

# Kenosha County Opioid Settlement Advisory Panel

Minutes – Tuesday, May 30, 2023, 1:30 p.m.

Committee Attendees: Kari Foss, Mary Ouimet, Rebecca Dutter, Keri Pint, Chief David Smetana, Sheriff David Zoerner, Chief Katie Hall, Chief Patrick Patton, Guida Brown

Guests: Lt. Joe Nosalik, Marcy Gilbertson, John Janson, Lois Brandt, DeeDee Martinson, Krista Tappa, Lori Plahmer, Levi Stevenson, 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 – DeeDee Martinson shared info about a website, *naturalhigh.org*, that has educational information for parents and teachers. It includes information on Fentanyl, fake pills and emojis used for various illicit drug and drug use. Printed info from the site will be included in the minutes.
3. Review of minutes – From April 25, 2023; Chief Smetana moved to accept, Keri Pint seconded, minutes approved.
4. Update on recommendation to County Executive – Recommendation has gone through Finance committee, next week will go to Human Services committee, then to full board – info will be available at the next meeting.
5. Data Collection and Management – Levi reported on centralizing data into one location; attempting to gather info from KCBHS, KCPH and Jennifer Madore-Planning/Eval Coordinator into a digital form, allowing for easy access and analysis. Individuals from the KC SAC/OTF Coalition have offered to participate as well. Want to analyze and track data compared to outreach – what is happening, where outreach is occurring and is it a good match. Data comes from service contracts, ME office, State, various agencies and more. Need to analyze how it affects KC, zip codes within KC and those being served in intake programs. Data is not received in real time, sometimes as long as 6 to 8 months after the fact. Want substance use data to serve our community more effectively. It's an ongoing process. Any efforts that the committee can put toward this effort is greatly appreciated.

Overdose info comes from the ME Office but is often delayed due to lab work; survivor info is very helpful to know; real time data can lead to better decision-making. We started a data management subcommittee through the KCSAC/OTF Coalition because we don't always know what to ask for because we don't know what people are managing. We don't have all jurisdictions and the info we get isn't in real-time. We are in the beginning phases of learning what are the key pts, finding out what is being collected, what we have access to and then we can tailor the collection to what we need. Reach out to Levi if you or someone in your org is interested in helping.

6. Local MAT Program Overview – Last month, Aurora Emergency shared info on a new MAT program in their Emergency Dept. and requested voucher assistance. CleanSlate, Westgrove, ASAP, KCPH, Aurora ED and KCBHS met to discuss MAT services, providing this report:
  - CleanSlate – MAT started in 1 to 2 days, MAT services but no methadone, medication starts before therapy
  - Westgrove – 1 to 2 week wait, psychiatric meds and MAT with no methadone, starts meds first
  - ASAP – same day treatment, MAT, setting up vivitrol program, starts meds first

Public transport is singlehandedly the biggest barrier to accessing treatment. Medicaid transport is unreliable at this point. There are significant wait times for residential substance use and peer support specialists are greatly needed.

There are people willing to fill the peer support void but the lottery certification is the greatest barrier. Keri reported that the County can fund the training for individuals but doesn't know the cost. Kenya Bright is the State contact for training.

Many ERs in Milwaukee as well as in Green Bay are prescribing Suboxone. Info was given to Aurora SW Ashley to connect with these other ERs for support and assistance with the Aurora program.

Lack of insurance was found to *not* be a barrier. CleanSlate has a hardship program if you are uninsured so you can get access to their program. Moving forward there will be monthly meetings at/with MAT providers so everyone is aware of what's going on and individuals have accessibility. All MAT providers have been invited to join the panel.

A new provider, *Acadia*, will provide a mobile OTC (Opioid Treatment Center) along with a brick-and-mortar center. The RV will park by the brick-and-mortar location and can provide methadone, vivitrol, naltrexone, suboxone.

There is interest in getting more info about sponsoring peer support certification for KC individuals since peer support is very effective in bridging the gaps where there is a lack of mental health providers and the lengthy waiting list (6 to 9 months) to get into therapy.

Next update: determine the number of open peer support specialists in both substance abuse and mental health, what's the cost to bring training to KC to fill these positions and the opportunities we're missing due to the lack of peer support specialists.

Additional last-minute topic – Kari announced that she is sharing the report, *Silent Killer, the Fentanyl Epidemic in WI*, which was released this morning, please review.

7. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn made by Guida Brown, second by Chief Smetana. Meeting was adjourned at 2:23 p.m.