

# Summit County Opiate and Addiction Task Force Key Stakeholders Quarterly Meeting

Virtual Meeting via ZOOM



## MEETING NOTES 6/14/2021

### ATTENDEES:

29 Community Stakeholders were in attendance.

### MEETING MATERIALS:

The following materials were distributed via email and shared during the virtual meeting: Agenda, Data Dashboard, various agency handouts.

#### 1. Introductions & Welcome

- China Darrington, Project Coordinator, Summit County Opiate and Addiction Task Force, welcomed everyone to the meeting at 4:01p.m. She then began to review the agenda.
- Ms. Darrington issued a [Call to Action](#) to the committee: She would like to increase the membership and diversity of committee members. The Call to Action was for each member of the SCOATF to reach out to 5 – 10 of their friends to become members of the task force. Membership is very simple and can be done [online](#). “There are various areas in the community from which membership can be targeted. This call to action for membership and to diversify the committee came because of the strategic planning campaign. Membership is open to any organization, business, agency, governmental entity, or individual supporting the coalition’s missions as stated in Article I, Section 1. To ensure diversity and broad representation, following sectors will be represented
  - Business Community
  - Youth and Young Adults
  - Parents/Family
  - Media
  - Healthcare
  - State/Local government
  - Youth Organizations
  - Law Enforcement/EMS
  - Religious Fraternal Organizations
  - Schools
  - Civic and Volunteer Groups
  - Recovery Community
  - Substance Abuse Prevention/Addiction Service Organization

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## 2. SCOATF Updates – China Darrington

- The draft of the by laws have been reviewed and will hopefully be ready for committee review at the next SCOATF meeting to be held September 13, 2021. These need to be completed and in place.
- You can find a list of all the [meetings](#) regarding the SCOATF on the [Summit County Addiction Help webpage](#). All meetings are listed with a zoom link to enable you to join the meeting.
- On the [Family Support webpage](#), there are 2 movie titles listed with content related to drug addiction. [Four Good Days](#) tells of a recovering addict who must wait 4 days until she can resume her drug treatment if she does not wait those 4 days the results of receiving the shot when she is not clean could be harmful. [The Crime of the Century](#) is a documentary regarding the Opioid epidemic in the United States.

## 3. [ADM Update](#) – Amy Woodland

- Amy Woodland introduced the new Executive Director of the SC ADM Board, [Aimee Wade](#).
  - Ms. Wade had a brief presentation regarding her vision as the new director. Her primary focus will be on Recover Hope. She would like to build upon the strength and resiliency this community has shown through the Opioid Crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic. She stated that each letter of HOPE will stand for defined topics: H – help and wellness, O- outcomes, P – potential, E- equity.
- Amy Woodland reported that OHMHAS and ODH has made naloxone available throughout the state for distribution to the areas of great overdoses. Also, there will be for Naloxone boxes placed throughout the community. One in each of the following zip codes, 44305, 44306, 44203, and 44312. Each of these zip codes has a high rate of overdoses.

## 4. [Data Dashboard](#) – Nick Baechel

- Nick gave a brief presentation on the overdose deaths in the surrounding communities. He included vital statistics regarding overdoses being presented in the Emergency Rooms, overdoses deaths by year, overdose deaths by month, overdoses by city and overdoses by ethnicity. It appears that there was a decline in overdose victims presenting at the hospital emergency rooms since 2016. The results however thus far for 2021 may be indicating a possible increase in this behavior. There also seems to be a definite difference in the number of African American Males vs White Males that tend to overdose. The numbers representing the African American Community seem to be on the increase. Nick also reviewed the current substances that are being used in many of the overdose victims. Nick

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concluded his presentation with the statistics regarding getting treatment for substance abuse and how many days out appointments are being made.

## 5. Subcommittee Reports

a. Criminal Justice – Chief Jack Davis & Rhonda Brink Chief Davis was unavailable, so China read his report.

- Criminal Justice wants to partner with SC Public Health and SC ADM Board to get the naloxone kits distributed.
- There has been 500 pounds of meth taken out of the city this year.
- In the past there have been approximately 40 murders committed a year in Summit County; however so far this year we have had 80 and this is a result as of May.
- The next meeting will be Thursday, August 19, 2021, 2:30 – 4pm

b. Healthcare – Dr. Garry Thrasher

- Dr. Thrasher reported that they are seeing more mental health issues currently over addiction. The overdoses they are currently seeing are more of stimulant caused overdoses.
- Cocaine is being used more in conjunction with alcohol use which is causing cardiac symptoms amongst users.
- With the places reopening and the relaxation of some COVID guidelines, they are encouraging patient to re-engage in their self-help groups.
- More education needs to occur in the medical community regarding substance abuse.

c. Policy & Advocacy – Dr. Andy Davis

- There are various legislative things being debated or reviewed; however, this is going slowly due to Ohio not finalizing the budget yet.
- The next meeting is Thursday, July 15, 2021, 4-5:00pm

d. Public Awareness – Darryl Brake & Amy Woodland

- The ADM Recovery Challenge has opened registration. The race will be held August 21, 2021. The website lists the various registration options, entry fees and volunteer opportunities.
- A new item this year is the Wellness Walk – there will be various tables from differing agencies that will showcase what services they have to offer.
- This committee is also working on the distribution of naloxone to the hardest hit communities determined by zip code. They have set up an option to receive a naloxone kit via mail order.
- SC Community Partners working with the Cuyahoga Falls Police Department have received a grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance for the distribution of drug pouches. They will be receiving 32,000 drug pouches soon and have until the end

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of November to distribute these. Please contact Darryl Brake if you have an event or an idea for a distribution site.

- The next meeting is July 13, 2021, at 9:30am.

e. Family Support/Young People – N’ecole Ast & Nicole Jones

- The focus of the committee currently is recruitment of new members.
- The committee is also comprising a list of youth activities.
- The next meeting is July 28, 2021, 4:30-5:30pm

f. Harm Reduction – Jackie Pollard & SC Public Health

- The [Summit Safe Syringe Program](#) has seen the number of persons being served double as many drug stores are now enforcing a policy of not selling syringes to anyone unless they have been prescribed.
- [Project Dawn](#) – They have been distributing 1 box of Narcan that contains 2 doses. You can also go online to have these Narcan kits can be [requested online](#) and mailed out to you the next day. There have been Narcan kits handed out at different places including Syringe distribution clinics, EMS has been leaving them, QRT has left them with families and the First Step Program has also aided in this distribution.
- The distribution of Naloxone is going well however they are still looking for more distribution sites in high overdose areas.
- The next meeting is Wednesday, July 21, 2021, at 4pm

5. Other Announcements

- ARC Recovery is working on holding in person events. [RecoveryFest](#) will be making a return this year. [ARC After Dark](#) will be held on Friday, July 9 at 8PM.
- The [ADM Recovery Challenge](#) will be held this year.
- [OhioCAN](#) will be holding an overdose reduction day August 31, 2021.
- The next SCOATF meeting will be held Monday, September 13, 2021, 4-5:30pm

The meeting ended at 5:30pm.