



## ***Opiate Task Force Meeting Minutes***

June 14, 2018

**In Attendance:** Lee Ann Watson, Alex Reuther, Amy Foley, Beth Bullock, Sue Madsen, Tara Jimison, Cheryl Erb, Anne Thomas, Cheryl Richards, Kori Hickman, Tyler Mitchell, Cathy Krieg, Tiffany Walters, Sean Smith, Jill Wallace Cooper, Jessica Johnson, Julianne Nesbit, Julie Frey, Karen Scherra, Kathleen Williams, Keith Robinson, Megan Barrett, Ed Humphrey, Erik Powell, Gretchen Behimer, Jackie Lindner, Jaime Lutson, James Petry, Jason Gloyd, Jeff Richards, Jeff Sellars, Nav Kang, Nan Cahall, Nick Kelly, Melissa Funke

- I. **Introduction and Review of Minutes** – *Lee Ann Watson and Capt. Jeff Sellars, OTF Co-Chairs*
  - a. All in attendance introduced themselves. Minutes from April 2018 were reviewed and approved without amendments.
  
- II. **Mercy Health – Review of Needs Assessment** – *Sr. Cheryl Erb, Mercy Health*
  - a. Sr. Cheryl Erb discussed the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) process for the hospital systems in the region. In an effort to collect information about health needs in Clermont County, a short survey was distributed to attendees for completion. Sr. Cheryl informed the group that these surveys had been marked to identify them as being completed by the OTF membership. Attendees were given about 10 minutes to take the survey, and completed surveys were collected at the end of the meeting. Sr. Cheryl expressed appreciation for the group's participation in this CHNA process.
  
- III. **Panel Discussion with Faith-Based Organizations** – *William Bockhorst, New Richmond Church of the Nazarene; Melissa Funk, Mosaic Church in Milford; Muriel Cunningham, Emmanuel United Methodist Church; and Brandon Little, Landmark Baptist Church and Safety Net Alliance*
  - a. A four-person panel presented information on the impacts of substance misuse within their congregation populations. Lee Ann Watson provided a list of questions to the panel to guide the discussion.

- b.** Pastor Bockhorst shared that they have been aware of the impact of the opioid crisis on their congregation for some time, and felt they should be proactive in their approach to offering assistance. Their church offers the Celebrate Recovery program, which is a family-oriented, 12 step program. This program intends to assist individuals to look at their hang-ups/hurts that caused their habits, and helps them to heal. Pastor Bockhorst also spoke about the work being done through the CASC program at the Clermont County Jail, which is generating positive results.
- c.** Melissa Funk with Mosaic Church also discussed the positive impact of the Celebrate Recovery program within their church, and in her personal life as well.
- d.** Muriel Cunningham from Emmanuel United Methodist Church shared that they were seeing a number of their church members who are grandparents now raising their grandchildren as a result of substance misuse in families. They initiated a program called F.A.C.E.S. which serves as a support group for individuals impacted by this issue. Their program will resume in the fall.
- e.** Brandon Little from landmark Baptist Church stated that their church has taken a slightly different approach, feeling it important to “stay in their lane” as a church, and have opted to assist members of their congregation with utilizing community resources, such as CRC/GCBH, etc.
- f.** The panel discussed the importance of knowing what resources are available within Clermont County, and identified several gaps/needs, which included transportation, and assistance with jobs and housing. Lee Ann provided the panel members with a packet of information on resources available through the OTF, including the resource guide, availability of naloxone through CRC and information on the OTF website. Beth Bullock also shared information about Reach for Tomorrow which can provide presentations to churches on topics such as addiction and human trafficking.
- g.** Communicating with faith-based groups was discussed. Churches may have groups based on denomination or proximity within a community. Barriers to communicating with churches were identified, including high turnover in the church leadership and churches operating within their own structure, which can make reaching them challenging. New Richmond has a community based group called NRAM (New Richmond Area Ministries) which works together in the community on events, and the River Valley network. Chief Sue Madsen of the Miami Township Police Department shared that there is a regular meeting with churches in the Milford/Miami Township area. Dr. Kang shared that the OTF treatment subcommittee will be discussing the intersection with faith-based, and how to breakdown silos to improve communication.
- h.** Several OTF members shared additional information: Nick Kelly, Pierce Township Trustee, discussed the important of primary prevention, and the need to work with children before issues start. Lee Ann stated that there are quality prevention programs for this purpose, but getting into schools to provide the programming can be challenging. Lee Ann also referenced the ACE’s subcommittee which has been started to begin looking at substance misuse impacts related to children and families. The

Director of the Crisis Line and the Mobile Crisis Unit discussed their ability to come to churches and offer training on how to deal with crisis situations. Captain Jeff Sellars discussed the positive impact of the QRT teams, and their ability to reach out to people in need. Captain Sellars was willing to take referrals from churches also.

**IV. Subcommittee Updates –**

- a. Marketing – Amy Foley, Chair;** Amy shared that a new Facebook live has been posted. She also offered business cards with information on the OTF website.
- b. Harm Reduction – Tyra Scherer, Chair;** No update was given at the meeting, but data was provided on the syringe services program in May 2018:
  - i. Individuals served: 26
  - ii. Syringes exchanged: 791
  - iii. Narcan doses distributed: 30
  - iv. Individuals tested for hepatitis C and HIV: 0
  - v. Pregnancy tests distributed: 5
- c. Treatment – Dr. Steve Feagins and Bill Stearns, Co-Chairs;** Dr. Nav Kang shared that the detox protocol has now been launched at four Mercy locations. He also shared that Jessica Johnson was the recipient of the Nursing Exemplar Community Award, which was presented to her at the last treatment subcommittee meeting.
- d. ACEs – Angie Livesay, Chair;** Lee Ann Watson shared that the group is currently working on community asset mapping.
- e. Advocacy – Karen Scherra, Chair;** Karen Scherra shared information on a new PSA: the opioids.thetruth.com campaign. Nan Cahall from Rob Portman’s office shared information on the STOP Act which is intended to prevent the shipping of fentanyl via the USPS. She also offered information on CARA grants, with a focus on treatment, recovery housing and MAT.

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

- a.** At the July meeting Tyra Scherer and Tara Jimison will present the Overdose Fatality Review of 2017 deaths.

**Next Meeting:**

July 12, 2018

2-3:30 pm

Clermont County Sheriff’s Office

**Topic:**

Overdose Fatality Review of 2017