



# OPIOID TASK FORCE

Governor's Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Prevention, Intervention, Treatment & Recovery

Task Force Chair: Seddon Savage/James Vara

June 30, 2016 – 8:30AM – 10:30AM

## Minutes

**Attendees:** James Vara, Jim Moser, Kimberly Fortier, Pam O'Sullivan, Elizabeth Hughes, Joe Hannon, James Potter, Helen Pervanas, Jacqui Baker, Seddon Savage, Sandra Kiplagat, Rekha Sreedhara, Charla Stevens, Ken Bradley, Drew Blake (intern for James Vara), Benjamin Agati, Andrea Meier, Erin Artigiani, Melissa Silvey (phone)

### I. Introductions and Agenda Review/Orientation

- April minutes were approved.

### II. Review NH Opioid Related Data – April/May Drug Monitoring Initiative Report

- The May report was reviewed during this meeting.
- Final overdose death count for 2015 is 439. Fifteen of these deaths were contributed to prescription drug use. Fentanyl deaths have surpassed heroin due to this drug being cheaper and easier to manufacture.
- Kimberly Fortier from HIDTA also distributed a graph showing treatment data by age since July 2014.
- Kimberly Fortier inquired on how the DMI report can be improved and/or if other data/data sources should be included. Members suggested comparing data by town and region, overdose deaths by region, and naloxone administration by county per 100,000 people. Members also suggested reviewing and integrating PDMP data, DEA ARCOS data for controlled substances in the state, and IMF or other data mining company information.
- Naloxone data was discussed and whether specific data can be obtained to include:
  - o the number of naloxone prescriptions by town;
  - o whether the prescription was written by a prescriber or through standing order;
  - o type of product; and
  - o if Fentanyl was the result in the increase in the number of doses.

Helen Pervanas will find out if Rite Aid can provide these data.

### III. National Drug Early Warning System (NDEWS)/ National Drug Abuse Treatment Clinical Trials Network

- Erin Artigiani from NDEWS and Andrea Meier from the National Drug Abuse Treatment Clinical Trials Network attended this meeting to share more information about these resources and a NH specific project being worked on related to Fentanyl hotspots.

- NDEWS is a 5-year public health surveillance system and is in the second year of the grant. Data are obtained from HIDTA, TEDS, NSDUH, DEA and other internal data sources.
- NDEWS is made up of designated staff in addition to a network that consists of 1,200 members representing 20 countries and 12 sentinel community sites that are experiencing significant problems with substance misuse and substance use disorders.
- NDEWS next monthly webinar will be a two-hour webinar held on July 20<sup>th</sup>, *Synthetic Opioids in Counterfeit Pharmaceuticals and Other Illicit Street Drugs: The Situation in Canada*. To register, visit: <https://ndews.umd.edu/featuredcontent/1585>
- The Northeast Node of the National Drug Abuse Treatment Clinical Trials Network works collaboratively with providers, researchers, and patients to develop and provide new prevention and treatment options. For more information about this network and bi-monthly learning opportunities visit: <http://www.ctnnortheastnode.org>. For social media sites: [Follow us on Twitter](#) [Like us on Facebook](#)
- Erin and Andrea are working on a NH project to identify Fentanyl hotspots. In the first phase they are hoping to identify gaps by conducting interviews with people misusing substances and are also looking to obtain specimens from the Medical Examiner's Office. Rekha Sreedhara will provide Andrea with contact information for all of the Recovery Centers in NH. It was expressed that it would be interesting to find out how people who are using determine what they are using.

#### **IV. Review & Discuss Key Domain Strategies**

- Members started to review and discuss key strategies by domain that were submitted by each member (see list of strategies). Remaining strategies will be reviewed during next meeting.

**Next Meeting: Thursday, July 14, 2016 – 8:30AM – 10:30AM**

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