

BARNSTABLE COUNTY REGIONAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNCIL

MEETING SUMMARY

Date: October 6, 2016 4:00 PM	MEETING PLACE: Harborview Conference Room, Barnstable County Complex
NEXT MEETING: December 1, 2016, 4:00 PM, Harborview Conference Room, County Complex	RECORDING: Melissa Janiszewski, Barnstable County Human Services
<p>MEMBERS PRESENT: Beth Albert, Roger Allen, Deirdre Arvidson, Karen Cardeira, Dennis Cunningham, Christine Greeley, Lisa Guyon, Paul Hilton, Sheila House, Randy Hunt, Rick Knowlton, Mary LeClair, Sheila Lyons, Patty Mitrokostas, Edye Nesmith, Kathy Quatromoni, Judy Scarafile, Ray Tamasi, Gail Wilson, Regina Yaroch,</p> <p>Unable to attend: Cheryl Bartlett, Ronald Bergstrom, Shaun Cahill, Sarah Cushing, Elisabeth Griffin, Linell Grundman, Randall Hoskinson Jr, John M Julian, Donna Mello, Lisa Murphy, Andrew Nelson, Heidi Nelson, Ruth Provost, Brian, Robbins, Sean Sheehan, Sam Tarplin, Michael Trudeau</p> <p>Members of the public: Deb Martin, Trudy Avery, Tim Levesque, Traci Wojciechowski, Karen Carll, Joan Peters-Gilmartin, Cassi Danzel, Amy Doherty, Stephanie Briody, Rachel Berggren, Len Thatcher</p> <p>DHS Staff: Vaira Harik, Patty Watson, Kim Slade, Melissa Janiszewski</p>	

- **Welcome and Introductions:** Ray Tamasi chaired the meeting.
- **Minutes of June 2, 2016 Meeting:** Minutes approved at 4pm
- **RSAC Working Group and Action Plan Updates:**
 - **Prevention Work Group:** Patty Mitrokostas presented primary activity for first annual parent summit at the Cape Codder; Focusing on ages 0-7, -8-14, -14-21. Specific agencies can have a table around treatment, recovery and prevention. Goal for attendance is 300, and Lisa is asking everyone to support event outreach by sharing the summit with community and working networks. Barnstable County will send out update prior to conference with digital materials to share. Target audience for the event: Parents, Grandparents, Care givers and individuals working with children/youth. Event will feature free childcare provided, required RSVP registration.
 - **Recovery Work Group:** Lenny Thatcher from the Pier Recovery Center reported for Brian Robbins and Sam Tarplin, Len reported on Recovery Fest that took place on Sept 17th in Village Green in Hyannis. Recognizing that in the past on Cape Cod, there wasn't a positive or fun way to celebrate such a powerful milestone in someone's journey through recovery (until now). The Fest received tremendous support from the community. Len showed a video of Recovery Fest made by Dennis Cunningham.
 - **Treatment Work Group:** Roger Allen reported to the RSAC on the progress of the work group. Christine Kelly from, Addiction Services and Placement STAT (ASAPS) will speak about a new centralized program that will provide on the spot access for addiction treatment and support on Cape Cod, October 17, 2016. The Treatment work group is in the process of securing a speaker series for the remainder of the year, in order to highlight treatment topics that are in alignment with the working group's action plan.

- **Intervention Work Group:** No report.
- **Legislative Agenda and Advocacy** – Beth Albert: The question has been raised whether the RSAC can take a position on the marijuana ballot initiative. The RSAC is comprised of public and private entities and individuals and it was unclear what role the RSAC could take in regards to this issue. Following the August RSAC meeting, Beth sought guidance from the State Ethics Commission on this question. The Ethics Commission issued written guidance and determined RSAC members are considered public employees in a policy making role, and therefore are required to abide by the state’s Conflict of Interest laws and are unable to engage in political activity. However, the law provides that public employees in policy making roles may take a position on ballot initiatives as long as they don’t engage in political activity. Individual citizens and elected officials are able to take positions and are not bound by the same constraints as public employees.

Discussion: Many members of the RSAC represent an organization or municipality and are unable to take a position in their role or because their organization’s Board of Directors has not taken a position. Another concern raised is that if RSAC took a position on proposed legislation or a ballot initiative it would have the potential to become divisive and could potentially lead to a loss of credibility from community and from opposing sides of an issue.

 - Chris Greeley- spoke about her public comment on Yarmouth as a private citizen and recommends the same for others on the committee. Yarmouth BOS voted not to support #4
 - Judy reported that the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce voted to not support the ballot initiative #4
 - Beth read portions of a statement by Sam Tarplin who was unable to attend today’s meeting, Sam was not in favor of RSAC taking a position on this or any ballot initiative, and urged the RSAC to retain a neutral voice.

Motion: The RSAC would not take a position on this ballot initiative and RSAC’s role as a neutral body that provides the region with data, unbiased information, and education was reaffirmed. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Presentation (PowerPoint Attached):** Sheriff’s Re-entry Program: Roger Allen and Gail Dufault: A System of Transitioning Inmates Safely Back into the Community: Also referred to the sheriff’s website to see a video where inmates spoke about the program at a panel discussion. This can be found here: <http://www.bsheriff.net/index.html> **400 individuals are linked the re-entry program*
- **Required Substance Use Policy in Schools- HB 4056 Section 96:** Paul Hilton provided information on; Guidance on school policy around substance use. Document can be found here: <https://malegislature.gov/Bills/189/House/H4056>
- **RSAC Representative Updates:**
 - Gail Wilson, Substance use task force in Mashpee is a multi-sector group. Had first meeting earlier this month, group will start a public wellness campaign, will promote safe disposal of drug drop off, and linking people to treatment.
 - Lisa Guyon, Moms Do Care program: focusing on opioid use and still enrolling women. One of two sites in the country, and is being used as a pilot for the nation. During the Behavioral Health Summit, there will be a panel discussion on the program, including women who have participated and are now working as peer support for newly enrolled participants. Behavioral Health Summit is on Friday. Information can be found: <http://www.bhpccapecod.org/>
- **Adjournment:** 5:23 PM.
- **Next meeting scheduled for December 1, 2016 @ 4 PM in the Harborview Conference Room in the County Complex**

Respectfully submitted: Melissa Janiszewski