



**Behavioral Health Task Group  
Meeting Minutes**

February 16, 2018

9:30 am to 11:00 am

Thurman Adams State Service Center, N. Entrance  
546 S. Bedford Street, Georgetown, DE 19947

**Mission:** *The Behavioral Health Task Group is an inclusive & collaborative group focused on providing education, service expansion and advocacy to ensure that all Sussex County residents have access to quality mental/behavioral health services.*

**Dashboard:**

1. Access to Mental Health Services for Children and Youth and increased access to treatment and support for Adults.
2. Decrease in Overdose deaths and increased policies that address the addiction epidemic
3. 3rd Grade Reading Levels and Increased Graduation Rates

**IMPACT** - Increased access and support to mental health and addictions services for children, youth and families in Sussex County

Meeting called to Call to Order by Kym Alvarado. She asked committee members to review the minutes. Motion to approve the minutes by Janet Urdahl, motion was seconded by Jenna Montalbano. Minutes were approved as presented.

**Attendees:** Kym Alvarado, Jenna Montalbano, Carrie Snyder, Johana Thomas, Tita Gontang, Quiana Dorn, Vinnie Fabber, Angelic Pariseau, James Larks, Ramona Pickett, Janet Urdahl, Jason Coleman, Blanca Sandoval, Amy Hurley, Tina Moyer, Willard Heuser, Desmond Wynn, John Richter, Catherine Sharkey, Desiree Francis, Debbie Short, Bruce Lorenz, Rosanne Faust, Marcey Rezac, Trish Danner, Brian Freeman, Debbie Pringle, Robert Dunleavy, Cheryl Doucette, Peggy Geisler, Nancy Burris

**Action Items:**

Roseann Faust will update the group on NAS programs

Cheryl to check with DE Hospice to see if May 16, 2018 is available for BHTG meeting/facility tour, in progress.

Report on Pain Management Protocol, Cheryl.

March 16 meeting, Bob Dunleavy, will be our guest speaker.

Brian Freeman will be our guest speaker at an upcoming meeting. SCHC to confirm.

SCHC to post Meet the Funder (March 7, 1-3 pm) Registration details, Done.

Committee Co-Chair roles will expand. SCHC will meet with each new person, update in March, on going.

Cheryl asked the committee members to sit with someone that you do not know, or someone that you would like to partner with. She further explained to the committee that this meeting format would be different. We were doing a "meeting mingle". Committee members were asked to spend about 5 minutes talking with their new "partner". After the allotted time was up, Cheryl asked each partner team to introduce the new person they had just met. Name, organization and brief description was to be included with their introduction. The committee responded favorably to this new format and everyone felt that this was a helpful exercise.

**Old Business: Update on project purple:** SCHC received a 100K grant from Highmark Delaware for drug free communities work in Seaford. The grant will be formally announced next week.

- THP Heron Project Purple Initiative: Seaford goes Purple ... Sussex goes Purple ... may have an additional 5 counties in Maryland join the launch campaign. Originally started with kids in schools, Talbot County community got behind the project purple. If you want to be involved, let us know. Next meeting 2/23/18.
- April quarterly meeting: moved to the Cheer Center, Sand Hill Road, April 19<sup>th</sup>. Talbot Goes Purple, speaker, Highmark update, Lt. Gov. 100-120 people, please pre-register.

**New Business:** Feb 2018, all committees are being asked to share their organization's goals. How can the community goals and partner goals align?

Peggy got a call from Warwick. Did you know 90% of DE clients treated are homeless? Committee discussion: Recovery Homes, Shelters are lacking in the community, private homes are cropping up to assist. Still a huge gap.

Homeless population does not show up for post treatment appointments. Trying to help the homeless population with services and treatment, follow up is a common problem for all partners. There is no clearing house, to share resources and information. Partners need to know how to access all available resources to help ensure services are available to everyone. Delaware 211 doesn't cover all issues. Partners and providers need to have a list of places that are available after treatment. Understanding the landscape to identify gaps – collaborate to provide appropriate treatment -- Align with existing delivery systems, already set up to educate youth. Wellness centers – comprehensive peer training.

Last year middle school kids were identified, now need to look young kids (8-10) smoking cigarettes, drinking, moving on to smoking pot, using heroin. How are kids processing when the parent is receiving treatment?

Coaching/counseling is not educating addicts. Unawareness of long term treatment options. Who provides the education to the physician office staff? Healthy Sussex Task Group, Christiana, Beebe is using Christiana best practices. Non-compliant patients that are AMA when they start with drawl.

- Ages 10 and Up, need more: behavioral resources, inpatient treatment (alcohol and drug abuse)
  - SUN: *Solving Unmet Needs*. SUN has promised that they will do everything. SUN is schedule to present to this committee in April. Amy Wood will be assigned to Sussex County.
- Domestic Violence: Need services for teen around domestic violence. Big gaps for teens of domestic violence. Where is the biggest need? Local programs are receiving huge budget cuts, don't have the staff available to provide services. Support local programs, increase funding, get into schools to reach out to the kids. What does a comprehensive plan look like.
- Post Natal Care for Moms: Getting moms engaged during pregnancy, establish the relationship, Plan of Safe Care. Mom's that are not in treatment, actively using find out they are pregnant from an ER Visit. Challenge to keep the mom's engaged. Transportation, housing issues. Not all moms have a good support system. Post-partum is the most vulnerable time especially for mom's using, going through detox, with new born. Front and back end needs the most work. This group is probably not doing a good job identifying on the front end. What are the national models that do front end work well can we duplicate what is working in Sussex? NAS/SEI national models, money is available but not sustainable, think that through. How do we as a community support/sustain the program.
- Grief: Lots of kids lose parents to war, overdose. How are kids dealing with death, mourning the loss of a parent, or someone who has been taking care of them. What support do the school districts have? Delaware Hospice can assist with grieve counseling NAMI, Hospice, can work together to figure that out.
- Human trafficking resources, need to be more. Girls 12-15 are being targeting in the schools. Bring task force to Sussex county. Zoe Ministries is leading the charge in this sector. Kids are being indentured. More awareness. Have that discussion with the schools, SCHC to assist. Is staff getting the right training to recognize offer help to human trafficking victims? Education needs to be in the schools.

**SECC-ELAT, YESO**, connection with existing organizations. Committee members, Brian Freeman was asked to present to this group in May. Question: Autism in Del do they offer any support in Sussex County?

**SCHC web site is almost completely done.** If you send your organization community flyers (one page, pdf format) to us, we will post to the web site. We also have a community events calendar. If you are partner of SCHC, we will share community events.

**Continue to share and align resources** – collaborate. SCHC’s job is to bring partners together. Learning more from each other. Some problem solving is already occurring around the table

**Partner Updates:** Please share all updates with SCHC, via email: schcadmin@pmgconsuting.net

Feb 20-23, Vet Center. New benefits bill signed by Pres Trump.

Jenna, August 31-Sept 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5000 kids in recovery convention in Baltimore.

NAMI, Children and Teens, Crossword community flyer. Hope and Recovery 3/24, all day, Ocean View. Discover, at Easter Seals. Sharing Hope program in Spanish at La Red.

Peggy formally thanked NAMI, they heard that we need more services in Sussex, please thank Josh.

Partners are looking for ways to be more culturally inclusive (Latino, Haitian).

La Red, got a 75K grant to cover Vivitrol shots (focus will be in Seaford) and peer support and access to help.

Kim Taylor, project yellow rolled out this week. Suicide prevention program. Yellow Ribbon program has been around for the past 10 years. School works to intervene once a person at risk is identified. Training staff how to do an interview to assess the suicide threat? Indian River School District has been working with SCHC for 6 years, funding for majority of these initiatives with SCHC funding.

**SCHC** will host a quarterly Meet the Funder Series: Next event will be March 7<sup>th</sup>, 1-3pm. Only one staff member per organization, maximum of 25 organizations. Registration will be available shortly.

**Meeting Adjourned:** Next meeting, March 16, 9:30 am Thurman Adams State Service Center, Georgetown.

**Save the Date:**

SCHC Quarterly Meeting -April 19, 2018

8:30 am to 11:00 am

CHEER Community Center

20520 Sand Hill Road - Georgetown, DE 19947