

Kenosha County Opioid Settlement Advisory Panel

Minutes – Tuesday, April 25, 2023, 1:30 p.m.

Committee Attendees: Kari Foss, Keri Pint, Guida Brown, Captain Katie Hall, Chief David Smetana, Lt. Joe Nosalik for Chief Patton, Sheriff David Zoerner, Rebecca Dutter, Mary Ouimet

Guests: Levi Stevenson, Sandile Nukuna, Dan Sanfelippo, Marcy Gilbertson, Lois Brandt, Jim Poltrock, Dr. Tom Kirages, Dr. Tom Grawey, Alex Berce, Ashley Taylor, Lisa Koenen

General Business

1. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. Each Committee member in attendance introduced themselves.
2. Citizen Comments
 - a. Jim Poltrock, Aurora, introduced a new pilot program that Aurora is introducing re Suboxone being prescribed for opioid use ER patients. Jim explained that some patients don't have insurance or other means for paying for the Suboxone and requested consideration for the use of settlement funds to provide a Suboxone voucher to these individuals. Because there was no data presented on the number of individuals who are unfunded, cost of the voucher, the investment required or the duration of the program, Kari and Ashley Taylor, Aurora SW, will work together with MAT providers to gather baseline data for assistance with decision-making for this request.
 - b. Lois Brandt, mother of a son who is living with Opioid use disorder, asked if there is research on the effectiveness of the services provided by this and other similar committee regarding best practices, evidence-based services, input from the recipients and if providers meet to determine if changes to programming/other resources are needed. She shared information about familiesagainstnarcotics.org out of MI as an example of successful community support. She is willing to volunteer for any sub-committee that may arise related to these topics. She also thanked Sheriff Zoerner for his involvement in providing educational opportunities on tablets to the inmates – her son successfully completed over 20 units and is planning on starting a non-profit following release.
3. Call for approval of minutes from March 28, 2023. Becky Dutter moved, Guida Brown second, minutes approved.
4. Drug Detection Device for LEA use – reports from Racine County indicate issues with combustion in the substances being tested with these devices. This committee will wait until final findings from Racine County are received before moving forward.
5. Xylazine Webinar Update – The slide deck from the webinar was distributed. Xylazine is not an opioid so does not respond to Narcan. Xylazine is being cut into illicit opioids because Xylazine prolongs the opioid high. When Narcan is administered to someone who ingests Opioid/Xylazine, the Narcan is effective for the Opioid and will allow breathing to resume but Xylazine is so strong that the person may not become conscience due to the presence of the Xylazine. A PSA related to this information will be released soon because inaccurate information (“there is a Narcan resistant opioid on the street”) is being floated.

Kari shared that 1500 lbs of unused meds were collected at DTBD. In addition, an individual who was Narcan trained at the County DTBD location used the Narcan later in the day and saved a life.
6. Data Collection and Management – KC BHS has a partnership commitment from KPH to share and analyze data that both orgs collect to centralize data and assist with targeted outreach. KC SAC/OTF is

pulling together a committee to centralize data to be effective. Cost is exorbitant; there is a need to start with centralizing what we and partners already have and continue to move forward.

7. Q1 Review – information is available in handout. The recommendation from the panel for an Outreach Education Coordinator and supporting curriculum to provide prevention education to high schools is on the County Exec’s desk to be brought to the County Board in May with the projection that the position is filled by end of summer for the upcoming academic year.
8. Discussion regarding May Meeting Topics – Baseline data from Kari/Ashley on the Suboxone program to be presented. Any other items may be emailed to Kari Foss.
9. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn made by Guida Brown, second by Sheriff Zoerner. Meeting was adjourned at 2:27 p.m.