

**GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON ALCOHOL & DRUG ABUSE
PREVENTION, INTERVENTION AND TREATMENT**

August 24, 2018

NH Fire Academy Dormitory

CONCORD, NH

MINUTES

Members Present:

Governor Chris Sununu

Mark Armaganian, *NH Liquor Commission Division of Enforcement*

Representative Hatch, *NH House of Representatives*

Annette Escalante, *Executive Director and Director of the Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Services*

Helene Anzalone, *NH Department of Education*

Todd Gardner, BSN, RN, *NH Nurses Association*

Commissioner Helen Hanks, *Department of Corrections*

Timothy Lena, *Prevention Professional*

David Mara, *Governor's Advisor on Addiction and Behavioral Health*

Katja Fox, *NH Department of Health & Human Services*

Brigadier General David Mikolaities, *NH National Guard*

Jennifer Patterson, *NH Insurance Department*

Chris Placy, *Public Member*

Seddon Savage, MD, *NH Medical Society*

Stephanie Savard, *Treatment Professional*

Monica Edgar, *Treatment Professional*

Alex Casale, *NH Courts*

Stephen Ahnen, *NH Hospital Association*

Patrick Tufts, *Granite United Way*

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Patrick Tufts opened the meeting and introductions were done around the table. Welcome was made to new member, Stephen Ahnen, President & CEO, New Hampshire Hospital Association.

Governor Sununu gave an overview of New Hampshire's State Opioid Response Grant plan. He emphasized that \$45M of Federal support creates a lot of opportunity to change system delivery. He stated that to best provide for New Hampshire, a hub and spoke model will be created. During the planning for this grant, a concerted effort was made to look at data and customer services as well as ease of access to anyone in any community to streamline and reduce costs. Governor Sununu reminded the group that there are many stipulations and restrictions on how New Hampshire can use this money but that overall this investment is very positive for the state. Governor Sununu stated that he hopes New Hampshire can be a model for other states to replicate and this model, although targeted at opioid addiction will also address the multiple substances in the state. The Governor also stated this plan will integrate IDNs and Medicaid for maximized efficiency and will remain people focused. He thanked the DHHS staff on pulling things together and researching various models.

The Governor took questions and comments from the group, many that indicated support for the new plan, excitement around the system change, reliance on evidence-based practices and data/evaluation.

A change to the order of the agenda was made in order for the DHHS Commissioner's Update to follow the Governor's Report with further detail on the SOR plan.

2. **DHHS Commissioner Update – Provided by Katja Fox and Abby Shockley**

The States' application was due 8/13 and was submitted on time. A notice of award is expected by September and will then move to fiscal committee in October. All positions associated with this funding will also need to go to fiscal committee. DHHS expects funding to be in service by December.

An executive summary was distributed to the group and covered in detail (attached). The goal of the hub and spoke model is to even the playing field so that no one in need of services in the state is more than an hour away. There will be clinicians on site at the hubs for evaluation, targeted case coordination, proving whole needs in real time. GPRA data needs will be addressed at the hub at all the required intervals. The spokes of the plan are the services that exist currently and will support the hub; things like: Medically Assisted Treatment, residential services, mobile crisis, telehealth services, services for specialty populations, transitional and recovery housing, recovery and workforce supports, and prevention.

A question was asked by Todd Gardner if Safe Station would continue as part of the plan. Abby Shockley stated that Safe Station could not be included in the SOR plan due to the restrictions on evidence-based programming. Governor Sununu agreed stating intake would move to the new nine hubs. Patrick discussed the many successes of the Safe Station model and noted this new plan is a maturation on a good idea.

Many members commented on this plan being good for the state and being eager to see how it would all roll out. Governor Sununu indicated there will be a large public information campaign to inform all residents of New Hampshire how and where to access support if they need it.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

There was a motion by Representative Hatch to approve the minutes from 6/22/2018. The motion was seconded by Stephen Ahnen. The minutes were approved with all in favor, with the representative from the Department of Education abstaining.

4. **Role of Chair and Executive Director**

Patrick stated that he and Annette Escalante had met and had some discussion regarding the role of Chair and Executive Director. In order to better define the two roles, Patrick presented a handout (attached) to the group clarifying his and Annette's roles for the Commission. Patrick and Annette asked the group for input and feedback. The group concurred that the list looked comprehensive. Tym Rourke added a potential need to clarify on who the main contact is for the Commission for Legislators. Patrick indicated he would make that addition to the list.

5. **Featured Task Force Updates**

- **Perinatal Exposure Task Force-** Anna Gosh and Melissa Schoemmell from the Perinatal Task Force presented on the group's planning of the Summit for Safe Care Planning. They also asked for an endorsement by the Commission to use the Commission seal on the Save the Date for the event. There was a motion by Dr Savage to approve the endorsement. Tym Rourke asked if there was any financial support expected from the endorsement. Anna Gosh stated no. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Helen Hanks. The motion was approved with all in favor, with Tym Rourke abstaining.

Melissa Schoemmell stated the Perinatal Task Force developed new drinking safety posters for pregnant women to be displayed at State Liquor stores per RSA 1778b. Melissa indicated that focus group testing and online testing had been completed on the current version of the sign. The Perinatal Task Force is also seeking endorsement to include the Commission seal on the larger posters for display at the liquor stores.

Commissioner Hanks asked if the posters would only be used in the liquor store setting. Melissa indicated they would be potentially used in hospitals as well. There was a motion by Stephen Ahnen to approve the endorsement. The motion was seconded by Tim Lena. The motion was approved with all in favor, with Tym Rourke abstaining.

- **Opioid Task Force-** Dr. Savage presented on the group's work on an Opioid Card to be dispersed with medication from the pharmacy. This tool would be utilized on the bag of the prescription to inform the consumer that their medication contains opioids. The card contains critical safety information (attached). Dr. Savage stated that the Task Force would like to pilot the distribution of the card with two pharmacies, evaluate the impact and report back to the Commission. There was discussion by many members around safe disposal of medications and how to have this information included. Dr. Savage indicated they would take that suggestion under advisement. Stephen Ahnen recommended partnering with the Zero Left Campaign for medications. There was a motion by Tym Rourke to approve the Task Force completing the pilot program. The motion was seconded by Monica Edgar. The motion was approved with all in favor.

6. Executive Director's Update

▪ Financial Dashboard

Annette Escalante presented the financial dashboards. She pointed out a \$500,000 difference for program utilization for the incarceration program. She stated they are looking at current challenges and moving to utilize the funding more appropriately. Annette reminded the group that the upcoming budget will be on next meeting's agenda. She indicated she could provide detail on what is being covered by the SOR grant, the BDAS budget and gaps that could potentially be covered by the Commission.

Patrick asked if there were any questions for Annette, there were none.

7. Strategic and State Plan(s) Update

Anna Ghosh, Center for Excellence, informed the group that a high-level draft will be emailed to Commission Members in November and public announcement will coincide with December meeting. Annette reminded the group that the Federal SOR Grant was announced in the middle of preparing the plan, that was the reason for the delay. Patrick made the recommendation to combine state plan and annual Governor's Commission plan. The group concurred.

8. Task Force Updates

▪ Prevention

Tim Lena stated that the Task Force had a presentation by Children's Behavioral Health Collaborative. They provided information to the group. This Collaborative has a lot of overlap in goals and mission as the Prevention Task Force, including a multi-tiered system of support, with sub-committees across the lifespan.

▪ Treatment

Stephanie Savard stated that the Treatment Task Force is looking to change the of format for their meetings. The first hour is now business oriented, with the following time utilized for breakout sessions and completing Task Force work during the meeting. She informed the group that this Task Force is looking for a vice chair. Patrick indicated he could assist with this.

▪ Recovery

No report.

▪ Joint Military

Brigadier General David Mikolaities stated a letter was drafted on the Updated Tricare East Reimbursement Rate to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs. This letter will be available for the Commission in the near

future. Brigadier General David Mikolaities also stated the Task Force recently looked at prior year data and is looking at groups for highest risks including retired military.

- **Perinatal Exposure**

Monica Edgar reported that this group is excited about the upcoming Summit on Safe Care Plans for infants and the maternal health campaign at Liquor Stores across the state.

- **Data**

No report.

- **Opioid**

Dr. Savage reported that the Opioid Task Force is continuing to look closely at justice affected individuals from pre-trial to probation/parole and in prison. Dr. Savage stated she would have more information for the Commission in the fall.

- **Healthcare**

Dr. Savage reported that the Healthcare Task Force is looking at 3 priorities: expanding SBIRT in primary care as well as OB/GYN settings, expanding MAT and treatment for people in distress, and harm reduction. The group is taking an inventory of what is happening in the state for cross pollination of initiatives and projects to share materials. Dr. Savage stated a concern that the behavioral health group of the NH Insurance Department has not been meeting for the past 4-6 months. She stated this is problematic due to the difficulty for getting SBIRT reimbursed by insurance.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment was made by Mary Forsythe-Taber from the Makin' It Happen Coalition and Gail Parker from DEA 360. They presented their sticker project that was piloted over the summer. The stickers were designed by youth in the community and were distributed at 5 different pharmacies on prescription bags. The stated that data was collected on storage and safe disposal of medications and the young people involved would be interested in presenting their results. Dr. Savage complimented the group, invited the youth to present and potentially partner further with the Opioid Task Force.

Michelle Merritt from New Futures stated that the Insurance department subcommittee mentioned earlier in the meeting is not meeting because of turn over and strategic planning. She is meeting with them on Tuesday and will bring back update to the Commission. She also stated that community conversations are being held on marijuana legislation on 9/18 in the Capital Area.

Susan McKeown asked the Commission how the state could ensure that 2-1-1NH will be able to handle all the new work associated with the SOR grant. Patrick responded by reminding the group that 2-1-1NH is not currently under contract but is working with BDAS on a contract. He anticipates a transition timeframe this fall with a 3-month wind up. Abby Shockley added that personnel will be added to support 2-1-1NH as well as the hubs from the Department in contracts.

10. COMMISSION SEATS/TRANSITIONS

Patrick Tufts closed out the meeting by stating that Kevin Irwin had relocated to Massachusetts and this would have been his last meeting. Patrick stated that Kevin will continue his IDN work but not with the Commission. The next appointment to replace him in his Recovery seat will be made by the Governor's office.

Patrick asked the Commission if there was any other business. Tym Rourke stated that the Attorney General has reached out to NHCF on how they can potentially support the treatment field with infrastructure changes. NHCF is preparing to provide technical assistance to treatment field to make sure provider system can remain in compliance.

Motion to Adjourn by Representative Hatch and seconded by Tym Rourke. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

*The next Governor's Commission meeting
October 26, 2018 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am at the
NH State House
Governor & Council Chambers
Concord, NH*