**INTER-AGENCY HEROIN AND OPIOID COORDINATING COUNCIL QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES**

State House – Governor’s Reception Room  
100 State Circle,  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
Thursday, October 3, 2019  
10am-12pm

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**WELCOME**  
Lt. Governor Boyd K. Rutherford, Chair, Inter-Agency Council

**OPIOID OPERATIONAL COMMAND CENTER UPDATE:**

**2019 2ND QUARTER FATAL OVERDOSE DATA AND RECENT TRENDS**  
Steven R. Schuh, Executive Director, Opioid Operational Command Center

- Opioid-related fatalities have decreased by 11.1%.
  - Fentanyl continues to be the deadliest substance in MD, with 962 fentanyl-related deaths occurring in the first six months of 2019, 90% of opioid-related deaths involve fentanyl.
  - Cocaine related fatalities also declined by 16.1%.
  - Heroin-related deaths declined for the third straight year by 14.9%.
  - Prescription opioid-related deaths declined by 3.5%.
  - No county in MD has been spared.  
    - Baltimore City, Baltimore County and Anne Arundel County have the highest number of fatalities.

- OOCC’s Opioid Use Disorder Program Inventory.  
  - Demonstrates the findings of interviews with local jurisdictions across MD.
  - Identifies over 75 “promising practices”.
  - Departmentally based survey.

**Maryland Inter-Agency Opioid Coordination Plan Update**  
Marianne Gibson, Director of Planning and State Partner Coordinator,  
Opioid Operational Command Center

- Prevention/Education:  
  - Prevent problematic opioid use.
  - Reduce opioid-related morbidity and mortality.
  - Enhance statewide systems to enforce strategy.

- Enforcement/Public Safety:
- Reduce illicit drug supply.
- Expand access to SUD treatment in criminal justice system.
- Expand alternatives to incarceration for individuals with SUD.

- **Treatments/Recovery**
  - Ensure access to SUD treatment.
  - Expand the behavioral health workforce & increase workforce competencies.
  - Ensure access to recovery support services.

- **Strategic Plan** will be circulated in the next few weeks.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

**Maryland’s Opioid Academic Detailing Pilot Project**
Kate Jackson, Director, Maryland Department of Health, Office of Provider Engagement and Regulation (OPER).

- OPER provides support for prescribers and dispensers to:
  - Promote professional education.
  - Make informed clinical decisions.
  - Indorse best practices and innovation.

- **What is Academic Detailing?**
  - In-person, interactive, healthcare practitioner educational outreach methodology.
  - Accomplished through evidence based information sharing about medications and other therapeutic decisions.

- **Launched in May 2019 by OPER:**
  - Federally funded by the CDC and SAMHSA.
  - 17 other states use opioid-related Academic Detailing projects.
  - 9 jurisdictions in MD are currently participating in the pilot as of May 6th.

- **Goals of project:**
  - Improve opioid prescribing practices.
  - Increase clinician use of state’s Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.
  - Prevent opioid-related overdose fatalities.
  - Augment the skillset of MD public health workforce.

- **Core Messages:**
  - Use non-opioid treatment for acute or chronic pain.
  - If opioids are needed, use lowest dose possible.
  - Use PDMP data to determine if patients have previously filled prescriptions for opioids.
  - Reduce a patient’s fatal overdose risk by co-prescribing naloxone.
  - Offer treatment for patients with opioid use disorder.

- **Lt. Governor:** Are there guidelines assessing risk with co-prescribing naloxone and opioid medications? Kate: Yes, if the patient is determined high-risk by the clinician they are co-prescribed naloxone to prevent overdose.
Crisis Services in Maryland offered through Affiliated Sante Group
Fred Chanteau, President & CEO, The Affiliated Sante Group

- Sante Group is involved in 13 Counties in MD and operate 5 call centers in the State to establish level of need, determine where patients need to go, and dispatch police if necessary.
- Call centers:
  - Received 85,000 calls in the last year.
  - Operational 24/7 hotlines and warm lines.
  - Receive calls from multiple sources including 911 and 211 press 1.
  - Can develop crisis and safety plans.
  - Maintains follow up to ensure linkage and warm-hand offs when appropriate.
  - Uses cell tower technology.
- Mobile Teams 24/7:
  - Highest call volume from 10AM-6PM.
  - Provides service linkage – following up on a patients care.
- Domestic Violence Teams.
- In-Home and Family Intervention Teams:
  - Used to keep situations from developing into a crisis.
  - Maintain family stabilization.
- Urgent Care Centers:
  - Provide psychiatric appointments in 24-48 hours.
- School Intervention Teams.
- First Responder Training:
  - Familiarize and educate first responders about mental and behavioral health.
- Overall Goals:
  - Identify Crisis.
  - Develop crisis/safety plan.
  - Provide linkage to services.
  - Maintain follow-up and offer warm handoffs to make sure linkage is obtained.

- Lt. Governor: What will it take for EMS to take patients to Stabilization Centers instead of Emergency Departments, does it require legislation or is it regulatory? **Fred:** It’s regulatory, it also has to do with the patient’s safety and whether or not there is licensed clinician on site.
  - Often times stabilization centers are more equipped to provide SUD services (warm hand offs and follow ups), whereas in Emergency Departments, when you are discharged, there is no follow-up.
- Lt. Governor: How are your services paid for? **Fred:** Primarily grant funded by BHA and Counties, etc.
- Director Fueston: Where do the 85,000 phone calls come from? **Fred:** Half a dozen call centers, 911, 211 press 1, other hotline referrals.
• **Secretary Robinson**: How many calls come from 211 press 1? Fred was not able to give a number, but mentioned 211 press 1 transfers people to Sante Group based on locality. 211 press 1 uses cell towers to identify a caller’s location.

**DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

**Director Fueston**, GOCCP: Funding and initiation for law enforcement diversion plans is proceeding. In addition, a major drug kingpin in Anne Arundel County was convicted on 10/2/19 for trafficking 10 kilograms of fentanyl.

**Commissioner Redmer**, MIA: Emphasized the importance of continuing to educate people on SUD services and mental health. Stated that most SUD providers are not compliant on a number of issues and MIA is reviewing regulations with providers and stakeholders.

**Director Strickland**, MEMA: The OOCC has been doing a great job managing this crisis and looks forward to continued work together.

**Dr. Dow**, MHEC: MHEC has initiated BHA campaigns to educate the student population on SUD. MHEC and the OOCC are sponsoring a public service announcement competition for college students to educate other students on 211 press 1 and Naloxone.

**Secretary Robinson**, Labor: Department of Labor is using federally funded workforce programs to train 35 women in correctional facilities to become PR Recovery Specialist.

**NEXT STEPS**
Lt. Governor Rutherford
Steve Schuh