

# Summit County Opiate Task Force

## Key Stakeholders Quarterly Meeting

Summit County Public Health Auditorium  
1867 W. Market St. Suite A, Akron, OH



## MEETING NOTES 12/17/2019

### ATTENDEES:

44 Community Stakeholders were in attendance.

### MEETING MATERIALS:

The following meeting materials were distributed: Agenda; Data Dashboard; various agency handouts and event fliers.

#### 1. Welcome

China Darrington, Opiate & Addiction Task Force Project Coordinator, opened the meeting at 4:06 p.m., and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### 2. GENERAL UPDATES:

- **Introduction and Overview** – Ms. Darrington reviewed the mission of the Summit County Opiate Task Force, and its six active Subcommittees, which will report out individually. The Youth and Young Adults and Family Supports subcommittees will be merging.
- **Drug Safe Hudson Task Force Report** – New Chair Greg O’Neill reported on:
  - Thanked Jamie messenger for past leaderships of this Task Force.
  - Podcast regarding people, places and things who are making a difference in Summit County
  - Denial Ohio Campaign
  - Drug Safe Hudson was established two years ago. It is a conduit for people to get discretely connected with resources.
  - Six month endeavor to do a strategic plan. Alyce Jennings will lead.
- **Green Drug Task Force Report** – Bob Bender reported:
  - a. Task Force members are meeting with Akron/Canton Safety Council on Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>.
  - b. Green Chamber of Commerce received narcan training in early November.
  - c. Business outreach committee to reach out to businesses in Green. A degree of optimism in this approach,
  - d. Task Force has been very successful.
  - e. Members worked very hard on the ADM levy campaign.
  - f. 5 hotels have Narcan kits on premises.

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- **Summit County Public Health** – Jackie Pollard reporting:
    - Syringe exchange numbers January – November: 190,000 needles collected, 75% of what had been given out. Not intended to be a one for one program, but getting closer.
    - 6,000 Fentanyl test strips have been distributed
    - 1,100 clients have been seen.
    - Averaging 100 people seen through three locations in Summit County. Arlington location has been the busiest location, with 60 clients in three hours.
    - Project DAWN, January 1 – November 30: 2,527 kits distributed, with 749 reported reversals.
    - New initiatives:
      - Leave Behind Program, through Ohio Department of Health – for people who refuse to be transported to ER after an overdose, first responders will leave a narcan kit
      - Mail Order Naloxone Program – ready to launch in January.
      - Harm Reduction – subcommittee about harm reduction principles; meetings will resume in January, last Wednesday of each month.
      - Question posed about how the task force will support harm reduction.
  - **DATA DASHBOARD (China - need to update link)**  
 Nick Baechel, County of Summit ADM Board, presented the quarterly Data Dashboard (see attached)\*.
    - Information shared through a PowerPoint report regarding: drug overdoses, drug overdose deaths, OARRS reports, QRT data update, residential and detox waitlists, and the ADM Helpline.
    - ER Overdose information was broken down by geographic areas (ZIP codes) to reflect the biggest increase in overdoses occurring. The information was also broken down to reflect ER overdoses, overdose deaths, type of substances causing the overdose, and overdose situations by race.
    - Quick Response Team (QRT) update
      - 2,086 QRT patients; 967 QRT patients connected to treatment. (46%)
      - The Detox Waitlist report reflected that if a patient needs/wants to detox, there are facilities to initiate that process the same day.
    - ADM Helpline Report: January 1 – December 9, 2019 there have been 884 scheduled appointments, average access time to appointments is 6.6 days but mode access time to appointments is only 1 day.
    - Tracking residential: in past have averaged 60 days; since behavioral health re-design, report still averaging 60 days. Report that people are getting only 30 days is not the case; this is for people who do not complete treatment. Average stay is 60 days.
3. **Opioid Settlement Recap** - Greta Johnson, Summit County Executive's Office. Ms. Johnson provided timeline of lawsuit from initial filing in December 2017, to settlement on October 21, 2019, for just Summit and Cuyahoga Counties. Lawsuits are still pending with pharmacies. Cities still have lawsuit pending.

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Monies have not been received; final Settlement Agreement not yet completed for the \$250M. Of the amount, Summit County will receive 38%, with Cuyahoga County receiving 62%. After that, take 25% for lawyers, and then take off the costs of litigation.

In the second part the county got medications as part of settlement, completion deadline of two years. Jerry Craig and Dr. Doug Smith of the ADM Board are working with the Ohio Board of Pharmacy Central Rx to figure out the best way of getting meds out of these communities. There is between \$9-\$10 M to spend, which must be done within that two year timeline.

#### **4. Youth Risk Behavior Survey Review** – presented by Kim Patton, ADM Board

Survey was completed in Fall of 2018, with results obtained in 2019. Last survey was completed in 2013. The plan is to administer the survey every 5 years.

#### **5. Committee Reports**

- **Policy & Advocacy Committee** – Ms. Darrington reported
  - Still need a chairperson for this committee – see Ms. Darrington if interested.
  - Committee meets bi-monthly.
- **Family Supports** – Nicole James and Kelly Nagy, co-chairs
  - Committee has met 6 times.
  - Family Support magnet calendars are still available.
  - This committee will be combining with the Youth & Young Adults committee beginning Jan. 23.
- **Public Awareness** – Chrissy Gashash reported.
  - Thanked all who were involved in the ADM levy campaign.
  - Committee has met and discussed course of action for 2020.
  - Will be updating the website and data dashboard.
  - Detera Projects celebrated three years – 2,650 Detera bags distributed in 2019. Response cards indicate that 26% of the distributed bags were used to dispose of opioids.
  - Events in 2020 include Drug Take Back Day and working with Judge Thomas Teodosio to plan a sober St. Patrick's Day celebration at the Civic Theater
- **Criminal Justice** – Chief Jack Davis reported
  - QRT teams can now give out Narcan.
  - New drug trends being seen. Cautioned of drugs causing ODs.
  - October "Take Back Day" was very successful. Over 100 pounds of medications was collected by the Cuyahoga Falls Fire Department.
- **Healthcare Committee** – Dr. Garry Thrasher reported
  - Thanks expressed to everyone for their attendance.
  - Thanks expressed to Jackie Pollard and Summit County Public Health, for its needle exchange program. Mission is to encourage treatment. Detox leads to treatment; treatment leads to better life.
  - Goals In 2020:

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- Address some issues having with stimulant abusers, meth
  - Opiate users now using meth-amphetamines
  - Educational materials to reduce addiction especially important in area of post-op pain and acute and chronic pain management.
  - 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Medical Conference held in November. Not enough addiction medicine doctors; not enough psychiatrists.
  - Stressed that Oriana has a teaching program at Detox. Students come in from University Hospital and NEOMED for training.
- **Youth and Young Adults** – Brian \_\_\_\_\_ reported.
    - Committee has finished its sober calendar with suggested daily activities
    - Planned community event: Great presentation in October – 100 counselors in Summit County; objective was to create school websites with more information.
    - Dealing with screening from Summit County; want to go step beyond that. Expanding into mental health resources for mental health issues.
    - Another presentation planned in March for counselors. Trying to focus on getting people not the schools.
  - **Harm Reduction** – Jackie Pollard reported.
    - Committee to continue meetings in January.

## 6. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

- Next meeting March 18, 2020 – Strategic Planning Session for Task Force
- 2020 Subcommittee dates listed on trifold handout
- Comments from membership? None offered.
- Holidays wishes expressed. Ms. Darrington thanked members for their continued support.

## 7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 pm.

**NEXT OATF MEETING DATE:** Wednesday, March 18, 2020 – 4:00 pm  
Summit County Public Health Auditorium

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