

HEROIN/OPIATE WORKGROUP NOTES

FEBRUARY 17, 2017

ATTENDING: Robert Kappelman, Kaaren Reiche, Jerry Schneider, Jennifer Stephens, Cynthia Edwards, Shannon Durkee, Jill Vandehey, Char Luther, Rock Rakosi, Curt Bennett, Kurt Smith, Diane Whitson, Randy Booker, Tim Edingfield

This session was used to determine how each of the four breakout groups --Youth, Seniors, Child Services, Professional Community -- would conduct their community information gathering.

IMPORTANT: Because Child Services will conduct focus groups prior to next meeting, it seems prudent to hear their feedback before printing questions and making definite plans for how to proceed.

It was suggested that everyone use similar questions as a basis for beginning to collect data. This may or may not work given the variety of proposed activities.

Child Services: Jennifer Stephens, Greg Dalton, Wendy Spencer, Steve Shirtcliff, Katrinka McReynolds, Shannon Durkee

- Have 3 focus groups scheduled prior to next Workgroup meeting
- Will report on what they learned, what worked and what could be done differently at March 17 Workgroup
- Have incentives and food in place
- Greg Dalton suggested as Facilitator

QUESTIONS:

1. What do you understand about opiate/heroin addiction?
2. What do you know about opiate pain medication?
3. What is your experience with opiate addiction in our communities?
4. How have you seen the effects of opiate use in the children you work with?
5. How do you currently address this issue?
6. What steps do you feel you or your cohorts could take to make a difference? (could still use work)

Paper survey-

1. Who are your program partners?
2. What resources would you like to have available?
3. Where do you get your information?

YOUTH: Tim Edingfield, Sierra Spencer (Coos Bay Schools, Youth Move) Hannah Dalton (North Bend School), Laura Williams, Randy Booker

- Have contacted Marshfield High and have permission to conduct their survey during one or more lunch hours – first two weeks of March
- Funding is available for pizza and soft drinks as incentive
- Working with North Bend High School to have a similar process there

Questions for focus group:

- ◇ What would be the best way to educate youth about opiate and heroin use?
- ◇ What is addiction? impact of? Is it harmful? Who is at risk of becoming addicted?
- ◇ What are opiates? What are they used for? Are they addictive?
- ◇ What are the risks of using high level opiates?
- ◇ It is ever ok to share medications with friends?
- ◇ Why do people start using drugs?

- ◇ How easy is it to get heroin or opiates in our community?
- ◇ Does anyone know about the Good Samaritan Law?
- ◇ Do people know what Naloxone or Narcan is? (injected or intranasal)

SENIORS: Jerry Schneider, Kurt B. Smith (541.217.5239), Kaaren Reiche, Kirk McAmis (541.751.5479), Diane Whitson

- Diane is creating educational brochure (New Community Coalition can print if needed)
- Outreach plan is to go to Coos Bay and North Bend Senior Centers during lunch
- Paper survey would be distributed
- Incentives could be offered for each survey completed – or one ticket (or more) could be given for each completed survey. The ticket(s) would be entered into the drawing for the incentive of their choice. Drawing happens at specified time .. must be present to win

QUESTIONS:

- ◇ What is an opioid? What do you know about opioid addiction?
- ◇ What can be done to wean patients from pain meds when pain is reduced?
- ◇ What impact will result when legislation mandates reduction in opioid prescription level?
- ◇ What do you know about alternatives to pain medications?
- ◇ How do you work with your doctor about pain & alternatives?
- ◇ How do you dispose of unused/expired meds?

PROFESSIONALS: Chief Kappelman, Curt Bennet, Rock Rakosi, Caryn Mickelson, Renee Menkens, Bittin Duggan, Deidrie Lindsey, Tracy Herning, Kirt McAmis, Jill Vandehey

This group will present to Tuesday Rotary Group. This will not happen until April at earliest.

Specific questions to “gauge the community's knowledge”. Three sections of Questions.

Engagement

1. Are you in pain?
2. Have you or a friend or relative been prescribed medication for pain?

Exploration

3. Is it okay to share your medications with other people?
4. Do you know how to dispose of unused or outdated medications?
5. Do you know how to store and secure your medications?
6. Do you know the difference between opiate and non-opiate medications?
7. If you go to the doctor with pain, what do you expect to happen?
8. Do you know that you can ask your doctor for non-opiate pain medication?
9. Do you understand the potential risks of opiate use?
10. Do you know what to do if you or someone you know is addicted?
11. Did you know if you call for help for someone who has overdosed, the law protects you?
12. Do you know what naloxone (Narcan) is?
13. There has been a lot of news about the opiate problem locally. How does that affect you? How does that affect the community?
14. Can you explain the connection between opiate medications and heroin?

Exit

15. Is there anything else you would like to share about the opiate problem?

NEXT MEETING: FRIDAY, MARCH 17 at 12:30 at NORTH BEND PUBLIC LIBRARY