



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

March 14, 2019

**In Attendance:** *Gretchen Behimer, Sean Blythe, William Bockhorst, Heather Cokl, Tina Fischer, Beth Hamad, Ed Humphrey, Jessica Johnson, Janice Jones, Melissa Kaetzel-Cole, Cathy Krieg, Jackie Lindner, Angela Livesay, Jaime Lutson, Kristy Mudd, Lisa Myers, David Painter, Sharon Richmond, Tyra Scherer, Karen Scherra, Jeff Sellars, Tracie Sellars, Bill Stearns, Lee Ann Watson, Amanda Penkova, Alicia Fine, Evangeline Devol, Nick Kelly*

- I. **Introduction and Review of Minutes** – *Lee Ann Watson, OTF Co-Chair*
  - a. All in attendance reviewed the minutes from February 2019, and the minutes were approved without amendments.
  
- II. **Review of 2018 Quick Response Teams (QRTs)** – *Jessica Johnson, Clermont Recovery Center Outreach Team*
  - a. QRTs meet individuals where they are following an overdose or charges for drug/alcohol-related offenses. The teams discuss treatment options and build rapport with individuals until they are ready for treatment. There are currently three QRTs in Clermont County: Union/Pierce Township, Milford/Miami Township, and the Clermont County Sheriff's Office which responds to referrals countywide.
  - b. A handout with QRT data from 2018 was provided to those in attendance. Please contact Jessica Johnson for a copy of the summary handout. A highlight that Jessica pointed out was that more than 800 people were referred to QRT in 2018, and in general the QRTs are able to reach 65% of the individuals.
  
- III. **Appreciation Week Updates** – *Karen Scherra, Clermont County Mental Health and Recovery Board*
  - a. Karen reported that the planning committee discussed having a large event and inviting the public (similar to the Call to Action held at UC Clermont several years ago), but due to a lack of time this was not feasible for this year's Appreciation Week. The committee will begin planning for the large event after this year's Appreciation Week, and then the OTF can reveal the new, broader name and have a Call to Action kick-off event at that time. Members in attendance agreed with the plan.
  - b. This year's Appreciation Week is April 29<sup>th</sup> – May 3<sup>rd</sup>. There will be a proclamation from the BCC to kick off the week.

- c. The planning committee is working on a Thank You video again this year. Jessica Johnson created a flyer asking for Thank You pictures and videos. Tyra Scherer will email the flyer to OTF members.
- d. The OTF meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup> will be held at Child Focus, and members are welcome to set up a table at the meeting with resources and information to share with one another. The meeting will be a celebration with refreshments, and State Senators and Representatives will be invited. Email Tyra Scherer by May 7<sup>th</sup> if you are interested in having a table set up for your agency during the meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup>.
- e. Plaques will be presented to law enforcement and fire/EMS agencies during the police and fire chief's meetings in May.
- f. OACBHA is asking for nominations for the CARES Awards which will be presented at the Ohio Opiate Conference in June. Karen and the planning committee would like OTF members to nominate people from Clermont County and submit the form to her by April 12<sup>th</sup>. The planning committee will review the nominations and submit to OACBHA. Tyra Scherer will email the form to OTF members.
- a. The state is providing \$1350 to CCMHRB to use for Appreciation Week activities. Lee Ann proposed using some of the OTF funds in support of the Appreciation Week activities. Bill Stearns motioned to provide up to \$650 of OTF funds toward Appreciation Week activities; seconded by Melissa Kaetzel- Cole; all present voted, "I," and the motion carried.

#### **IV. Subcommittee Updates**

- a. *Treatment:* Jessica Johnson reported that the Treatment Subcommittee reviewed the syringe services data from the previous month, and the services will continue for another year at the same location. She also reported she was able to facilitate a meeting between the Brown County QRT and Mercy's Mt. Orab ED. Alicia Fine reported that GCB closed on a women's recovery house that will eventually house seven women. David Painter noted that the men's recovery house in Pierce Township has been a success.
- b. *ACEs:* Angie Livesay reported there was no meeting this past month, but the subcommittee is putting together a toolkit for kinship care families. If anyone has resources that would be a good fit for inclusion in the toolkit, please email them to Angie.
- c. *Marketing:* Amy Foley reported the Marketing Subcommittee is mostly focused on Appreciation Week and planning activities at this time. Tyra Scherer and Kristy Mudd discussed medication safety on the monthly Facebook Live session.
- d. *Prevention:* Melissa Cole reported that the coalition is hoping to connect with the Reds Rookie League to do some prevention activities during the summer, and OSU Extension is working with 4H on prevention activities for the fair.
- e. *Advocacy:* Karen Scherra reported that the Governor's budget comes out tomorrow, and there will likely be money for addiction; however, she explained recently funding opportunities were only being awarded to tier 1 counties which could be problematic. Clermont County is no longer a tier 1 county since overdose deaths have declined in recent years.

**V. Member Updates**

- a. Sean Blythe reported that Pinnacle Treatment Services will be opening a new facility, Milford Treatment Center, in Milford this spring. He expressed interest in presenting about their services at the next OTF meeting.
- b. Karen Scherra reported that she attended an event hosted by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and the Southern Ohio Synod along with Tyra Scherer and Janie Steele. There were approximately 12 attendees to the Clermont County breakout session, who were eager to learn how they could get involved in helping others in their church community.
- c. William Bockhorst shared that he has had several churches reach out to him about getting involved as well.

**VI. Review of Upcoming Meetings – Lee Ann Watson, OTF Co-Chair**

- a. The next OTF meeting is scheduled for April 11, 2019.
- b. **The OTF meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup> will be held at the Child Focus Training Center located at 4633B Aicholtz Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45244.**