

Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention

Harm Reduction Work Group Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2019 – School of Pharmacy & by Teleconference

Attendees:

Chris Stock, (Co-chair) Pharmacist
Trisha Bush, RN, The Center for Mental Health
Rochelle Galey, Division of Youth Corrections
Deanna UliBarri-Crespin, Central Colorado AHEC
Tracy Cruz, AmeriCorps
Krista Olson, PharmD Candidate
Rachael McLaughlin, Rocky Mountain Crisis Partners
Amanda Bent, Drug Policy Alliance
Cassidy Foster, AmeriCorps
Seth Johnson, AmeriCorps
Veronika Hanna, AmeriCorps VISTA
Consortium Staff: Gina Olberding, Whit Oyler, Susanna Cooper, Jen Place, Tyler Payne, Jessica Eaddy, Jamie Feld, Michael Davidson, Rosemarie MacDowell

Absent:

Lisa Raville (Co-chair) Harm Reduction Action Center; Adam Starker, Stout Street Health Center; Karen Hill, JP Opioid Interaction Awareness Alliance; Robert Willis, Albertsons/Safeway; Kevin Kaucher, Denver Health; Kathryn Mueller, MD, MPH, Medical Director, Colorado Division of Workers Compensation; Alan Lembitz, MD, COPIC; Agnieszka Baklazec, Peer Assistance Services; Angela Bonaguidi, ARTS; Andreas J. Edrich, MD, Heritage Hills Family Medicine; Jason Hoppe, MD, University of Colorado; Thomas L. Kurt, MD; Romany Redman, MD Candidate, UC School of Medicine; Joanna Martinson, RN, North Colorado Health Alliance; Theresa Pelo, King Soopers; Steven Wright, MD; Robert Perry, M.D.; Danna Bushell Richkun, RN; Lauren Marek, Boulder County Public Health; Ingrid Binswanger, MD, University of Colorado School of Medicine; Christina Mead, HHS/HRSA; Alma McKinley, Regional Pharmacist, CMS; Katy Brown, Medication Safety & Adverse Drug Event Prevention, Telligen; William Gersch, Colorado Permanente Medical Group; Marc Condojani, Dept. of Human Services, OBH; Mike Patestio, Adapt Pharma; Michelle Main, Kaleo Pharma; Brandon Utter, HCPF; Kiley Fornelli, Colorado Coalition for the Homeless; Grady Harlow; Mary Steiner, Colorado Springs Community Health Partnership; Kathy Patrick, Colorado Department of Public Education; Tony Saiz, Albertsons/Safeway; Stephanie Stewart, MD, UC Denver; Ericka Alexander, Genoa Healthcare; Kristy Jordan, Signal Behavioral Health Network; Gabrielle Rodriguez, North Colorado Health Alliance; Qing Li, Epidemiologist; Luke Richards, Cordant Health; Theresa Baillie, Adapt Pharma; Chris Benjamin, Boulder; Linda Martin, CDPHE; Heidi Lightenburger, Rocky Mountain Crisis Partners; Haley Foster, Tri-County Health Department; Briana Sprague, CDPHE; LeAnna Kent, CDPHE; Ann Talbott, ARTS; Mike Nerenberg, MD; Krista Olsen, School of Pharmacy; Jess Fear, Larimer County Health District; Kiley Floren, Larimer County Health District; Lauren Boyle, Stout Street Center; Rob Valuck, Consortium; Christopher Grano, CDPHE; Cori Wells, AmeriCorps Program Manager; Alyson Williams, Health District of Northern Larimer County; Kathy Jarvis, UC Denver School of Pharmacy; Alexandra Simunaci, AmeriCorps; Katie Olson, CPHE; Amy Van Voorhis, RN, CeDAR; Mary Pat

Dewald, RN, APRN; Christine Zeitvogel, Pueblo LEAD; Della Turque, AmeriCorps; Jackie Blachman-Forshay, Boulder County Public Health; Chris Hammond, Jefferson County Public Health; Julia Rawlings, School of Pharmacy; Rebekah Armstrong; Kim Ward, King Soopers; Daniel Shodell, MD, CDPHE; Charlotte Ledonne, San Luis Valley Area Health Education Center; Don Teater, MD, Teater Health Solutions; Carol Helwig, Boulder County Public Health; Judy Solano, Southern Colorado Harm Reduction Association; Jane Davis, AmeriCorps

Co-Chair Chris Stock called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made to approve the January 2019 work group meeting minutes. Motion passed.

Harm Reduction Advocacy:

Gina Olberding addressed the Consortium's position regarding harm reduction advocacy. The Consortium supports activities and discussion around reducing harm related to prescription drug abuse and reducing harm to those who inject drugs. The Consortium supports the work and process of the Opioids and Other Substance Use Disorders Interim Study Committee (ISC), helping with subject matter expertise and stakeholder engagement. The Consortium serves in an advisory capacity for the Attorney General's Substance Abuse Trend and Response Task Force. Whether or not the Consortium takes a position on an issue is determined on a case-by-case basis. Because the University is a state agency, certain issues require the Consortium to assume a position of neutrality; however, individual Consortium members are always free to state their personal opinions regarding any topic **when they are not representing their Consortium involvement**. Any work group member can attend an ISC meeting to express personal opinions regarding a study matter.

Harm Reduction Conference Planning:

El Paso County is planning a conference on April 17th from 8:00 a.m. to noon. Rob Valuck will open the conference with an overview of the opioid crisis in Colorado and why there's a need for harm reduction and syringe disposal. El Paso County does not currently have disposal resources available. The agenda will also cover harm reduction implementation. Judy Solano will speak about naloxone and the importance of family support for those individuals struggling with substance use disorders. Three other speakers will address the need for medication assisted treatment, including Scott McFadden, chair of the CPAR Recovery Work Group, Dr. Sean Fogerty, and Dr. Mike Nerenberg. Scott will speak about his own personal experience with addiction and MAT. Physicians Fogerty and Nerenberg will address MAT. The final topic will include syringe access programs within local health departments, similar to the Jefferson County model. Chris Hanley will be speaking about the Jefferson County program. Invitations will be targeted rather than widely distributed. The invitations will be sent to state legislators, county commissioners, and other major stakeholders.

Weld County is planning a stand-alone event some time in June. They have an opioid coalition planning meeting scheduled in early April. The Harm Reduction Work Group will be assisting with the June event.

Jessica Eaddy said that Region 13 (Fremont, Custer, and Lake counties) has just established a harm reduction work group within their coalition and may be interested in hosting a similar event in the future. A harm reduction awareness event is being planned in the town of Las Animas, which will cover Bent, Prowers, Crowley, and Otero counties. A conference could be scheduled in the future once law enforcement in those counties is on board with the use of Narcan. There may be some interest in Mesa County if they are successful in overcoming current stigma and are able to obtain Narcan for their public library.

Trisha Bush, with the Center for Mental Health in Montrose, said they are opening a crisis walk-in center on April 1st and asked about training resources for the new nurses and naloxone providers who will be staffing the center. The center will focus on withdrawal management and crisis stabilization. Jessica Eaddy covers the Montrose area and said she would get in touch with Trisha to offer support for training and other educational activities. Cassidy Foster also offered to assist with naloxone training in Montrose.

Public Relations Effort:

Susanna Cooper provided the following updates regarding the public awareness efforts related to naloxone. Eleven vendors responded to an RFP. Selection has been narrowed to four vendors. Susanna expects that a choice of vendor will be made within the week. Susanna said they would be seeking work group members to participate in a planning committee and/or provide input regarding work products they plan to develop. Products include videos with personal testimonials, a dedicated website, statewide media buys (TV and radio), and social media outreach. Many of the activities will be coordinated with Overdose Awareness Day in August. Updates will be provided at future work group meetings.

Community Outreach/Overdose Prevention Activities:

Jessica Eaddy reported conducting 18 Narcan training sessions between March 1, 2018 and January 31, 2019. "Train the Trainer" sessions included Chief Brandt. Jessica would like to conduct additional training and asked work group members to let her know if they have any county-level law enforcement connections.

Pueblo AmeriCorps member Tracy Cruz has participated in local health fairs, which has included dissemination of Narcan brochures and raising public awareness through personal testimonials.

Since January, Seth Johnson has conducted training in Evergreen, an integrated health clinic in Littleton, and also spoke to nursing students at the Denver College of Nursing. The college presentation included participants from a recovery group. He also conducted an open community event at the Arvada Library. He said the Jefferson County Library system would like to have Narcan in their libraries, but are encountering some resistance. He is planning another event at the Lakewood Library and the Jeffco court. Seth has obtained kits through funding provided to Jefferson County Public Health and kits provided by the Signal Behavioral Network.

Jamie Feld reported that she and Susanna conducted training for approximately 15 Colorado federal agents, who function under the Office of the Surgeon General.

Cassidy Foster conducted eight naloxone training sessions for CMAs and personal care providers. She is working with Western Colorado AHEC. She has a provider training session scheduled for April 23rd at a Montrose clinic. She had planned to schedule training for county parole officers in Montrose, but was recently told that the officers are not allowed to carry naloxone at this time. County libraries are also working on a program to carry naloxone. Cassidy has been in contact with the Grand Junction Fire Department regarding possible training.

Jessica mentioned the 16th Judicial District sent her an email indicating that some of the probation officers in their district are not comfortable carrying naloxone and have expressed their concerns to the chief judge in the district. Both she and Chief Brandt are following up on this development.

State Funding for Naloxone Distribution:

Gina Olberding reviewed state funding for naloxone distribution to law enforcement, first responders, and statewide MSOs. Funding is provided by SAMHSA through the Office of Behavioral Health. Funds are disbursed through the STR and SOR grants. To date, 14,000 naloxone kits have been distributed to law enforcement, harm reduction and prevention organizations, and treatment providers throughout the state.

Consortium Website Links:

Chris said he would like to include additional links to other harm reduction organizations in the Consortium's website resource section. Chris ask members to let him know if they can suggest interns who may be able to assist with this project. Gina mentioned that Julia Rawlings and Kathy Jarvis might have suggestions. Jamie Feld said that CDPHE also has a listing of syringe access programs and that the existing brochure is not up to date.

Other Work Group Member Updates:

Susanna provided an update for Katie Olson. Katie is implementing a naloxone "secret shopper program" in collaboration with the Consortium and AmeriCorps. This program will focus on pharmacies in the state (excluding hospital-affiliated and compounding pharmacies). The program involves phoning pharmacies to determine their naloxone stock level and type and staff attitudes towards stocking naloxone. The phone calls will be one to two minutes in length. Cori Wells is in the process of developing the phone script, which will be reviewed by the work group. It is hoped that enough work group members will agree to participate so that the entire state can be surveyed. Findings could be reported in future conferences. Katie will also be updating the language of standing orders. Pharmacy student and work group member Christa Olson volunteered to assist with the language update.

Susanna indicated that the Consortium has developed a one-page information flyer regarding naloxone standing orders that will be distributed to all King Soopers pharmacies with the assistance of Kim Ward. Susanna said the flyer is also available to work group and AmeriCorps members to disseminate to pharmacies in their geographic areas. The Colorado Pharmacists Society has also expressed interest in disseminating the flyers to their network. Tracy Cruz said she would be willing to distribute the flyer to pharmacies in the Pueblo area.

Rachael McLaughlin of Rocky Mountain Crisis Center recently conducted harm reduction training with their staff members. They are also interested in being kept up to date with any community events that might benefit staff and community members in general.

The Affected Families & Friends will be showcasing their video stories at a campus event on April 10th. The event information was emailed to all Consortium members on March 11th.

Adjournment/Next Meeting:

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 14th from 1–2 p.m. in SSPPS Room 3001 and by GoToMeeting.