

Opioid Group Minutes

October 30, 2018

Attendees: Dave Rosso, Lorraine Chastant, Trudy Mueller, Jennifer Razee, Liz McEwen, Cheryl Rusin, Blondie Gleason, Cindy Hayford, Jill Robarts, Lisa Croce, Joe Aulicino, Pam Aulicino, Ally Lane, Mark Hanna, Angel Balch, Alice Greenspan, Stephanie Caslin, Lauren Hardwick, Joan Judd, Susie Walker, Peter Park, Jennifer Fitzgerald, Karen Molina, George Hickey

News/Announcements

Elizabeth McEwen - Posters from photo exhibit focusing on opioid crisis at Museum in Brattleboro. Runs through beginning of January. It was decided to get more to post around town. A copy is attached with the minutes.

Angel Balch - VT Department of Health online- you can find resources, recovery centers, etc. <http://www.healthvermont.gov/alcohol-drugs>

Cindy has some resource posters and pocket guides that we can share around town.

QUESTION was asked by an attendee: "What would happen if someone in our community wanted help right now?" Great discussion took place with personal sharing.

RESPONSES:

Peter Park:

- In the MAT (Medically Assisted Therapy) program at the Deerfield Valley health center there is a process to initiate treatment, including an intake form followed by an interview to gather info regarding individualized treatment. You want people to be successful, so it is necessary to match the program with the individual.
- Some emergency rooms are moving toward an immediate program where ER docs are able to prescribe Suboxane immediately and send the individual on to a prescriber in the community.

Susie Walker (Turning Point Recovery):

- Project CARE in Brattleboro is a collaborative effort to address the issue of recovery with Turning Point, Rise, Police Dept., etc. Their strategy is to go out to places where they know there are people with substance abuse disorders and make connections with them in hopes of being able to help them when they are ready to be helped. They will work on housing and help folks make connections with Recovery Coaches (people who are already in recovery). Read more about Project care at: <http://www.commonnews.org/site/sitenext/story.php?articulo=28639&page=1>

- We have a new federal grant in Windham county for a community consortium to work on opioid issue in rural communities. This is a planning grant is assess the needs. Recovery centers, housing agencies, and prevention coordinators are working together to create a plan for recovery in rural areas. A piece of the grant will look at offering recovery coaches in out-laying areas for recovery offices. We are looking at having an Academy training in January. With the good attendance at these meetings, perhaps this is where the first will be.

Cindy: Distributed DVCP quarterly newsletters that were mailed to all voters in Wilmington, Whitingham and Dover. Newsletters were also sent home with students in Halifax, Stamford and Reaadsboro. The focus this quarter was on Recovery. An article on the Opioid group was included.

Addiction Video review - We viewed 2 videos that explain addiction.

Video 1 - was a simplified explanation of addiction. This was selected by the high school students in the Pride group and was viewed by the entire TVMHS student body this past week for Red Ribbon Week. Video 2 - was a more scientific explanation of addiction and the brain. We discussed trying to get these videos on public TV.

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 27, 2018 at 5:30pm. Please RSVP to Cindy at chayford.dvcp@gmail.com

Respectfully submitted:
Karen Molina