



Opioid Abuse Advisory Committee

Meeting #12 Minutes

Wednesday January 6, 2021

Zoom Video Conference

The 12th meeting of the Opioid Abuse Advisory Committee was called to order by Advisory Committee Chair Laura Streich at 1:00 pm CT. The following members of the Advisory Committee were in attendance: Laura Streich, Kristen Bunt, Sara DeCoteau, Amy Hartman, Maureen Deutscher, Margaret Hansen, Tiffany Wolfgang, Kristen Carter, Kari Shanard-Koenders, Barbara Smith, and Brian Zeeb.

Advisory Committee members not in attendance included Chris Dietrich, Robert VanDemark, and Jon Schuchardt. Senator Jim White recused himself from the committee prior to the meeting since his term with the South Dakota Legislature has ended.

Other state staff in attendance included: Stacy Krall, Melissa DeNoon, Kiley Hump, Amanda Nelson, Laura Ringling, Alex Mayer, Beth Dokken, Laura Gudgeon, Rachel Oelmann and Nick Oyen (contracted project supports from Sage Project Consultants, LLC).

Guests included: Renee Eggebraaten and Vanessa Mader (Bethany Christian Services); Ed Smith and Jessica Hromas (Oxford House Inc.); Aaron Hunt and Erin Miller (SDSU College of Pharmacy & Allied Health Professions); Tosa Two Heart, Staci Eagle Elk, and Christian Skunk (Great Plains Tribal Leader's Health Board); Jordon Mounga (Avera St. Luke's); Holly Riker (Imagine Agency / Hot Pink Ink); Mark East (South Dakota State Medical Association); Chelsea Wesner and Susan Puumala (University of South Dakota OD2A Evaluation Team); Aly Becker (Sanford Research OD2A Evaluation Team); and Sandra Melstad (SLM Consulting).

Minutes Approval.

The July 15, 2020, meeting minutes were approved via e-mail in August 2020.

Welcome & Initial Comments

Laura Streich welcomed the Advisory Committee members and guests. The outcome of the meeting was set to a) provide updates on several key initiatives supported by opioid funding managed by the Department of Social Services (DSS) and Department of Health (DOH), and b) provide opportunity for sharing of project information and networking across state and non-state agencies working in the area of opioid prevention, treatment, or response.

Funding Updates.

Streich relayed that the Department of Health has moved into Year 2 of 3 of its Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) funding through Overdose Data to Action (OD2A) grant.

Department of Social Services as reported by Tiffany Wolfgang, Division Director for Behavioral Health, is in its no-cost extension phase of the initial State Opioid Response funding and was recently awarded a

second State Opioid Response grant, beginning October 2020. The SOR-2 grant will provide continued funding supports for opioid prevention, response, treatment, and recovery support initiatives through September 2022.

Review of JCA Report.

Streich called attention to the second issuance of the annual report, finalized November 1, 2020. The reports provide a high-level overview of federal opioid funding received and managed by DOH and DSS. No questions. No questions or discussion were raised on the report itself. The report can be accessed at: <https://www.avoidopioidsd.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/JCA-Report.pdf>

Presentations

Meeting slides presented are included in these meeting minutes.

South Dakota's Opioid Road Map – Data & Surveillance.

Presentation #1: Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Update

Melissa DeNoon, SD Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Director with the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Health, reported on the latest activities associated with the Program. Data was presented relative to opioid prescription counts, quantity and days of supply, dispensations by age, and related opioid prescription measures. A slight increase in opioid prescription count was observed since January 2019 through current. DeNoon noted that all three parameters presented (prescription total quantity dispensed, prescription count, and total days of supply) increased in March 2020, then dropped April-May 2020, and increased again June to October 2020. November 2020 shows decreases and work is ongoing with the Department of Health Chronic Disease Epidemiologists to monitor these trends in alignment with other prevalence and incidence rates.

DeNoon relayed the progress on several key initiatives managed by the Board of Pharmacy, including the newest partners on the Gateway integration project (Lewis Family Drug pharmacies along with several independent pharmacies across SD). DeNoon advised that the Gateway integration project also recently expanded to also include clinic locations in addition to pharmacy locations. The License Integration Project was also discussed, which works with other professional licensing boards in the state and the PDMP vendor to support automatic re-verification processes for current users, and auto-approval of new accounts with the respective licensing board. DeNoon also relayed an update on the drug take-back program efforts ongoing in partnership with Trilogy MedWaste and their MedDrop receptacles.

Tiffany Wolfgang asked for an update on the total number of pharmacies now hosting a permanent takeback receptacle, and for additional context on how many counties were initially targeted for the program as it expanded. DeNoon reported that of the counties that could host a permanent pharmacy-based receptacle, 43 of them have a permanent receptacle, leaving only nine (9) that do not have one installed in a community within the county. DeNoon reiterated that some corporate pharmacies (e.g. CVS/Walgreens) opted not to participate in the SD MedDrop program as they have their own ongoing initiative for drug take-back or safe medication disposal options. DeNoon further noted that all Lewis Drug locations statewide have a receptacle installed. This effort combined with safe at-home medication disposal has provided SD with a number of evidence-based methods for disposal.

Tosa Two Heart from Great Plains Tribal Leaders Health Board asked if any of the participating pharmacies were IHS. DeNoon noted that at this time she was not aware of an IHS location hosting a MedDrop receptacle through this specific program but reminded the audience that this program is not the only program available and that pharmacies may host their own independently or have a partnership with

another community location (e.g. law enforcement office) to support the needs of their area. Sara DeCoteau, Health Coordinator from Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate, relayed that the IHS pharmacy in Sisseton does have a permanent take-back receptacle, as does the hospital (Coteau des Prairie Health Care System) at their clinic. It was further noted that the take-back locations could be found on AvoidOpioidSD.com; the list includes all known receptacles not limited to the ones placed through the Board of Pharmacy's program.

Presentation #2: Data Updates

Presentation was provided by Amanda Nelson, Chronic Disease Epidemiologist from the SD Department of Health. See enclosed slides for information presented.

Following the presentation, Brian Zeeb asked for confirmation on the timing of data available, noting the most recent information is from 2019. Nelson confirmed and advised that the vital statistics for 2020 are pending, expected to be available in late summer/early fall 2021. Discussion continued on the breakdown of data provided. Kari Shanard-Koenders from the Board of Pharmacy asked if the data tracking allows for differentiation between illicit and prescription fentanyl; Nelson advised she would research this and report back. Zeeb commented that nationally, trends are showing higher trafficking rates associated with fentanyl due to ease of transportation.

Aaron Hunt, SDSU, asked about the availability of county level data; Nelson advised that yes, county data is available, but most county's data would need to be suppressed due to low numbers.

In relation to the overdose and hospitalization data presented, Zeeb asked if there was capacity to know if Narcan (Naloxone Hcl) had been administered in any of those cases. Committee Chair Streich advised she would research this and report back. Wolfgang commented that national trends seen in this area echo what they are seeing locally, particularly that methamphetamines are now laced with fentanyl as well.

Presentation #3: Avoid Opioid Media Update

Presented by Holly Riker, Account Executive with Hot Pink Ink, the contracted vendor supporting the Avoid Opioid campaign and associated media in partnership with DSS and DOH. Following her presentation (slides enclosed), Wolfgang highlighted recent examples of using media to rapid respond to upticks in overdose in real-time and acknowledged the Hot Pink team for their flexibility in adapting messages to make timely communication out to the public in those situations.

Project Spotlights

Presentation #4: Recovery Support Services.

Introduced by Stacy Krall, Addiction Program Specialist with the Division of Behavioral Health, SD DSS, this presentation featured an overview of what recovery support services are, how they are vital to the recovery pathway and continuum of care, and introduction to two new resources now available in South Dakota supported through SOR funding.

The first spotlight featured an overview of the Oxford House recovery home model, presented by Ed Smith, Regional Manager and Jessica Hromas, South Dakota Outreach Coordinator. Presentation materials are enclosed. Wolfgang provided acknowledgement of Oxford House for their commitment to expanding this resource across SD communities. Staci Eagle Elk from Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate asked if Oxford House finds the community or does the community find them, regarding future house development. Per Ed

Smith, the model can accommodate both pathways, and advised that if staff are not familiar with local needs they tend to start in larger communities, but equally pursue development in rural communities as well. Smith noted there are houses in tribal areas in other parts of the nation and that they are willing to partner no matter the population. As a point of clarification, it was noted by the presenters that the data presented was national in scope, but that similar metrics would be monitored in SD as houses are developed.

The second spotlight featured the ReNew (Recovering Mothers with Newborns) maternal wraparound program provided by Bethany Christian Services, presented by Renee Eggebraaten and Vanessa Mader. Bethany Christian Services is a large global organization that provides a broad spectrum of child welfare services – services intended to keep families together or finding families for children who need them. They work in the area of foster care, refugee services, adoption, and related activities. Most known for adoption, historically, they reported having 65 years of experience providing counseling to women who are pregnant. In result, they have found increasingly that the number of women they are working with have complex needs. In 2018, 47% of women they were working with at that time self-reported they were impacted by substance abuse while pregnant, which drove the need to develop more comprehensive services. Out of this, ReNew was created. Piloted in Pennsylvania, the model has been adapted for South Dakota and launched in October 2020. Mader presented an overview of the program itself, followed by closing remarks from Wolfgang who acknowledged their commitment to building capacity for this intensive case management program in state.

Presentation #5: Update on Overdose Education, Naloxone Distribution, and the new statewide standing order.

Presentation provided by Tiffany Wolfgang; see enclosed slides. Following the presentation, Kari Shanard-Koenders remarked that this is something the Board of Pharmacy has long supported, and she was glad that a statewide standing order was now in place to provide increased access to lifesaving, overdose reversal medication for persons in a position to assist.

Impacts on Treatment resulting from COVID-19

Streich facilitated a brief conversation among meeting attendees regarding any impacts or barriers to services resulting from COVID-19. The following represents a summary of that discussion:

- Wolfgang reported that the Division of Behavioral Health continues to see that treatment providers have modified their service delivery to embrace telemedicine and other alternative service methods to continue to support individuals in need of care. The Division also focused on increasing awareness of the 605Strong program, in partnership with Helpline Center and the 211 service.

Advisory Committee & Grant Updates

Streich called for round-table updates from committee members and partners:

- Aaron Hunt from SDSU reported that they are currently implementing a RCORP Grant from HRSA. Advised that a Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) bootcamp is being scheduled for 2021; the training is under development and will be focused on implementation of MAT. It is not a training designed to fulfill the federal training requirement for providers to prescribe and dispense buprenorphine, the primary medication utilized in MAT. Hoping to host in person late spring, subject to pandemic precautions in place. There will be no cost for the training. Staci Eagle Elk also reported that this is a shared objective with their Tribal Opioid Response (TOR) grant, targeted to the Sisseton Wahpeton area.

- Sara DeCoteau advised they [Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate] received additional TOR funding. She relayed that much of the statewide work described in today's committee meeting is being applied at the local level, and that they would be interested in more information on potential partnerships for recovery support services, specifically. DeCoteau reported that they have some difficulty in implementing recovery support service models with the funding available to them. Focus on their TOR programs continue to be on building awareness of resources available, a shared priority of the SOR program as noted by Wolfgang and Riker.
- Tosa Two Heart advised that Great Plains Tribal Leaders Health Board (GPTLHB) also received a new TOR grant. They have completed strategic action planning, formulating three goals around prevention, treatment and recovery resources for the Rapid City and Crow Creek communities, and creation of a community of practice. GPTLHB will be convening quarterly meetings with invites to stakeholders with tribal opioid concerns. Two Heart emphasized the importance for future work to continually examine cultural awareness in its planning and implementation.
- Mark East from the South Dakota State Medical Association reported that they have implemented slight changes to the guidelines for acute pain prescribing, pending final review with their stakeholder group.
- Streich provided a brief update on the progress of the emergency department toolkit work previously reported on at the 2020 summer meeting; DOH is hoping to have an initial pilot toolkit available in summer 2021. Streich noted several committee members participate in the various work groups and acknowledged their extended involvement in this work.
- Mark East asked for some general indication of "what's next" in terms of the committees focus and work. Streich advised that monitoring effectiveness and outcomes and working on sustainability plans for projects initiated in the last several years through federal opioid funding were shared priorities of both DOH and DSS. Streich reported that the [strategic plan](#) would be reviewed and updated in 2021, and that the committee can use that process to help identify additional areas of focus moving forward.

Public Testimony

Streich called for public testimony; none was provided.

Closing Remarks

Streich advised the next meeting would be held summer 2021. Virtual or in person to be determined. Meeting logistics will be announced at a later date and a poll will be sent to schedule the meeting based on everyone's availability.

Meeting was adjourned.