



Opiate Task Force Meeting Minutes

December 13, 2018

In Attendance: *Amy Foley, Angie Livesay, Beth Bullock, Bill Stearns, Carolyn Lenhardt, Gretchen Behimer, Heather Cokl, Jamie Buckley, Jeff Sellars, Julianne Nesbit, Karen Scherra, Kathleen Williams, Lee Ann Watson, Keith Robinson, Lori Watkins, Mary Wolff, Melissa Funke, Melissa Cole, Nick Kelly, Sonya Carrico, Tina Fischer, Tyra Scherer, Jerry Wittmeyer, Emily McAfee, Berta Velilla, Lindsey Aranyos, Sean Smith, Lori Combs, Dianna Fryman*

- I. Introduction and Review of Minutes** – *Lee Ann Watson and Capt. Jeff Sellars, OTF Co-Chair*
 - a. All in attendance introduced themselves. Minutes from September and October were approved without amendments.

- II. Discussion about Rise in Methamphetamine** – *Nick DeRose and Bryan Taylor, Clermont County Narcotics Unit, Clermont County Sheriff's Office*
 - a. Nick DeRose and Bryan Taylor with the Clermont County Narcotics Unit spoke about the increase in methamphetamine within the county and answered questions from members in attendance.
 - b. The Narcotics Unit has seized significantly more meth during 2018 than in past years. Primarily individuals are using meth or “ice” that comes from Mexico, not home labs like in the past. As a result meth is much cheaper to purchase than in the past, and the Narcotics Unit is seeing larger quantities (ounces as opposed to grams). Pharmaceutical drug arrests are up from the prior year as well, but heroin arrests have decreased. The increase in meth is a county-wide issue and not specific to one portion of the county over another.

- III. ACEs Subcommittee Kinship Survey Results and Update** – *Angie Livesay and Lori Watkins, ACEs Subcommittee*
 - a. Angie and Lori discussed the survey the ACEs Subcommittee developed to assess the needs of substitute/kinship caregivers in Clermont County. The survey is available online

at <https://bit.ly/2Qv0rpm> or you can obtain hard copies from Angie or Lori. Members were encouraged to share the survey flyer with their networks. The initial goal was to get 150 respondents, and 31 people have taken it so far. Lori reviewed the survey results summary with members in attendance. Members in attendance discussed ways to market the survey to reach more substitute caregivers. The survey flyer and a summary of the results are attached to the minutes.

IV. Subcommittee Updates –

- a. **Marketing** – Amy Foley reported the Marketing Subcommittee has been reviewing and updating the OTF website. She would like to create a page about meth and asked that anyone with educational information that may be appropriate to email her.
- b. **Harm Reduction** – Tyra Scherer provided a handout with a syringe services program update including data from the first six months of the program. She reported that the program served the most new clients to date during November (57 clients). CCPH also has information cards available with ways to prevent transmission and signs and symptoms of hepatitis A. Contact Tyra Scherer to obtain hepatitis A information cards.
- c. **Prevention** – Mary Wolff reported that 12 high school students received the “Pharming Effect” youth-led prevention training. She is also looking for adult allies to learn the program and asked that anyone interested contact her.
- d. **Advocacy** – Karen Scherra thanked everyone for their efforts in relation to Issue 1 and would like to keep the momentum by expanding the Advocacy Subcommittee and meeting on a more regular basis.

V. Task Force Member Updates –

- a. Jerry Wittmeyer started a Narcotics Anonymous meeting at Mercy Clermont Hospital in the Emergency Department conference room on Fridays at 7p.m.
- b. Karen Scherra reported that the withdrawal management/detox program with Mercy is now official thanks to funding from Ohio MHAS, and CCMHRB will pay for any services needed for eligible individuals. Individuals do not have to be referred through a treatment facility.

VI. Action Items and Review of Upcoming Meetings – Lee Ann Watson, OTF Co-Chair

- a. At the next meeting we will be discussing accomplishments from 2018 and reviewing goals for 2019. Members are welcome to email accomplishments from 2018 to Tyra Scherer prior to the meeting.
- b. The next OTF meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2019.