



**CECIL COUNTY DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES FOR March 26, 2015**

Meeting Location: Cecil County Health Department, 401 Bow Street, Elkton

Members In Attendance: Scott Adams, John Bennett, Sean Cannon, Ken Collins, Joseph Fisona, Jack Foreaker, Stephanie Garrity, Tyra Kenly, Tom Klenk, Rebecca Larson, Sheri Lazarus, Donna Lewis, Mike Massuli, Nancy Turner

Others In Attendance: Elaine Barclay, Toneiya Benson, Diana Broomell, Daniel Coulter, Mark DeBussy, Burton Dickerson, Christy Ferguson, April Foster, Joshua Grollmes, Leah Heyel, Laurie Humphries, Shaelun Jackson, Steve Kendrick, Becky Kierznowski, Rod Kornrumpf, J. Webb McPherson, Step Mika, Stephanie Palko, Gwen Parrack, June Reasin, Marianne Redding, Johnny Roache, Randy Rudy, Jenny Shields, George Stanko, Karl Webner, Shawn Wister, Dr. Jim Zuccardi

Call to Order: John Bennett called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

REPORTS:

Chairperson John Bennett provided an overview of the recently adopted Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council By-laws. Section 2.1 states the purpose of the DAAC, as identified in the Maryland Code, is to advise the County Board of Health on issues related to substance abuse in Cecil County. The DAAC is not a policy-making body, an oversight committee, rule-making authority, or quasi-judicial commission. The DAAC is an advisory council whose purpose is to submit a local plan in July 2015 and every two years thereafter.

Mr. Bennett reminded everyone that council members may ask questions during the meeting; others in attendance would be limited to three minutes per person during the Public Comment period. Citizens will not be permitted to question speakers at this time, but that may change during future meetings.

Chairperson’s Report, John Bennett:

DAAC has the opportunity to take a position in support of initiatives and programs. Three such initiatives are up for review. The first is a request from the Recovery Centers of America for a letter of support regarding their proposal to put a detoxification and rehabilitation center in Earleville.

The second opportunity is the announcement by the County Executive of our new budget. It gives the council the opportunity to speak to whatever new programs the County Executive is proposing.

Healthy People. Healthy Community. Healthy Future.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES . . . . .	.410-996-5550	ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES . . . . .	.410-996-5160
ALCOHOL & DRUG RECOVERY CENTER . . . . .	.410-996-5106	HEALTH PROMOTION . . . . .	.410-996-5168
OFFICE OF EPIDEMIOLOGY & EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS . . . . .	.410-996-5113	SPECIAL POPULATIONS MENTAL HEALTH C.S.A. . . . .	.410-996-5112
COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES . . . . .	.410-996-5130	TTY USERS FOR DISABLED: MARYLAND RELAY . . . . .	.800-201-7165
DISEASE CONTROL . . . . .	.410-996-5100	EN ESPAÑOL . . . . .	.410-996-5550 EXT. 4680

The third opportunity is to make comments in support of, and make suggestions to, the Heroin and Opioid Task Force.

The council may or may not take a position on one, two, or all three of the above initiatives. If it is decided that the council wants to take a position, we would solicit a vote from all voting members. The issue will be brought up again during the "For The Good of the Cause" section of the meeting.

Second item on the Chairperson's committee report, as per the new By-Laws, is a requirement to elect officers every two years. There are three officer positions available: chairperson, vice-chairperson and treasurer. The Secretary, Mr. Ken Collins, is a designee of the Health Officer. As such, he is not electable. The Health Officer may retain him or designate someone else.

John suggested that DAAC appoint a nominating committee to fill those positions.

County Health Officer Report, Stephanie Garrity:

The Board of Health is comprised of the County Executive, the County Health Officer and the County Council. The Board of Health meets twice per year to discuss public health issues of interest in Cecil County. The next meeting will be held on 4/28/15 from 9:00am to 10:00am. There will be a report from Salisbury University Beacon Institute on the economic cost of alcohol and illicit drug use on the Eastern Shore. This report was initiated by Talbot County and the other eight jurisdictions on the Eastern Shore. The report breaks out the economic data by jurisdiction and the people from Salisbury University will be presenting the specific results for Cecil County, as well as their methodology. Stephanie encouraged all the members from DAAC and the audience to attend.

PRESENTATIONS:

Cecil County Health Department Prevention, Treatment and Recovery Support Budget FY 2015 - Laurie Humphries, Director, Division of Administrative Services, Cecil County Health Department:

Distributed a spreadsheet on the funding that Cecil County Health Department receives relative to substance abuse issues. Reviewed funding details. Reported that the majority of funding received by CCHD is restricted for specific services, with minimal discretion on how those funds are spent. Certain funding will not continue past FY15.

Update on Short-term Residential Crisis Center, by Rod Kornrumpf, FACHE, Regional Executive Director-Behavioral Health, Union Hospital of Cecil County, UM Upper Chesapeake Health System:

Provided a progress update on the planning for a Short-term Residential Crisis Center. The work group is in the planning phase of what will be a short-term acute stabilization center which hopes to reduce visits to EDs. The program will include three tracks: MH services, substance abuse services, and co-occurring crisis stabilization. Funding for this type of center will require support from various sources.

Update on Oxford House – Johnny Roache, Delaware State Coordinator for Oxford House

There are currently 46 Oxford Sober Houses in Maryland, with one in Elkton. Funding available to open four additional Oxford Houses in the area. Subsequent to initial startup, each Oxford house becomes self sufficient. The homes are peer group run with zero tolerance for alcohol and drug use, and participants report an average length of sobriety of 12 months. The average length of stay is five months. An 80% recovery rate is reported. Oxford houses were identified as good neighbors in the community.

Update on the Cecil County Sheriff's Office, by Scott Adams, Cecil County Sheriff:

Sheriff Adams provided an overview of Cecil County Sheriff's Department efforts. He talked about the Division of Enforcement, which includes the Patrol Division, the Street Level Crimes Unit, and the Drug Task Force. The Sheriff discussed prevention efforts including the School Resource Unit, D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education), parent awareness presentations, community event presentations, and public service announcements. In reference to treatment and recovery support, the Sheriff discussed programs within the detention center including AA/NA meetings, addiction treatment and the addictions recovery classes, as well as efforts to support the drug court program. The Sheriff also spoke of efforts to develop a Vivitrol program for inmates upon release from detention, and the establishment of a drug take-back with the Cecil County Sheriff's office.

Update on the MSPF, by Step Mika, MSPF Chairman:

Step Mika reports that the program is currently operating in the final fiscal year of the MSPF grant. One significant result of the program includes the increased number of alcohol vendor compliance checks. Even though the grant will be ending on June 30, 2015, Step received an email from the State Prevention Director stating that the DHMH/Behavioral Health Administration had applied for federal funding for a "Partnerships for Success" grant. If funding is approved for Maryland, Cecil County may be able to continue MSPF efforts for additional years.

REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES FROM JANUARY 27, 2015

Minutes from the DAAC meeting of January 27, 2015, were reviewed and accepted.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE CAUSE:

John Bennett, DAAC Chairperson:

Introduced a request made by Recovery Centers of America for a letter of support from the council. It would go to the MD committee that approves the Certificate of Need evaluations.

A discussion took place regarding a letter of support for Recovery Centers for America. Some members voiced concerns and requested additional information.

Ken Collins made a motion for a basic letter of support to be drafted for Recovery Centers of America to establish a residential treatment program. The motion did not pass; four votes in favor and five opposed.

Sean Cannon made a motion to invite Recovery Centers of America to come back, so that the council could obtain a response to questions. The motion was passed, with all present members of the council voting in favor.

John Bennett introduced the second item for review, which includes support of the County budget in front of County Council. A motion was made to distribute the budget to the members and have them respond by email. It also stipulated that if the members vote in favor of supporting the budget, the Chair may then speak about that in front of the County Council.

The third and final item for review was the sharing of written testimony about one or more items that are in DAAC's comprehensive Strategic Plan to the Lieutenant Governor's Task Force. After some discussion on the merits of sending a letter with the plan, the Chairman agreed to draft a letter for the Lieutenant Governor's Task Force. The draft will be distributed to DAAC members with a call for a vote in support of sending said correspondence to the Lt. Governor.

Sean Cannon – Cecil County Public Schools:

Expressed concern over the possibility of significant school budget cuts which would impact the drug prevention efforts. He also talked about the efforts of the Drug Free Communities Coalition, which supports educating school administrators on how to detect drug use.

Sheri Lazarus – Adult Drug Treatment Court:

Reported that the Drug Court program would soon submit a grant request for FY2016 drug court funding. Drug Court is over capacity at this point and not currently accepting new referrals.

Nancy Turner – Serenity Health:

Invited all to attend the Youth Empowerment Source's Build a Burger night. Serenity Health is a sponsor for the event.

Ken Collins – CCHD, Alcohol and Drug Recovery Center:

Expressed appreciation to Sheriff Adams for his support. Also reported on the overdose prevention efforts. To date, 241 officers and 327 community members have been trained in overdose response with Narcan. The recent training of 19 supervisors at the Cecil County Detention Center has been included in the number of officers trained. Overall, the Overdose Response Program (ORP) trained a total of 568 people. Due to the ORP, nine lives have been reported saved by community members and four by law enforcement. The next large community ORP training is scheduled for Tuesday, April 28, 2015 at Haven Community Church in North East. Pre-registration for this ORP training is not required. Extended appreciation to Haven Community Church for hosting the ORP event.

Jack Foreaker - Haven House:

Reported that Haven House had an unannounced audit by the Office of Health Care Quality and the charts are in great shape. Also offered to share any information he has on substance abuse jail programs, since Haven House ran a program in the jail from 1987 to 1997. A question was posed to the council members regarding the tracking of people who were on ATR. Inquired about the outcomes for Maryland's ATR program. Subsequently, initiated discussion regarding reports by clients who are being sanctioned, incarcerated and generally discriminated against due to receiving medication-assisted treatment with either methadone or suboxone. One judge serving Cecil County continues to prohibit individuals on probation from participating in medication-assisted treatment. Tom Klenk responded that a specific section of the Attorney General's Office deals with discrimination due to disability.

John Bennett reminded everyone that the election of officers will be held during the June council meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Diana Broomell asked where the DAAC meeting was advertised, and said that she did not receive notice of the upcoming meeting. Ms. Broomell suggested that the performance measures should include the tracking of recidivism rates.

April Foster, the founder of STEPS Recovery Resources, would like everyone to know that STEPS is a legal non-profit organization which is being funded by her. She also wanted everyone to know that she supports medically-assisted treatment. April thanked Chief Peterson for all of his help and support with STEPS, and she is happy to report that they have now received their Drug Drop Box which will be installed in the next 30–45 days.

Steve Kendrick, Chief Operating Officer of Father Martin's Ashley, spoke of being the only Behavioral Health Treatment Center to get a Certificate of Need (CON) in the last 12 years. He would be happy to

answer any questions regarding the process. Ashley reported plans to serve patients from Upper Chesapeake Medical Center.

Adjourned: 4:30 PM

Next Meeting: June 25, 2015

Submitted by Alicia O'Connor

This document was approved during the regularly scheduled meeting of the Cecil County Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council on June 25, 2015.