

# Atlantic County Opioid Task Force

Join Together Atlantic County

November 7, 2019 3:00pm – 5:00pm

Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office

4997 Unami Blvd, Mays Landing, NJ 08330

## Meeting Minutes

**In Attendance:** Chief Bruce DeShields, Charles DeFebbo (Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office), Laurie Smith, Bob Zlotnick (JTAC/APR), Sean Kolins (Seabrook), Tom Douglass (EvangeShare), Dorothy Bowker (EHT Schools/Eagle Academy), Dr. Brian Acunto, Dylan Wulderk (AtlantiCare), Jennifer Pielhau (Atl Cnty Alliance), Josiah Bunting (Bunting Family Pharmacy), Robin Keyack (Shore Medical Center), Dasha Brown (Volunteers of America Delaware Valley), Chuck LaBarre (Enlightened Solutions).

Laurie opened the meeting, welcoming the attendees and introductions were made.

Minutes from last meeting were approved; Dorothy Bowker 1<sup>st</sup>, Chief DeShields 2<sup>nd</sup>, Minutes Approved

### **Updates:**

#### **Grant Updates:**

**DFC:** Bob reported that Atlantic Prevention Resources received the Drug Free Communities (DFC) grant and it started on October 31. It is for \$125,000 per year for five years, and will support the coalition, task force, and other activities. There is a full-time coalition assistant position being posted internally for 10 days. If it is not filled it will then be posted for the general public.

**CARA:** Laurie reported they just started the second year of this grant.

**PFS:** This grant is overall alcohol and drug prevention and has several interventions working directly with the Children System of Care.

**Opioid Athlete Grant:** Laurie reported NJSIAA is going to be selecting different counties to sponsor a high school presentation. If they do not select Atlantic County JTAC will hold something for the athletic directors in Atlantic County. They also will be reaching out to the recreation departments of EHT and Galloway for a presentation and to distribute athlete toolkits.

**AC LEAD Program:** Chief Deshields reported they currently have six people that are compliant and they have one more month to go for 2019. They have had a lot of people come on board but did not want to stick with the requirements. They are now doing police in-services and presenting on the new programs.

**Senior Presentations:** Brian presented to seniors in Estell Manor on proper disposal and distributed locking medicine cabinets. He will be presenting to Mullica Twp. seniors later this month. Laurie and Jen have been working with the municipal alliances on their strategic plans and several are interested in more interventions for seniors. They were surprised with the number of senior nutrition sites and groups that were located throughout Atlantic County. Laurie is still looking for information on

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren groups. If anyone knows of any grandparent group meetings please let Laurie know so she can reach out to them.

**Needle Disposal:** Laurie reported there are a few hospitals in the county that do collect syringes that people utilize for medication but those programs need to be assessed and a new system in place to make the process easier. Laurie had a meeting with Vince Jones and the EMT Chiefs and they discussed placing needle disposal boxes in all of the senior centers and nutrition sites.

**Movie Theater Advertisements:** Laurie has not had a chance to work with truth.org on getting the PSAs finalized for the movie theaters.

**Narcan Training/Deployment:** Jen reported that the county is still offering free Narcan training and if anyone has a group that would like a training to let her know. Urban Treatment contacted Jen and really wants to offer more training under their regional grant to Atlantic County residents. They will provide the free Narcan for any group that attends the training.

**Deterra Container for Permanent Drop Boxes:** Chief Higbee came up with an idea of placing plastic bins on the side of the permanent drop box for Deterra packets to eliminate the issue of people dropping liquids in drop boxes. Brian has ordered bins that can be placed on all of the permanent drop boxes and also a poster to explain how to utilize the Deterra bags. This will assist the police department with people dropping liquids in the boxes and it will allow people to take an extra pouch home for future use.

**Brochure for Narcan Reversals:** Bruce Deshields is partnering with Laurie to create a brochure to give to individuals that have been given Narcan and refused medical treatment. This brochure is to explain that the individual almost died, and asks what their next steps are if they refused treatment. The state liked the idea of the brochure. The state has also allowed Chief Deshields to purchase Narcan under the grant. Laurie discussed what information will be on the two-sided brochure. Ashley from APR did some initial research of information that can be placed in the brochure. Laurie presented a rough draft to everyone and received feedback for changes. A recommendation was to make the brochure read at a 4<sup>th</sup> grade level and to get rid of the paragraphs and place simple bullet points with the facts. Another suggestion was to make the card a smaller hand card that they can place it in their pocket or wallet.

**Stranger's Project:** Laurie reported this was a stigma awareness project where people write down their thoughts about addiction. It was displayed at the Mays Landing Library for the month of September and there was a great article in the AC Press. There was a table of information and they had to refill the table many times throughout the month due to people taking the brochures. There is a box on the table where people can leave new stories or thoughts about the substance disorders. This month the Stranger Project is displayed in the Galloway Twp. Library and JTAC is planning on moving this project throughout the county in 2020. The libraries have been receiving positive feedback about the display from their members.

**Knock Out Opioid Abuse Day:** KOOAD was held October 6<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers from the community, Stockton University and several organizations distributed door knockers and physician prescribing guides throughout county. 9 Municipalities signed proclamations to declare October 6<sup>th</sup> as Knock Out Opioid Abuse Day. Physician packets were dropped off to physicians' offices and were emailed over to AtlantiCare and Shore Medical Center. Faith-based organizations were emailed toolkits and sample sermons. Lastly, athlete directors and schools were sent information for KOOAD including announcements that could be read during games. Laurie also attended and disseminated information at

a Buena Regional HS football game. The event was sponsored by JTAC, the high school and the Buena Municipal Alliance tied in the KOOAD information with Red Ribbon Week.

**Back to School Nights:** Information dissemination for these events were part of the CARA grant and STOP-ACT underage drinking grant. They ended up completing 21 back to school nights in middle and high schools, which was more than planned. They noticed that on the high school level parents were less engaged with the table compared to the middle school parents. The plan for next year is to concentrate on the middle schools events.

### New Business:

**EMT Chief's Meeting:** Laurie attended the meeting to discuss with them issues regarding alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. One of the issues they are facing is when they administer Narcan and the individual refuses treatment, due to HIPPA the EMTs are not able to refer them to a peer recovery specialist. They have also seen an increase of people overdosing in public places especially bathrooms that are open to the public. If a person overdoses then people in public buildings and bathrooms will quickly find them and be able to call for help. It was discussed about public buildings locking their bathrooms but when a store is busy they do not have staff available to unlock restrooms for customers. Laurie suggested offering a "what to look for" poster for businesses. In the coming year the group plans on reaching out to local businesses to provide them with information and offer Narcan training.

**Stockton Opioid Prevention Project:** The Service Learning Class that APR partners with at Stockton has students completing an opioid prevention project. One thing they designed was an infographic that we will be printing regarding opioids and college. They are also doing a PSA for radio stations and placing stickers with opioid information on lollipops to distribute with brochures.

**Glory Day Ad for Athletes/Parents:** The Glory Days Magazine is a magazine for athletes online and in print for all sports. APR will be creating opioid prevention material and an article for athletes, parents and coaches for the magazine in 2020. Laurie asked for feedback for the type of article they should place in the magazine. A suggestion was to have an article utilizing information from the "Not Even Once" program and how to be proactive on managing injuries as well as alternatives to pain medications.

### Announcements:

**2020 Meeting Dates** were distributed.

**RX Drug Abuse and Heroin Summit:** The summit is April 13-16 in Tennessee. There are many tracks available for you to choose from. December 6<sup>th</sup> the price will go up for the summit. JTAC will be looking into trying to send someone from the coalition if they have the funding.

**P.I.T.C.H. Mutual Aid Support Group:** P.I.T.C.H. is a counselor support group that is completely free, and meetings are held at Enlightened Solutions. The meeting is an outlet for counselors themselves, and they will be held on Thursdays beginning mid-November.

**APR Trailer:** Bob reported that they have a new trailer for the agency and they are going to be using it at health fairs and community events. The trailer can be wrapped with other agency logos. The price range

of the logo will only be a few hundred dollars and will be similar to the Hope One van. They have a commitment with JBRC and their recovery center in Atlantic City.

**Next Meeting:**

January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**Motion to adjourn the meeting:** Dylan Wulderk 1<sup>st</sup>, Chief DeShields 2<sup>nd</sup>, Meeting Adjourned