



Public Health Department

C-FORT Minutes September 2024

Agenda Item 1. Introductions

Attendees

Sanquis Graham, CCDPH
Greg Berry, CCDPH/NCHRC
Tamra Morris, CCDPH
Lisa Blandin, SR-AHEC
Louis Leake, CTC Fayetteville
Mitzi Averette, Care Clinic
Barbara A. White, Mid Carolina Regional Council
John Russell, Butterfly efx
Ilana Sheppard, Marius Maximus
Charlton Roberson, NCHRC
Jasmine Harris, SR-AHEC
Orlando Smith, CCDPH
Lisa Jayne, Cumberland County
Selena Wilkins, CCDPH
Ana C. Jaramillo-Adams
Amy Jordan
Angela Hebel
Ainsley Johnson
Casey Perry, Camp Rockfish
De'Ara Anderson
Demetris West
Elijah Bazemore
Heather Skeens
Heather Sroka
Jennifer Green
Jermaine Russell
Leah Rhone
Lynette McMillan
Melanie David
Melissa G
Monica Washington

Martina Sconiers- Talbert
Sheena Butler
Subrena Guy
Tatum Evans
Tracy Honeycutt, Mid-Carolina AAA

Mitzi Averette, Question posed to the group

- The word “abuse” used in July or August minutes, asking to be changed moving forward.
- Substance use disorder – abuse is no longer utilized.

Sanquis Graham, CCDPH

- Substance Abuse Worker position name cannot be changed as it is a classification with the state, local name will be peer support specialist.

Agenda Item 2: Opioid Data and Opioid Settlement Updates

Louis Leake, Review of Overdose Data, ED Visits Data, Fentanyl Report

- Numbers are referring to August, but it is for July numbers are down YTD in July for opioid overdose
- Numbers are lower than May and June in July
- 35-44 age group is exceeding in overdose
- August 2023-july 2024
- Numbers drop from 380 to 302 for ED visits
- Fentanyl line goes up and down but continues to drop off
- 15-24 age group is overdosing
- Can probably work on prevention in this age group as well
- January to May 2024
- Deaths are down to 38 from 42 from 2023
- Looking at age range of 15-65+ fentanyl death from overdose
- Opioid overdose is almost down by half through the whole state of NC
- 533 for 2024 compared to 872 for July 2023
- Cumberland county color change for the county – we are almost the lightest when we used to be almost the darkest

Tara Tucker, Cape Fear Valley

- Single spike in fatal overdoses
- Get into the community and do education is important
- Saturday was a trial event, and it went well
- Outreach is this Thursday
- Recovery/suicide prevention/overdose ride

- Close to 50 motorcycles in it
- Sept 6, 2025 will be ride date for next year
- Lots of vendors showed us, brought foot traffic
- Implementation for community induction program – October 4 dr. Shupa, training for MODU
- Contact Tara if interested in the training (4 hours), working on location through the college
- Staff, recovery center is suggested to attend

Orlando Smith, BJA Funds Housing Data

- Oxford house
- Follow up grant might replace it after the 30th of September
- 127 total requests, 6 are repeat requests for additional month
- 121 individual residences – this is a huge success! Congrats
- Funding has been able to assist a great number of folks
- Additional funding to assist with BJA funds to get transitional houses paid for
- Will let committee know when the funds are awarded
- KOSA grants have not been announced yet, have not been awarded yet (sept 30)
- Monica was over the Cumberland and Durham County advocate and opened an additional women’s house under her watch

Charlton Roberson, NCHRC Opioid Settlement

- June - August, part of September
- 403 doses of Narcan 187 peer overdose reversals
- 38 linkages
- 3 participants in family drug court, 1 successfully
- 1 in adult drug court, successful
- 31 positives back, on tests
- 203 xylazine 111 positives
- Another round of drug tests in October
- Nitazene is being introduced into drug supply

Louis Leake, CTC Opioid Settlement

- July – today (9/17) in September
- Housing assistance 15 individuals
- Transit for 197 individuals, almost a standard number – daily or weekly basis
- 105 reentry services – been in detention center
- Assisting 2 other counties (number is cumulative)
- 17 families with utilities
- 19 with food security
- 12 med costs
- 38 recovery support, this is really expanding as we start purchasing smart recovery handbooks (given after 3rd meeting attended)
- Not purchasing anymore until 4th edition comes out this year

- Writing will be coming from a harm reduction approach
- Buy them now since we have the funding for only two more weeks
- Smart meeting at the resource center – females only option?
- Literature for women only, is there money to purchase it.

Tatum Evans, Myrover Reece Opioid Settlement

- Only a few beds open for veterans
- Transportation provided to doc appts
- Med visits, medicine, etc.
- We go to court for probation matters
- Advocate for them the best we can
- Had a meeting at the center to see what sort of presence they could have
- Meeting RI director to coordinate, MAT and detox, get residents to program
- MAT meeting – reps from chapel hill on 10/3 to educate the board of directors on different ideas can be incorporated and knowledge of different options
- Fayetteville tech – brings bus with computers
- Resume building and job searches for residents
- Dressing
- Interview etiquette
- Transportation to interview
- Taking them to a conference in Cary for a day
- Meet people
- Recovery can be fun
- Keep them busy and get stuff checked off list and established while with them
- Going with sponsors
- Invited residences to Recovery Out loud on Saturday

Courtney McCollum, CCJS Opioid settlement

- Hiring of coordinator

Agenda Item 3: C-FORT Recovery Center Updates

Sanquis Graham, CCDPH

- Introduction of new Recovery Center Staff:
- Regina Williams is the new Administrative Officer
- Taylor Blount is the new Administrative Assistant
- Substance Abuse Worker to begin working later in September
- Did walkthrough on Friday to see the updates on the center
- Paint in complete
- Flooring is next
- Small updates to be done to make it inviting
- Grand opening
- Oct 21 as ribbon cutting, time is TBD
- Oct 22 as first day of operation, partners can offer services
- Any graphics or signs you want in the center – give to Resource staff by Oct 1

- ** find three times on our schedule and see if they work for women's smart recovery class

Agenda Item 4: Grant Updates

Sanquis Graham, CCDPH

- SAMHSA
- First responder grant was awarded, waiting on funding to come in a couple months
- Education in the community
- Peer support spec will be hired
- Staff for evening hours
- Upcoming opioid settlement town halls/survey and RFP
- Dr green and Sanquis are holding these
- Upcoming 5:30 -7 pm on September 26, oct 8, oct 10
- Eastover civic center, spring lake library, hope mills library

Agenda Item 5: Upcoming Trainings

Sanquis Graham, CCDPH

- Forensic peer support, sept 23-25, 2024
- Trainees have been contacted
- Peer support specialist
- Scholarships, recipients have been contacted
- Hoping for collaboration. PSS for ED needs to visit other locations and learn more
- Trying to build ongoing relationships

Agenda Item 6: Next Steps

Charlton Robeson, NCHRC

- Recovery Out loud, September 21 at the VFW from 12-4pm
- Opening with a dove release to commemorate those we have lost over the year
- Food and games and giveaways, Day of celebration

Sanquis Graham, CCDPH

- Next perinatal taskforce: September 24 at 2pm, includes a discussion with the DSS about pregnant women and substance use
- Women who are dealing with active substance use

Louis Leeke, CTC

- Carolina Treatment Center – hosting breakfast to honor the opening of the center, jam packed, going well
- Joy from RI – no longer limited to 23 hours, living room is open

Mitzi Averette, Question

- Serena Gunn is receiving a national award for SAMHSA
- Innovation and pathways
- One of 7 awards

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 15, 2024, 10am - 11:30am