

Boulder County Opioid Advisory Group Meeting

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

1333 Iris Ave, Boulder, Norton Rooms

Attendees: Kat Dailey, CU Health Promotions; Rob Bellamy, Boulder County Public Health; Kristen Daily, Community health advocate; Tom Smith, volunteer Angel Initiative; Susanna Cooper, Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention; Richele Mein, Parent Engagement Network; Karen Elias, Alkermes; Curt Johnson, Boulder Police Department; Adrian Barron, Boulder County Coroner's Office; Courtney Kramer, Boulder County Community Justice Services; Jeremiah Lindemann, New America; Marco Prospero, Boulder County Community Justice Services; Chris Lord, Boulder County Public Health; Sally D'Angelo, MD, medical provider; Nadine Kelliher, Boulder Integrated Detox; Marnie Copeland, Boulder County Public Health; Marion Rorke, Denver Environmental Health; Talia Brown, Boulder County Public Health; Ann Baldwin, Department of Housing and Human Services; James Gould, Students for Sensible Drug Policy; Jonathin Lin, community member, Medtronic; Jamie Feld, Boulder County Public Health, Alison Harvey, Regional Health Connector; Christine O'Neil, Mental Health Partners, Indira Gujral, Boulder County Public Health; Carol Helwig, Boulder County Public Health; Dawn O'Keefe, mother, UHealth; Joe Malinowski, Boulder County Public Health; Colt Smith and Meca, iThrive and Alternatives for Youth; Sophia Yager, St. Vrain School District

Meeting Goals

- Reflect on 2017 achievements
- Review progress
- Celebrate each other!

Welcome and Introductions

- Welcome
- Holiday self-care
 - Self-care reminder, tough time of year, focus on self-care!
 - [Handout](#) for self-care passed around.

Activity: Wall of Celebration

- Identifying 2017 achievements
- Shout-outs
 - People wrote down achievements that happened as a result of the group, and it was clear the group has had an impact on people personally, on the work of individuals and their programs/organizations, and that great collaborative work has happened. Lives have been saved thanks to naloxone-related partnerships. The group has sustained passion and momentum.
 - Appreciation of shift from criminal issue to public health perspective.

Steering Committee Report – Marco Prospero, Community Justice Services

- Proposed process for endorsements
 - We approved a proposal from the Steering Committee that the OAG would not make formal endorsements of policy/legislation, but rather vote to make

recommendations to senior officials in the organization represented, and ask them to carry forward support. The group will revisit this in the February or March meeting to gauge satisfaction with the process.

- Ideas for themes/speakers requested for future meetings.

Update on Elected Officials Involvement and Legislative Agenda – Jamie Feld and Joe Malinowski, Boulder County Public Health

- A presentation was made to the Consortium of Cities in Boulder County. Received strong support from city council members and Commissioner Deb Garner to continue this work.
- [Six legislative items](#) upcoming.
 - Overwhelming bipartisan support for bills.
 - Bills will likely be put forward soon after the start of the legislative session (January 11).
 - More info about the bills will be shared at the next meeting. Slides [here](#) explain the bills in more detail.
- Anyone who is interested in testifying in support of the six state opioid-related bills can [Sign up](#) here.

Sharing Indicators for a Common Good – Lily Sussman, Boulder County Public Health

- We are in need of additional local data: need every sector involved, police, EMT, prevention, ER, schools, family & community--need everyone's help/data.
- Want to assemble a sub-committee to decide which data is really pertinent to tell the story
 - Yellow sheets passed out to write down name of someone you can go to at your org to ask for data/info/expertise.
- Need to look at poly-substance use.
- Lily Sussman asked people to identify people she can talk to about data and information, and called for volunteers for the data workgroup in January.

Report Back from Focus Areas

Treatment – Nadine Kelliher, Boulder Integrated Health, Christine O'Neil, Mental Health Partners

- 6 or 7 in the group, looking at Crisis Services hotline (www.ColoradoCrisisServices.org) how it can be improved.
- [List](#) sent out of Boulder County Treatment Resources that are on the Crisis Services registry.
- Nadine created a great Boulder recovery resource website with link to resources! <https://boulderrecoveryresource.com/>
- Contact [Nadine](#) for feedback on this website!

Community – Tom Smith, Angel Initiative; Michele Ryan, Behavioral Health Group

- Angel initiative turns 1 year old January 2018. 55-60 have been referred to services. Longmont's Angel Initiative needs volunteers (at least 3)! In particular the Angel Initiative needs drivers who can transport the clients. Talk to [Tom Smith](#) or sign up directly on the City of Longmont [website](#). Background check and fingerprints required.
- Michele Ryan, Behavioral Health Group – Trying to get more folks comfortable with participating in the OAG. Michele is holding a [CRAFT group](#) (Community Reinforcement and Family Training Group) held Fridays 12-1pm in Longmont. See [Flyer](#) to share with more details.

Criminal Justice/First Responder – Melanie Dreiling, Boulder County Sheriff’s Office Jail; Curt Johnson, Boulder Police Department; Jamie Feld sharing info from Scot Williams, Boulder County Drug Task Force

- All police in Boulder County carrying naloxone.
- Naloxone in jail as well; giving naloxone to inmates at release. At least two known lives saved from jail distributed naloxone.
- [911 Good Samaritan Laws](#) – while it does protect individuals from criminal prosecution for a reporting an overdose, folks typically can be arrested for having warrants. Police try to work with Good Sam laws but cannot ignore a court ordered warrant.
- Boulder County Jail is recruiting a part-time opioid case manager (CACII or CACIII). Melanie wants to know about services and programs in the community that person can link with to support inmates after their release (housing, employment etc.)
- 3 cyclopropl fentanyl fatal overdoses in a short time frame in Boulder County identified by County coroner. All had alprazolam (Xanax) on board as well. Boulder County Drug Task Force confiscated illicit Xanax (Xanny bars) to test for fentanyl. Batch tested was negative for fentanyl, but there may be other sources. Boulder County Drug Task Force will continue to investigate.
- Possible fentanyl tainted tar heroin being explored by multiple state agencies.

Prevention – Marnie Copeland, Healthy Futures Coalition; Richele Mein, Parent Engagement Network

- Launched safe storage program; made cards with info on website for all sorts of prevention resources for families, employers, etc., tool for storing med, safe location disposal.
- www.DrugsOutOfReach.org
- Richele Mein at the Parent Engagement Network (PEN) is developing a [handout](#) to give parents to make them aware about meds prescribed to their children, to help them advocate effectively for their children and manage prescription opioid use. Handout is also available here: <https://www.bouldercounty.org/families/addiction/out-of-reach/#learn-more>
 - FAQ for parents
 - Are there alternative pain treatment
 - What to do when family has history
 - Safe disposal of Rx
 - How to keep child involved and active while recovering
 - Working with parents and coaches
 - Will be sent out to whole group
 - Has already been done?

Work with pharmacies put in parking lot till 2018

Health Care – Chris Urbina MD, Boulder County Public Health Medical Director, Sally D’Angelo, Jim Shuler

- Received a Provider Education grant from Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) for \$50,000 for two years to provide education to medical providers in Boulder County regarding safe opioid prescribing practices. More information to follow. A focus group of providers will inform the educational outreach.
- A city council member who is a pharmacist is interested in supporting efforts with local pharmacies.

Stay Informed: Drug Checking

Presentation by James Gould, Students for Sensible Drug Policy
Discussion

- James Gould gave a demonstration of drug-checking that prompted many questions for the audience.
- Used Ibuprofen for example test. Tests show positive results based on color generated when reagent added.
- [Dance Safe](#) and [Students for Sensible Drug Policy \(SSDP\)](#), two organizations that offer drug testing have done some testing and found that roughly 70% of drugs are often not what the person thought it was. Many folks who thought they had MDMA actually had Meth or Bath Salts. Tests are available for fentanyl and opioids through Dance Safe and SSDP.
- Question: “Do people still take drugs when not what they expect?” Response: If the drug is more dangerous, tend to not take or take less. One report identified that when clients receive an unexpected result when their drug is tested, two out of three report they will not consume the drug and will warn friends.
- [Evidence Brief: Drug Checking Services.](#)
- Organizational, legal and resource barriers exist to drug checking.
- Speaker stated that police generally like the idea as they prefer to interact with individuals who know what drug they are on.

Meeting Summary

- We have been busy and successful, January will review six bills and revisit proposal that was voted on.
- Thank you all for your hard work and collaboration! We look forward to 2018!
- Please [vote](#) for the recurring meeting times for 2018.