

## Minutes of the DuPage County HOPE Taskforce

### Meeting Date: February 23, 2018

The second meeting of Heroin Opioid Prevention and Education (HOPE) Task Force met on Friday, February 23, 2018.

The meeting was called to order by Board of Health Vice President, Dr. Lanny Wilson at 9:00AM

The following is a list of those members in attendance.

<b>Task Force Member Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Attended</b>
Bob Berlin	State's Attorney	X
Daniel Guerin	Chief Judge	
Dr. Richard Jorgensen	Coroner	
Dr. Darlene Ruscitti		
Frank Bibbiano- representing John Zaruba	Sheriff	X
Grant Eckhoff	Board Member	X
Jeff York	Public Defender	X
Dr. Lanny Wilson	Vice - President	X
Karen Ayala	Executive Director	X
Bernadine Howard	Program Manager	X
Ed Sailer	Police Chief	X
Jim Burke	Fire Chief	X
Rich Veenstra	Mayor	X
Mark Piccoli	Director	
Dr. Aaron Weiner	Director of Addiction	X
Christin Kruse	Associate Vice President of Advancement - AMITA	X
Jim Scarpace	Executive Director	X
Michele Worobiec	Chief Counsel	X

After brief introductions, Dr. Wilson asked for a consensus to accept the minutes of the January 23, 2018 minutes as presented. There were no corrections. The minutes will be filed as presented.

Co-chair Grant Eckhoff shared a few comments about the important work being done and the importance of political leaders to learn from those who work with this issue on a daily basis.

Dr. Wilson introduced Karen Ayala, Executive Director of the DuPage County Health Department.

Ms. Ayala shared that the taskforce and the DuPage County Public Health Department's involvement in the taskforce reflects a commitment to make change and not headlines. Ms. Ayala added that the framework provides an opportunity to bend the curve of opioid and heroin use in the community in a long term and sustainable way and that the framework presents the chance to learn more about substance use disorders; and how valuable and important the work of assessment of those disorders and the treatment of those disorders are to making a impact in combating the current opioid and heroin crisis.

At the recommendation from members of the task force, Ms. Ayala shared the following items that were added to the draft framework.

- Provide education or technical assistance to healthcare organizations on how to set-up takeback programs
- Educate consumers about identifying opioid medications and advocating for alternatives
- Promote substance use disorder stigma reduction campaigns

Ms. Ayala stated that the framework will remain in a draft format for now, but as the taskforce develops its recommendations and have discussion going forward, the framework will become more formalized.

Ms. Ayala referred to item 5 of the framework: Substance Use Disorder Prevention and Education and introduced Kris Adzic and Barb Thayer from the Robert Crown Center, a partner in the education efforts on this issue and other public health issues. A video was shown on how Robert Crown works on prevention and education. At the conclusion Karen invited Kristin Cruse and Mayor Veenstra to share information on an educational program they are working on in their community and local schools. Approx. 80 community leaders were invited to participate in a discussion on what the health needs are in their community. A survey of these leaders resulted in an overwhelming question of what is being done to address heroin. This prompted the CEO of AMITA, fire chiefs, police chiefs and mayors to have a discussion on this issue and the stakeholders agreed that education of students is critical. A peer mentor program was developed that included training of the student mentors at both the high school and middle school level. The program is built upon peer to peer mentoring program. The mentors meet with mayors and other community leaders and provide feedback which assists community leaders in how to better address substance use disorders in their communities.

Ms. Ayala introduced task force member Michele Worobiec, Chief Counsel from TASC who gave a PowerPoint presentation titled – Pre-Arrest Diversion: A Public Health Solution to Crime Reduction and Better Outcomes. (a copy of the presentation is attached). Ms. Worobiec also

presented information on the Naloxone Plus Framework that could compliment the work of the existing DuPage County Narcan Program and information on the Police, Treatment and Community Collaborative (PTAC) whose mission is to strategically widen community behavioral health and social service options available through law enforcement diversion.

Dr. Wilson questioned if Crisis Intervention Training, which local police departments are using, would be considered part of Pre- Arrest Diversion. Ms. Worobiec responded that it does and provided additional information and examples. Dr. Wilson also questioned how Sequential Intercept Mapping (SIM) which envisions a series of points of interception at which an intervention can be made to prevent individuals from entering or penetrating deeper into the criminal justice system might fall under this initiative. Ms. Worobiec responded that it could be beneficial earlier on in an upstream point before behaviors and criminal consequences have time to develop.

Ms. Ayala stated that the SIM initiatives have been assumed under the Behavioral Health Collaborative which shifted their focus to individuals dealing with behavioral health issues and the criminal justice system specifically.

Ms. Worobiec asked members how they feel a program like this would fit into DuPage County. State's Attorney, Robert Berlin shared his concern that ½ of felony cases are out of county defendants and questioned how are services provided to those who live out of county? Ms. Worobiec acknowledged that it would be necessary to work with partners in other counties and added that the program could be designed to fit the needs of the county. Ms. Worobiec added that she believes that currently the Naloxone Plus Framework would be a good fit for DuPage County.

Dr. Wilson provided a brief overview for the next item on the agenda: Opioid Use Disorder Treatment Discussion. The presentations by Dr. Aaron Wiener of Linden Oaks and Jim Scarpace of Gateway will establish a foundation of understanding of treatment to assist the task force before taking next steps. The presentation included an overview of level of care, capacity and gaps and will focus on what addiction is, what is treatment, medication assisted treatment, and next steps. Handouts were provided to task members and provide a summary of certain areas of the presentation. A copy is included with the minutes.

Dr. Weiner began his presentation defining addiction as a disease and shared several key points pertaining to addiction. Addiction encompasses 3 components

BIOLOGICAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Physical changes to the brain</li></ul>
PSYCHOLOGICAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Used as coping mechanism</li><li>• Conditioning - association with use</li></ul>
SOCIAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Your social environment and network</li></ul>

Dr. Weiner also shared the second aspect of addiction and the differences between chemical dependency, psychological dependency and addiction and emphasized the importance of the distinction between each.

Chemical dependency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Physiological - Body develops a tolerance and experiences withdrawal from habitual use</li></ul>
Psychological	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Feels like you need it - get through the day.</li><li>• Do not experience withdrawals when you stop using</li></ul>
Addiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Combination of psychological and physiological</li><li>• Lack of control, use has negative consequences and still continues use</li></ul>

KEY POINTS: Addiction is not a choice

- For youth under 25 – addiction typically begins using gateway drugs – recreational progression
- For older adults – addiction generally begins with prescription use due to a health condition

A KEY ISSUE to CONSIDER: How to address pain management/addiction from prescribed opioids and addressing the stigmatization.

Jim Scarpace, from Gateway Foundation presented information on the treatment of addiction.

KEY POINTS:

- 20% of the population have a substance use disorder
- Perception becomes our reality
- Treatment of addiction – all three components need to be treated
- Treating the physiological and social component is the most difficult because of the complexities and addiction pathways.
- Treatment needs to establish recovery pathways.

A handout was provided to taskforce members and is included with minutes. The handout titled ASAM provides an overview of Mr. Scarpace discussion on treatment.

Mr. Scarpace also shared the difference between treatment and a 12-step program. Opioid use disorder requires comprehensive complex medical interventions. 12- steps programs are good for social support, but do not offer the medical interventions necessary for opioid use disorders.

TREATMENT COMPONENTS: Assessing and identifying what is needed, education is essential, including development of skills and recovery pathways, practice skills and helping families understand the disease.

TREATMENT CHALLENGES: Funding and lack of government beds, medical reimbursement rates, insurance companies lack understanding of treatment methods

Dr. Weiner provided information on medication assisted therapy. Dr. Weiner stated that 90% or people on opioids will relapse if not treated through medication assisted therapy.

Mr. Scarpace and Dr. Weiner closed their presentation with final thoughts on the importance of education, communication and collaboration and the need to break down and reduce the gaps between treatment and emergency rooms/jails/insurance companies; many connections to be made. Improve processes and exploring all funding options and challenges. Prevention and improving treatment collaboration and improving the number of beds available for those in need. Education and prevention is critical.

Dr. Wilson stated the importance of also addressing the “pipeline” of drugs into communities and asked what law enforcement is experiencing on this issue. Police Chief Sailer stated that heroin arrests of those people providing the substance are occurring everyday in DuPage County. Mr. Sailer noted, that law enforcement and first responders face a challenge when responding to substance use calls and the ability to assist individuals who request treatment and want it immediately. Mr. Sailer suggested the task force explore a program that Lake County offers to assist first responders and law enforcement dealing with this issue.

Director Ayala stated that through the generous offer made by DuPage County of \$100,000.00 the task force needs to determine recommendations on best to utilize this money to have the best impact. Dr. Wilson suggested forming a subcommittee to have recommendations for future presentations, develop future agendas and how to best utilize the donation.

The following individuals offered to serve:

Michele Worobiec, Jim Burke, Dr. Aaron Weiner, Bernadine Howard, Christin Kruse, Jeff York and Jim Scarpace. Mila Tsagalis and Chris Hoff from the Health Department will serve in the role of coordinators.

Members were also asked to review a selection of dates for possible future meetings. There were no objections to the selections.

Dr. Wilson closed the meeting at 10:57AM. The next meeting of the HOPE taskforce is scheduled for Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 9:00AM

respectfully submitted,  
Penny Chanez  
Executive Assistant