in March, Hope Recovery Community (HRC) will be presenting on what has been working and what has been going well in the last five years. Not just to talk about solutions but to create action steps.
- DRH is full and there is a waiting list. People want to stay on the waiting list and are supported during that time.
- The ADAMH Board sought a capital grant to expand HRC, and it is growing by 3,000 square feet. There is an opportunity to create more space for meetings and trainings.
- Radiant Life Church in Wadsworth will work with HRC to provide recovery meetings.

- A Hope in the Community meeting is starting at Medina General Hospital; 6 a.m. on Wednesday mornings.
- HRC's Peer Link started in March and served 75 people last month. People seeking detox are usually placed the same day. HRC is placing approximately 500 individuals per year.
- HRC has 4,000 recovery touches per month.
- HRC has traveled to Arkansas and Missouri to speak about recovery.
- Launching recovery friendly workplace initiatives.
- Loveland Farm – will be recovery housing and a recovery friendly farm

Gail Houk



- Have made contact with 526 individuals, which is 95% of referrals. There were only 19 individuals that the Opiate Response Team (ORT) were not able to make contact with, and only 10 that refused services all together
- Kelsey Vasicek – Charges are at the discretion of the police officer, and if the individual does not receive an immunity letter, they do not feel as motivated to get connected to recovery resources.
 - MAT offered at the jail.
 - ORT providing information, resources, and Narcan training to staff at hotspot areas in the county.
 - Twenty individuals took kits at trainings and facilities now have them as well.
 - Health class education at Highland High School regarding opiates.
 - Starting to do routine screenings related to gambling to connected people with support.

Jon Robinson

- Year of relationships and partnership building at Cathy's House.
- Started alumni programming weekly to keep support.
- Length of stay increased from 60 days to 180 days.
- They are seeing people reach multiple years in recovery.
- Expansion into Brunswick.
- Level 1 House has been named Graham's House.
- 235 bed requests this year and counting.
- Taking the lead – Lead peer reviewer for Ohio Recovery Housing.
- 2000 service hours in the community from residents.
- Excited for upcoming partnerships in Loveland Farm project.

Future Topics

- Gambling addiction and its overlap with suicide and same primary population
- Survey results
- Fentanyl testing strips
- Updates on an emergency housing shelter

Community Comments

- Cindy Zweifel – OhioSTART program. Reached 30 cases and now will try to become certified. All but two cases have been successfully reunified or remained in the home. Have been successful in a shorter time frame, 6-9 months.
- Holly - Project DAWN - Naloxone site – businesses and organizations who want naloxone as part of their first aid kit can request a Naloxone kit. November 4th – school superintendents meeting in regards to offering naloxone in the school setting if needed.
- Gail – Update on the Local Outreach to Suicide Survivors (LOSS) Team; 15 months up and running, responded 24 times, with five of the suicides in the last four and a half weeks. The suicides were broken down as 21 by gun, two hanging, one by carbon monoxide poisoning. Are looking at patterns; 8 of the 24 were middle aged older males diagnosed with a serious medical condition. Planning to partner with the hospital to send email to primary care providers to increase screening. Will also be training the Health Center at MCHD to increase screening and resources. An individual reached out one year post suicide of family member to get support.
- The Overdose Fatality Review Board meets quarterly and is led by the Health Department – is not easy, but much is learned from these meetings.
- March 10th will be the next meeting of the Opiate Task Force.