

# Kenosha County Opioid Settlement Advisory Panel

Minutes – Tuesday, June 27, 2023, 1:30 p.m.

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

Guests: Marcy Gilbertson, Krista Tappa, Lori Plahmer, Sandile Nukuna, Dan Sanfelippo, Levi Stevenson, Lisa Koenen

## General Business

1. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 1:33 p.m.
2. Citizen Comments – None.
3. Review of minutes – From May 30, 2023; Rebecca Dutter moved to accept, Chief Hall seconded, minutes approved.
4. Update on Recommendation to County Executive – Recommendation has gone through all committees and was approved by the County Board; job posting went live on Monday, 6/26/23, closes on 6/30/23. Interviews will occur next week with the position starting shortly thereafter. Grant writing was included in the job requirements so the position can be sustainable as well as expand.
5. Data Collection and Management – Levi reported on the centralizing data project; attempting to gather info from KCBHS, KCPH and Jennifer Madore-Planning/Eval Coordinator, into digital form allowing for easy access and analysis. Individuals involved are Judy May, ASAP; Dana Mehring, CleanState; Mary Beier, JCI. Law enforcement is invited to join. Levi has received data from the Sheriff's Dept. re incarceration demographics: age, gender, race. Chief Patton mentioned KPD (and two of the four major agencies) shares info with Joint Services and perhaps JS can connect with Levi/Dan to share data. This is one of the largest undertakings that KCBHS has tried to coordinate. July 25 is the next meeting re the data collection project.

Info from MAT meeting indicates that peer support provides improved outcomes, however there is a lack of KC peer support specialists (PPS) due to the State's lottery system for peer support training. The barrier KC faces is the inability of applicants to make it through the lottery system. KC can offer the WI DHS virtual training at a cost of \$13,500 for a maximum of 18 participants. It may be possible to charge agencies that hire the certified specialist to cover the cost of the person's training. Keri Pint indicated the virtual training is 3 (or 4 nights)/week for 4 weeks for a total of 46 hours. Following training, the individual is eligible to take the state exam for certification with renewal every 2 years along with continuing education. It appears that there are easily 18 PSS needed. Keri shared the programs/agencies needing PSS include treatment court, KORl, Oakwood, jails, Hope Council, KHDS, Bridges, CCS, among others.

Motion made by Chief Hall: "Provide a recommendation to the County Executive to spend \$13,500 of the Opioid Settlement dollars to host a Kenosha County certified peer specialist training." Second by Sheriff Zoerner. Motion passed unanimously.

Keri stated that there has been a commitment to peer support for years and shared that data indicates access to treatment increased by 270% for people who seek treatment by starting with peer support first.

6. Q2 and Q3 calendar, community recommendations – the panel has collected info on drug overdoses, the demographics on those overdoses, how substance abuse residential looks in our community, how MAT looks and engaged interest in Peer Support Specialists. This is our baseline data. The panel has heard community recommendations. Meetings will continue to be held on the fourth Tuesday of every other month – August will be in the evening (6:30 p.m.), Twin Lakes Village Hall. Will consider a dedicated email address for the Opioid Settlement Panel available from the panel webpage. Consider a virtual option for the December meeting.
7. Q2 summary – Kari will submit a summary via email in the next two weeks for your feedback before it's submitted to Human Services Committee.

As of 6/27/23, there are 57 confirmed toxicity deaths for 2022 with 6 pending, will likely surpass the highest number ever. PR going out re this info will call out the outreach events through the end of August, Narcan hotline availability, MHSA Resource Center and Crisis line. This info will be available on the panel webpage, BHS FB, and through the Joe Potente press release.

8. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn made by Chief Hall, second by Chief Patton. Meeting was adjourned at 2:14 p.m.