

## **CATTARAUGUS COUNTY HEROIN/OPIOID TASK FORCE**

February 10, 2017, 10:00 a.m., Meeting

Good Times of Olean, 800R East State Street, Olean, NY 14760

### **PRESENT:**

Chris Baker, EMS Director  
Pastor Steve Beattie, Pentecostal Church  
Derah Black-Day, CARES Dir. Of Program Oper.  
Sue John Blacksnake, Acting Dir. Of Seneca Strong  
Dawn Colburn, Seneca Strong  
Jeff Ciminesis, Prevention Coord STHCS  
Andrew Dombek, NYS Parole Officer  
Larry Green, Interim Police Officer in Charge, Gowanda  
Heidi Hartley, District Director  
Barb Hastings, Legislator  
Donna Kahm, So. Tier Health Care Syst. Pres. /CEO  
Michael Kalsman, MD, SNI Medical Director  
Sue Labuhn, Legislator  
Debra Lacher, Cattaraugus County Health Dept.  
Cathy Mackay, Cattaraugus County Director of Aging  
Pastor Dodi McIntyre, Creekside Church

Theresa Moore, Allegany Co. Sup. Public Health Educ.  
Andy O'Brien, Dir. of Behavioral Health, UPMC Chaut.  
Mary O'Leary, Dir. of Community Services  
Mike Prutsman, Executive Dir. of CARES  
Julie Schmidt, NY Senate District Coordinator  
Megan Schmitt, TLC Health Substance Abuse Coord.  
Gina Smith, PhD., Psychologist  
Dan Strauch, Chief Executive Officer of OMG  
Tony Turano, Dep. Commissioner of Soc. Services  
Donna Vickman, Legislator  
Kevin Watkins, MD, Catt. County Public Health Dir.  
Officer Troy Westfall, Chief of Police Salamanca  
Peter Wilson, Seneca Strong  
Keith Woods, Director of Residential Services, CARES  
Ann Zimmerman, MD, UPC

Dr. Kevin Watkins, and Mary O'Leary welcomed everyone to the Heroin/Opioid Task Force meeting, including Officer Larry Green, the interim Officer in Charge of Gowanda Police Department who was attending his first meeting.

### **Committee Reports:**

Data Surveillance/Naloxone Access Funding – Donna Kahm reported highlights of the committee report.

-Total trained: (872).

-Total number of NARCAN kits distributed: (707).

-NARCAN administrations: (17) were administered from October through December, and (6) were administered from January through February.

-A new shipment of NARCAN was received and currently Southern Tier Overdose Prevention Program (STOPP) is fully restocked. Everyone that was on a waiting list has been issued their NARCAN kits and anyone's kit that is expiring will get reissued a new NARCAN kit.

-A new contract was received with the American Foundation for Aids Research (amfAR) to have NARCAN kits provided for another year.

-There were some NARCAN Mucosal Atomization Devices (MAD) recalled, and due to good documentation all of those kits were easily exchanged out.

Recent Narcan training has been provided to several organizations and facilities throughout the county:

- Olean Police Department (3 days after the training, NARCAN was utilized and resulted in a life being saved).
- JCC Staff and Students
- Derby Apartments
- Kinley Hill Apartments
- Friendship Ambulance

Upcoming trainings will include:

- Seneca Nation of Indians Marshals
- CArES

Police Assisted Addiction Recovery Initiative (PAARI) Committee – Troy Westfall reported there were no new meetings of the subcommittee. They are in the midst of consolidating and renewing the PAARI program and the forms, and hopefully will have data to share at the next meeting. Insurance seems to be a prohibitive factor for individuals who have no insurance or insurance that won't cover the treatment. Officer Larry Green confirmed that Gowanda will still be involved in the PAARI program and that he will be working with Chief Westfall.

Provider Education Committee – Dr. Kalsman reported that the committee is:

- Moving forward with putting together a provider seminar. The committee is currently working with Independent Health Foundation, and has tentatively lined up (2) speakers for a regional provider education seminar for late spring.
- Communication amongst the providers. Although the email list-serve has been set up, the committee is unfortunately dealing with a lot of outdate email addresses and is spending time trying to weed out the outdate email addresses.

Dan Strauch added that there is a new, New York State Department of Health requirement for licensed medical providers with a Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) number to have opioid continuing medical education training by July 1, 2017 in order to renew their license. This will drive a lot of attendance to the provider seminars. Barb Hastings added that the Western New York Public Health Alliance is making plans to provide regional training for providers and they would be interested in collaborating with the provider education committee on the education seminar and they are possibly willing to provide funding.

OASAS Committee –Mike Prutsman, reported that the committee held a meeting on January 6, 2017:

- Great discussion about PAARI for the sheriff's department.
- Discussion regarding the family support group last fall, making plans to run this again in the spring, however possibly a new venue to increase attendance.

May O'Leary introduced the County reports:

Report of Statistical Data:

- Health Dept.-Dr. Watkins provided handouts and reported:
  - (1) overdose death from Heroin/Opioid use in Cattaraugus County in 2014
  - (11) overdose deaths from Heroin/Opioid use in 2015
  - (10) overdose deaths from Heroin/Opioid use in 2016 from raw data of death certificates and toxicology reports that the Health Department has received. Raw data is considered provisional data.
  - (2) overdose deaths so far in 2017.
- Social Services- Tony Turano reported:
  - (92) Child Protective Service reports involving a parent's drug/alcohol misuses allegation in 2016.
  - (52) families with a member who was referred to chemical dependency treatment during a public assistance benefit application process in 2016.
  - (71) children were placed in foster care due to a parent's drug dependency.
  - Department had to add new staff to deal with the influx of cases dealing with drug/alcohol misuse.
  - Contrary to common belief, people are screened for drugs when they apply for public assistance.

- Probation- No representative to report.
- Sheriff's Office- No representative to report.
- Community Services:-Mary O'Leary reported:
  - (24) Individuals in the clinic program that have an opioid dependency diagnosis.
  - (3) Individuals receiving Suboxone treatment.
  - (10) Individuals diagnosed but not in treatment.
- Current Personalized Recovery Oriented Services (PROS) Program:
  - (15) Individuals with opioid dependency diagnosis.
  - (10) Individuals with opioid dependency diagnosis in full remission.
  - Community Service will soon be adding Vivitrol as part of their program, which will assist those who do not want to go to CARES.

Mary added that these numbers may not be accurate due to a glitch in the computer program update but she hopes to have more accurate numbers at the next meeting. There are (1800) people in the clinic and therefore the numbers seem lower than one would expect.

CAREs Grant Update: Mike Prutsman reported CAREs has been approved for a \$1.9 million dollar capital improvement project that includes the addition of (20) beds to be added to the Weston Manors which is a 16-bed community residence for men who suffer from chemical dependency. Keith Woods, Weston Manors Residential Director, was introduced by Mike to speak more specifically on this Rapid Treatment Expansion project.

- The expectation is to have shovels in the ground soon with the building up and operational later this fall at the Weston Mills facility.
- Servicing regionally not just Cattaraugus County residents.
- A new Medication Assistance Treatment (MAT) wing is now open at CAREs.
- The Gowanda site at 1 School Street, is now open two days a week.
- The hotline will be available soon and that phone number will be forthcoming.

Keith Woods spoke regarding the three elements of care:

- Stabilization from withdrawal.
- Rehabilitation for clients who have significant functional impairments.
- Reintegration for clients who are transitioning into long term recovery and independent living.

Dr. Watkins stated that after rehabilitation the rate of clients reusing are as high as 80%; he asked what the program will do to help clients overcome this temptation when they reenter their old environment. Mr. Woods answered that their goal is to help clients navigate through these situations with the help of case managers and each client can reenter the program at whatever stage they need.

UPMC of Chautauqua WCA Grant Update: Andy O'Brien, Director of Behavioral Health at UPMC of Chautauqua commended CAREs for their wonderful program and the number of lives they have saved. Typically in the past residential programs have been very hard-nosed and would simply discharge people from the program after a set time. The redesign allows the participant to continue services as they need which makes this a much better program.

- UPMC WCA has received a grant for \$700,000.
- UPMC WCA will renovate the fourth floor of the current Jones Memorial hospital building and add (20) beds servicing both Chautauqua and Cattaraugus County residents.
- Stabilization from withdrawal management will be offered.

Program Structure:

- Rehabilitation for clients.
- Reintegration for clients.

Seneca Strong Update: Sue John Blacksnake, Acting Director of Seneca Strong stated that Seneca Strong was:

- Filling a gap by developing a peer model.
- Recently hired (4) new staff and will be hiring (1) more which almost doubles current staff.
- Started a Seneca Strong model of the PAARI program, working with the Gowanda and Salamanca PAARI programs.
- Crisis Hotline Number (716)-945-8413 this number will be answered 24/7 for anyone who needs assistance.
- Prevention education started at the Salamanca School system two days a month.
- Set up (6) support groups, (3) at each territory, men, women and family groups.

Dawn Colburn provided more specifics on the peer outreach program:

- Peers are sharing their story in a compassionate, caring way.
- Peers provides ongoing support by staying with the client.
- Holistic, twelve step, or cultural options of recovery.
- First contact is usually next day follow-up after hospital visit.
- Outreach programs are offered at the jails.
- Looking at creating (2) recovery homes one for women and one for men.
- Culinary arts program where clients could earn certification in food services.
- Developing partnerships to look at having a drug court through funding sources.
- Strawberry Ministries Program, training on February 25<sup>h</sup> 10:00 AM-2:00 PM in Gowanda, NY. Faith based support group-clean, sober, and saved.

Peter Wilson, Social Worker for Seneca Strong added 54% of the people engaged by their program have sought treatment. (75) individuals have received inpatient or detox treatment, (28) families trained in Narcan use, (6) individuals required the utilization of homeless shelters, (46) were placed in further treatment halfway houses or residential living, in the past month we have had (15) new outreaches, engaged (57) individuals in life skills, and worked with (29) individuals from the Cattaraugus County jail.

Resource List Update: Dr. Watkins asked that everyone look at the resource list,

- It will be redesigned to make it more user friendly and an electronic version will be sent out to everyone to utilize. Identifying what services each organization offers. Please send any corrections, or additions that any taskforce member would like to see.
- Hoping to design a Heroin Opioid Task Force website with Donna Kahm.

Budget Items: Mary O'Leary spoke about the Governor's 2017-18 proposed budget highlights:

- Providing \$11 million dollars to the Office of Mental Health (OMH) in new funding for community reinvestment for the closure of state psychiatric inpatient beds. The focus of the state is to get people out of those long term inpatient beds and move them into the community supported beds. There are not enough residential beds to support people coming out of the hospitals or prison systems. The OMH to develop an additional (280) supported housing community based beds. Reconfiguring the (140) state operated residential beds and replacing them with the (280) housing community beds.

- The Governor's proposal increased Homes and Community Renewals budget by \$11 million dollars to preserve, access, and enhance existing supportive housing.
- Redesign case management funds are also proposed in the executive budget.
- Restorative services in the jail, when someone is not able to assist in their own defense.
- The Governor's executive budget includes nearly \$200 million dollars to combat the heroin opioid epidemic, which is an increase of 30 million from last year.
- Establish a recovery high school program through the Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) school system, which will establish (1) upstate and (1) downstate program in partnership with social services.
- Fund another (10) Peer engagement programs for a total of (20) state wide.
- Authorizing an additional (600) Opioid program slots.
- Fund (5) new recovery and outreach centers for a total of (14) state wide.
- Establish an Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) team here in Cattaraugus County. This is not county funded but state funded for those with severe mental health illness who cannot have needs met through traditional services.

Barb Hastings, Legislator, suggested that at the next meeting it would be helpful to hear what employers are doing or not doing to address the epidemic issue, what are their best practices. Mike Prutsman interjected that he might know someone who could speak in that capacity.

Chief Troy Westfall, asked if OASAS had enacted a hold on individuals who came in to the hospital with substance abuse issues. Mr. O'Brien answered that the individual had to voluntarily enact this hold. Medical Personnel can use persuasive arguments to entice users to stay, but hospitals cannot hold them against their will. Until legislation is passed users can be taken to the hospital for an evaluation but they do not have to stay.

Pastor Beattie spoke regarding their faith based voluntary recovery group that meets every Tuesday from 5:30 PM- 7:00 PM.

Pastor McIntyre stated that her church would like to get the Narcan training for their leadership team as they are seeing a need in the congregation.

Sue Labuhn, Legislator applauded the task force for how quickly the task force has achieved so much for the community. Donna Vickman, Legislator agreed and said we must continue on.

Dr. Watkins suggested that the task force start meeting quarterly, but committees should still meet twice between the quarterly meetings.