CECIL COUNTY DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE COUNCIL

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CECIL COUNTY DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE COUNCIL MEETING
December 12, 2012

Meeting Location: Cecil County Health Department, Auditorium

In Attendance: John Bennett, Kevin Massey, Robin Waddell , Michael Massuli, Ken Collins, Diana Broomell, Step Mika, Walt Rozanski, Earl Bradford, Nicole Meekins, Jack Foreaker, Linda Shroyer, Dorothyanne LeFore, Amanda Puckett, Gerald Widdoes, Ken Russell, Becky Arbogast, Amy Shives, Shelly Gulledge, Theresa Hampton, Sean Burke, Jean Marie Donahoo, Richette Ragland, David Mahoney, Elaine Barclay, Cathie Lammy, Alicia O'Connor

Call to Order: John Bennett called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM

PRESENTATIONS & DISCUSSION:

Delaware's Efforts to Reduce Addiction, and Doctor Shopping - Jonathan (Kevin) Massey, Public Health Treatment Program Administrator, State of Delaware
- Walt Rozanski introduced Kevin Massey. Mr. Massey reported on Delaware's efforts to address prescription drug abuse. Mr. Massey reported that prior to February 2012, positive efforts were implemented in Delaware but there was recognition of need for more coordination.
- Delaware Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) was implemented in August 2012, to reduce misuse of controlled substances and promote improved professional practice and patient care.
- The system primarily prevents "doctor shopping" by allowing medical practitioners and pharmacist to use the database to review patients' controlled substance prescription histories to ensure there is a legitimate need for the medication.
- [Practitioners are required to check the PMP if there is a reasonable belief that a patient may be seeking a controlled substance for other than the treatment of an existing medical condition. The provider must check the PMP before writing a prescription in those instances.] Otherwise, practitioners are not required to check/report to the PMP.
- Patents for Oxycontin are expiring; therefore, the older generic type which can be crushed is expected to return to the market.
- Support for prevention initiatives and additional collaboration with community coalitions encouraged. Additionally, access to substance abuse treatment identified as critical.
- Mr. Massey invited DAAC members to a public meeting of the Delaware Prescription Drug Action Committee, (December 17th, 4:00-6:00 p.m., 900 Prides Crossing, Newark).

Update and Discussion on Problem Gambling - Carl Robertson, Prevention Program Manager, Maryland Center of Excellence on Problem Gambling
- [The University of Maryland School of Medicine was awarded a three-year contract from the DHMH/ADAA. The University and the Maryland Council on Problem Gambling formed a public/private partnership to bring together credentialed experts in the treatment, training, education and prevention of problem gambling in Maryland.] The Maryland Center of

Excellence on Problem Gambling addresses problem gambling in Maryland by offering: free and confidential 24-hour helpline (1-800-522-4700); training and development; evaluation and research; prevention and awareness education.
- Problem gambling is any gambling, betting or wagering that causes family, financial, legal, emotional or other problems for the gambler, their family or others. Gambling problems can be mild or quite severe and can worsen over time.
- Based on Maryland Baseline Survey 2010, the prevalence of problem/pathological gamblers in Maryland is 3.4 %, (154,400 adults). Youth (problem/pathological) gambling prevalence estimated at 4 to 6 %.
- Discussion on similarities / comparison of pathological gambling and substance abuse.
- Encouraged use of problem gambling screening instruments.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE CAUSE (ANNOUNCEMENTS):

David Mahoney – Cecil County Office of Housing & Community Development
- Spoke regarding recent changes in the Veterans Affairs Supported Housing (VASH) rental assistance program, and the Housing First for Homeless Veterans program.
- David advised Council that respective changes would disincentive fighting addiction and would create negative drug environments in housing complexes.   David also advised Council that landlords felt betrayed by the proposed VASH program as it would ultimately create a hardship for them.
- Discussion/questions from Council members on potential benefits of the First Housing model were presented.
- At the end of our discussion, Chairman-John Bennett stated that individual programs with concerns regarding implementation on Housing First for Homeless Veterans could send a letter to elected officials. Mr. Mahaney subsequently offered to share a draft letter and respective mailing addresses for elected officials, and requested copies of letters submitted.

Step Mica – Maryland Strategic Prevention Framework
- All parts of the grant of the Maryland Strategic Plan were submitted. Approvals expected before end of December.

Elaine Barclay – Haven House
- Discussed the Cecil County 5K-Twelve Step Recovery Walk for 2013. Announced that the 2012 event was a tremendous success. Elaine asked the DAAC members to e-mail her suggestions/ideas for next year.
- Ken Collins also expressed appreciation to the numerous community members who attended the Recovery Walk, and for the efforts of the members of the Walk committee including: Elaine, Jack Foreaker, Janis Shields, Dorothy LeFore, Tonia McMillan, Alicia O'Connor, AnnMarrie Hamilton, Jessie Zebold, Theresa Hampton, Doug Moore, and several others.

Ken Collins – Alcohol and Drug Recovery Center, Cecil County Health Department
- Due to time constraints, the DAAC was unable to review and approve the DAAC September meeting minutes. Requested that any suggestions for corrections/changes be forwarded to Alicia O'Connor within the next seven days. Revised meeting minutes will subsequently be distributed, along with PDF versions of December 12th presentations by Messrs. Massey and Robertson.

Next Meeting: March 13, 2013, Location TBD; (invited offers to host March meeting).

Adjourned: 4:50 pm

Submitted by Alicia O'Connor