

## Boulder County Opioid Advisory Group Meeting

**Wednesday, August 15, 2018**  
**9:30 AM – 11:30 AM**  
**225 Kimbark St. Longmont CO 80501**

### **Meeting Goals**

Showcase Longmont Safety's community efforts  
Update on state legislative efforts  
Identify progress of work groups  
Celebrate successes

### **Welcome, Introductions, Review Agenda**

Ken Kuphner, Assistant District Attorney provides welcome and speaks about the benefit of collaboration efforts

### **Progress on Colorado Legislative Efforts**

Update on state legislative efforts at Opioid Interim Study Committee meeting in July:

- Michele Ryan, Behavioral Health Group shared about the ease of speaking to the CO legislature. She spoke during the public comment section at their July Opioid Interim Study Committee meeting
- JK Costello, Steadman Group presented with Denise Vincioni, Denver Recovery Group on the effectiveness MAT in jails, Rhode Island experience initiated buprenorphine in jail leading to a 61 % reduction in overdoses after leaving jail. There was discussion of harm reduction from the Harm Reduction Action Center. Discussion on regulations around sober living homes licensure. Agreement on addressing prenatal substance abuse exposure and looking at behavioral health solutions.
- Local coalitions from around the state presented with the CO Consortium of Rx Drug Abuse Prevention and the CALPHO (Colorado Association of Local Public Health Organizations) on barriers and opportunities at the local level and need for local funding. Jamie Feld presented on legislative suggestions produced by OAG group that met on policy in July to the Interim Study Committee.

### **Longmont Safety Highlight**

Three programs on behavioral health/criminal justice are provided by Longmont Safety: Angel Initiative, LEAD Program, Co-Responder Program

### **Angel Initiative**

- Started Jan 2017, now have over 120 individuals who have received treatment in the Angel Program
- One client going to Front Range now (success story)

### **Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) Program**

- Funding by Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) for program

- Longmont Safety using model based after Albany program in New York
- Using a Public Health approach not Criminal Justice System approach
- Prearrest diversion upon contact with Police Department, given a choice to get assessment
- Using harm reduction, 'meet where they are at'
- Get needs of clients met such as housing, medical
- Use Housing First Model, abstinence not required
- Length of stay depends on partner agency (scholarships)
- Goal is to keep clients engaged
- For eligibility, can have previous records and can still participate
- Social referral process for LEAD and by referral partners is still new and evolving
- Using scholarships for treatment
- Can work with client at any point in the system. Can meet them in jail. And work with partners in the system
- Long-term case management service
- Withdrawal management can hold for 7 days for withdrawal management and to keep until getting into treatment
- Medical detox at hospitals also
- Started with Angel Program for initial crisis then transitioned to LEAD at Longmont Safety through funding from OBH grant

### **What is the difference between Angel Initiative and LEAD?**

ANGEL is abstinence-based, not long-term case management. LEAD is primarily substance abuse but also co-occurring. Need substance abuse contact with police department. Licensed clinicians, work with law enforcement, listen to scanner and intervene with related calls. De-escalation, counseling, divert M1 holds and hospital stays.

### **What is the Co-Responder Program?**

- Mental health focus
- Distinct from EDGE at Mental Health Program
- Co- responders - 6 to 7 calls in a shift, 10 hours. Doing follow ups when not on calls
- Staff network with other providers when not on crisis calls
- Reach out to agencies to help client through the process so client doesn't fall through gaps while waiting for services

All Longmont Police Department carry NARCAN, now have follow up systems to track clients in hospital. In Boulder County, there have been 197 saves reported to BCPH by law enforcement and syringe access participants.

Longmont is leading the state in criminal justice innovation.

### **Workgroups: Share Out on Progress of Work Groups**

Share out by the following work groups:

### **Prevention (Healthy Futures Coalition)**

- Audrey Schroer - prevention through Healthy Futures coalition, primary prevention, dedicating group of parents addressing youth returning to school, fun sober activities for youth

### **Early Intervention**

- Colt Smith, iThrive- Early intervention sub-group for coordinating area services, want to meet with other providers, align efforts

### **Provider Education/Treatment**

- Dr Urbina, Boulder County Public Health, Medical Officer - meeting with providers defining resources, uniting health providers, law enforcement. Bringing treatment and health providers together

### **Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement**

- Marco Prospero, Community Justice – CJ group has just started. Looking at how to meld with other groups doing this work in the county.

### **Safe disposal**

- JC Montanez and Richele Mein of Parent Engagement Network - Kids exposed to opiates at dentist first. Initial pleasure response. Efforts to identify alternative meds that help pain at dentist's office.
- Boulder Rotary partnered with Mental Health Partners, Boulder County Public Health, Boulder County Sheriff's Office, and CO Consortium of Rx Drug Abuse Prevention to hold safe disposal event. More than 5,000 pills collected from 57 individuals. More than 200 attendees. Great volunteer work by BCSO!

### **Community**

- Trina Faatz, Parent Engagement Network – Currently getting trained as Peer Recovery Coach
- Attending Peer Coach Academy with Rod Rushing
- Panel of 5 individuals in recovery getting ready to go to schools
- Kids in the high schools had a lot of questions and the materials seemed very relevant.
- Have monthly supervision meetings
- Need more funding for this effort

### **Group Activity**

- Tell 3 different people what brings you here today, and listen to what brings them here

### **Overdose Awareness Day**

- August 31, is International Overdose Awareness Day
- [Here](#) are events throughout the state

- Denver Recovery Group meeting on Friday 8/31 to march, 231 east Colfax, 1pm across from capitol, bring pictures of loved ones lost
- Larimer County, August 31, 2-8pm, will have presentations every hour, narcan kits and training, Ft Collins civic center park
- Boulder County has several partner events in September and October; this year supporting other statewide events

### **Personal Story of Success in Recovery**

- Michele shared her inspiring story of recovery to help address and lift stigma
- She has been voice of recovery since 1987. She discussed how she was sober for 10 years then relapsed after 10 years for 2 years
- She talked about genetic factors. She discussed benefit of getting involved with other sober people to prevent recidivism. She used 12 step abstinence based program, but she believes strongly in Medication Assisted Treatment and harm reduction.
- From her knowledge of what others have gone through, withdrawal is so intense from opioids.
- Misconception that people can't get off MAT. People **are** able to get off methadone and buprenorphine. It helps to hang out with healthier peers.

### **Meeting Summary and Closure**

#### **Events in Boulder County:**

- **September 12**, 8:30am-3:30pm, Boulder County Sheriff's Office  
Free Pharmaceutical Drug Diversion Training – One Day Summit – Register [Here](#)
- **September 26**, 6:30pm-8:30pm, Monarch High School  
Opioid Awareness: Speaking from the Heart and Soul of Addiction – A Free Community Event Printable Community [Flyer](#)

#### **Events in Colorado:**

- **August 31**, is International Overdose Awareness Day. [Here](#) are events throughout the state
- **September 15**, 10am meet time, 11am walk, Union Station, Denver  
National Rally for Recovery [Info](#) – September is Recovery Month