

## Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention

### Safe Disposal Work Group Meeting Minutes

May 14, 2019 – School of Pharmacy & by Teleconference

#### **Present:**

Sunny Linnebur, Co-chair, University of Colorado School of Pharmacy

Greg Fabisiak, Co-chair, CDPHE

Beverly Hanstrom, Colorado Medical Waste

Madison Chambers, AmeriCorps

Cassidy Foster, AmeriCorps

Tiffany Paisley

Consortium: Jose Esquibel, Susanna Cooper, Tyler Payne, Jessica Eaddy, Jamie Feld, Judy Solano, Rosemarie MacDowell

#### **Absent:**

Kathryn Stewart, CDPHE; Alan Miller, Omnicare; Karen Price, Good Day Pharmacy; Kelli Metz, UC Denver; Doc Nyiro, Waste Management of Colorado; Jeff Harnsberger, Genoa; Daniel Goetz, CDPHE; John Bender, MD, Colorado Medical Society; Kathryn Stewart, CDPHE; Scott Sickafoose, Arapahoe County Sheriff; Joe Frank, MD, University of Colorado School of Medicine; Selin Hoboy, Stericycle, Inc.; Terry Brenton, Stericycle, Inc.; Jeff Woodhouse, Pharmaceutical Research & Manufacturers of America; Katie Sullivan, PhD Student, University of Colorado School of Pharmacy; Al Garcia, USEPA, Region 8; Jace Driver, CDPHE; Erin Baurle, Jefferson Center for Mental Health; Sarah Swan, BMS; Kavitha Kailasam, Rise Above Colorado; Randy Knutsen, University of Colorado School of Pharmacy; Debbie Trever, Boulder County; Craig McCarty, MD; Alyssa Moore, RN; Laurrie Lorenzo, Pharmacy Student; Grady Harlow, RMHIDTA; Rob Valuck, University of Colorado School of Pharmacy; Lindsey Kato, Consortium; Quig Li, Epidemiologist; Zach Urban, Wheat Ridge City Council; Alice Casey, Pickens Technical College; Ashley Hill, Region 17 Health Connector; Matthew Hess, Colorado AHEC Program Office; Erin Ferries, Humana; Mary Steiner, Community Health Partnership; David Ternus, Walgreens; Erika Alexander, Genoa Healthcare; Jen Place, Consortium; Trisha Bush, The Center for Mental Health; LeeAnn White, Telligen; Gina Olberding, Consortium; Rebekah Armstrong, AmeriCorps; Seth Johnson, AmeriCorps; Michael Davidson, Consortium; Denna UliBarri-Crespin, AmeriCorps; Jane Davis, AmeriCorps; Alexandra Simunaci, AmeriCorps; Tracy Cruz, AmeriCorps

Co-Chair Greg Fabisiak called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

A motion was made to approve the March 2019 meeting minutes. Motion passed.

#### **Take-Back Program Update:**

There was a spike in the number of pounds of medications collected by the state-funded program during the month of April. 3,721 pounds of medications were collected, approximately 400 pounds more than

the month of March, a previous record. Publicity from the DEA collection event may have contributed to this increase. The April figure does not yet include the 15 new Kaiser Permanente locations. Their start-up is still pending. Kaiser collected 20,000 pounds of medications through their own program in 2018.

Greg reported that other recently added locations include Estes Park, Fruita, Fraser/Winter Park Police Department, Rio Grande County Sheriff in Del Norte, Cripple Creek, and Dacono Police Departments (60 total counties). Mineral, Huerfano, Dolores, and Kiowa counties are not yet part of the program.

Jose Esquibel asked Judy Solano to follow up with Star Drugs in Huerfano County. The Huerfano County sheriff's office could be another option.

Current state funding may support up to 200 take-back locations.

The 2016 "how to" video for collectors is in the process of being updated by Webb Strategic. The updated video will include additional information about state recordkeeping requirements.

#### **April 27<sup>th</sup> DEA National Take-Back Event Results:**

15,099 pounds of medications were collected, which is an average amount. 59 locations participated, including federal facility collections. DEA collection sites are down from close to 100 to approximately 60. Part of this decrease may be due to the state program and the fact that DEA now requires drugs to be delivered to Denver. Sunny Linnebur mentioned that campus police participating in the DEA take-back were prevented from collecting Epi Pens and inhalers, which could have presented a possible barrier.

It is expected that the DEA will conduct another nationwide take-back event in the fall. Jose Esquibel said that the Rx Abuse Leadership Initiative supported the state and DEA effort by airing an ad featuring a legislator. Jose said he would try to locate a link to the ad.

#### **Heather Gardens Mobile Take-Back Event:**

Sunny Linnebur reported on this student-lead project, which was a great success. Heather Gardens advertised the take-back event in their newsletters, and they also posted signs. Heather Gardens has about 4,000 residents. In the future, TakeMedsBack materials (and a flyer) could be used to advertise take-back events. Campus police partnered with the Aurora Police Department for this event. The mobile take-back unit was located at the Heather Gardens picnic pavilion just outside the clubhouse. 142 pounds of medications were collected in a two-hour period from 9 – 11 a.m. on April 25<sup>th</sup>. Epi pens and inhalers were collected along with medications. Sharps were not accepted; therefore few people had them for disposal. Students sorted and removed label identification. A separate box was set aside for Epi pens and inhalers. In comparison, the campus police only collected 95 pounds of medications in four hours during a DEA take-back. Collected medications were then taken to the DEA take-back location for disposal. This pilot program's success indicates that outreach to other senior centers would be worth the effort. Events of this type could also tie in with the public awareness campaign for older

**Commented [FG1]:** Sunny or Rosemarie – Can you add the date of the event? I don't recall when it was held.

adults. Jose said he would follow up with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department regarding the potential for a take-back in their county.

Potential sharps disposal options were discussed. Beverly Hastrom indicated that they have 20 and 30 gallon containers for sharps disposal. The containers cost \$50 for the 20 gallon container and \$65 for the 30 gallon container. She said that Colorado Medical Waste could provide the containers and collect the discarded sharps at any police station or sponsored facility. Jose said he would follow up with legislators Pettersen or Kennedy.

Beverly reported that Denver recently installed four public sharps disposal kiosks within 1.4 miles of downtown Denver: 15<sup>th</sup> and Cleveland, 12<sup>th</sup> and Mariposa, 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue near Logan, and one at 19<sup>th</sup> and Morris. Colorado Medical Waste will be servicing the kiosks on a monthly basis. She also recently met with the Lakewood Police Department. They plan to install a kiosk within the next few months.

#### **Senate Bill 19-227:**

The Harm Reduction bill calls for the expansion of the medication take-back program to include sharps collection and disposal. Funding for implementation will become available on July 1, 2020. There is also FTE funding allocated in the upcoming fiscal year 2019-2020, which will allow for stakeholder meetings related to the required rules and regulations amendments for sharps collection and disposal. A briefing will likely be held before the Solid and Hazardous Waste Commission some time in the fall, followed by rulemaking to formally adopt program changes.

Link for updated SB 19-227 information: <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb19-227>

Greg raised a question regarding expired naloxone disposal. Jose indicated that additional funding has been allocated to OpiRescue by the Attorney General's office to track naloxone supplies and expiration dates. Within three months of the expiration date, law enforcement will be notified to donate the expiring naloxone to a local harm reduction agency. That agency would then either use the supply or be responsible for the proper disposal upon expiration. Jessie Eaddy mentioned that a recent study indicated that naloxone does not actually lose its effectiveness after two years; however, law enforcement and other agencies are required to adhere to the two-year expiration date at this time. Jessica will email a copy of the study to Jose and Sunny.

#### **2019 Work Group Goals:**

One of the work group goals reviewed by Tyler Payne includes establishing disposal options for home-generated sharps. This program is still pending approval of OBH funding. Tyler will follow up on the funding status with OBH. He also reviewed the status of other work group goals, including permanent collection box locations in cities with a population exceeding 1,000 and pounds of medications collected to date in the state-run program.

Jose mentioned that funding expected for public awareness activities could include take-back programs. Rally might also be willing to fund public awareness materials.

**Other Items:**

Jessica Eaddy has scheduled a meeting on June 6<sup>th</sup> with Mineral County. She will report on this meeting at the next work group meeting.

Jose said the Interim Study Committee is expecting a progress report, which could provide an opportunity to discuss future projects such as contractor disposal options. Jose mentioned the Nevada incinerator purchase and suggested that he and Greg discuss this further. Beverly said she is interested in learning more about the Nevada program as well, particularly as relates to the sharps mail-back option.

**Adjournment/Next Meeting:**

The meeting adjourned at 11:13 a.m. The date of the July work group meeting may change. An update will be emailed to work group members as soon as a new date is selected.