



TREATMENT TASK FORCE

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

Task Force Chair: *Stephanie Savard*

January 19, 2018

Meeting Notes

Attendees:

In-Person: Rekha Sreedhara, Adelaide Murray, Jake Berry, Paul Kiernan, Danni Bultemeier, Sue Gordon, Monica Edgar

On Phone: Susan Latham

Membership Update: Adding Members

- To add the family perspective, Lynn Fuller will join the Task Force beginning in March.
- Stephanie has reached out to Sue Ellen Griffin from West Central Behavioral Health in an effort to have behavioral health representation.
- **Stephanie will reach out to Angela Thomas Jones or Ray McGarty to request participation from a private practitioner.**
- If there are ideas for other potential task force members, please let Stephanie know.

Governor's Commission

- Tym Rourke stepped down as Chair after serving an eight year term. Annette Escalante will step in as Chair, in addition to being the Director of the Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Services.
- The State Plan was put on hold last year. This work will be re-initiated.
 - The State Planning retreat will be held on March 23, 2018.
 - If this is open to the public, Stephanie will be in touch to provide an invitation.

Legislative Updates

- A bill to fully fund the alcohol fund at 5% and remove the use of general operating costs at the Sununu Center is in a working session after last week's public hearing.
- There is a bill that would require the Commission to do more financial reporting. DHHS supports this bill but needs more personnel.
- What is different about the new Safe Plan of Care legislation?
 - The bill passed last June indicated that infants born with and identified as being affected by illegal substance use or withdrawal symptoms resulting from prenatal drug exposure would need to be reported to DCYF. Both providers and clients were fearful that pregnant women wouldn't seek treatment and there were a lot of questions on how to interpret this (e.g. MAT).
 - In the new bill, reporting would go to DPHS in the aggregate, rather than to an investigating authority. This would make the issue one of substance misuse, instead of an issue of abuse and neglect.
 - Physicians would be required to notify DCYF if a mother is non-compliant with her safe plan of care, or if there are other concerns of abuse and neglect.
 - The new bill went to hearing last week and is now going through a work session. It will go to a full vote in the House in a few weeks, and then move to the Senate.

- Workforce Bills
 - A bill to add three staff members to the OPLC to allow for quicker processing has been approved in the Senate and will move over to the House.
 - A bill to create a study commission to consolidate the LADC and Mental Health Board is inexpedient to legislate.
 - There is a Behavioral Health Workforce bill sponsored by Senator Feltes that aims to complete the following:
 - Establishes state SUD treatment services program at DHHS
 - Adds CRSW to the LADC board
 - Modifies the requirements for licensure as a CSW, CMHC, or marriage and family therapist
 - This bill is going to hearing next week.
 - Jake will pull together the Bill Numbers and the link to Gen Court and send to the group.

Task Force Strategies (Work Plan)

- Based on a conversation Stephanie and Rekha had Rekha proposed re-structuring future meetings to focus the first hour of meetings on legislation and other business and the rest of the meeting will be focused on the strategies. The group approved this meeting format.
 - Two groups will report out (30 min each), request feedback from the group, brainstorm next steps, etc.
- Sue Gordon and Susan Latham will have half an hour at the March meeting to discuss their work. This group will meet over the next two months.
- Alex sent the group a webinar on teleservices. The task force is encouraged to watch the webinar before the next meeting. (<https://treatmentcourts.org/mod/eduplayer/view.php?id=600>)
 - Alex's group will also present at the March meeting.

Other Business

- There is a Revive Recovery Support Center in IDN 3 (Nashua/Hudson) that is putting on many trainings. Susan Latham can forward training information to interested Task Force members.
- Susan Latham is working on pulling together information from the IDN 3 site self-assessments. This should inform areas of need in IDN 3.
- United Way of Nashua is offering free radio slots for non-profits in the SUD area on Monday's at 10:00 am
- NHTI is offering a veteran's counseling certificate for the VA (the first program of its kind in NH)
 - There is a certificate for professionals; it consists of 5 courses that are 3 credits each.
 - The certificate is directed to social workers, mental health workers, those in the field of addition, students, and paraprofessionals.
 - Interested applicants must have a degree and/or experience working in the field.
- The Bureau of Behavioral Health received the State Youth Treatment Implementation Grant; there is an RFP out to develop trainings for 4 years on youth 16-18. Jaime Powers will bring more information about this Grant to the March meeting.

**Next Meeting:
Friday, March 16, 2018
9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
New Futures, 10 Ferry Street, Conference Room #308 B**