

# BARNSTABLE COUNTY REGIONAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNCIL

## MEETING SUMMARY

Date: March 9, 2015    4:00 PM	MEETING PLACE: Harborview Conference Room, County Complex
NEXT MEETING: April 2, 2015, 4:00 PM, Harborview Conference Room, (top of the hill in the County Complex)	RECORDING: Kathie Callahan, Barnstable County Human Services
<p><b>PRESENT:</b> Beth Albert, Melissa Alden, Deidre Arvidson, Ronald Bergstrom, Shaun Cahill, Linell Grundman, Vaira Harik, Paul Hilton, Randy Hoskinson, Samantha Kossow, Ed Kulhawik, Mary LeClair, Sheila Lyons, Patty Mitrokostas, Heidi Nelson, Kathy Quatromoni, Sue Rohrbach, Sean Sheehan, Gail Wilson, Regina Yaroch</p> <p><b>Unable to attend:</b> Roger Allen, Cheryl Bartlett, Karen Cardeira, David Dunford, Elisabeth Griffin, Thomas Guerino, Lisa Guyon, Sheila House, Randy Hunt, John Julian, Kate McHugh, Donna Mello, Gerry Panuczak, Carolyn Rains, Jean Talbert</p> <p><b>Guests:</b> Susan Grevelis – Mental Health School Liaison Nurse, Michael Jackman – Congressman Keating’s office, Hillard Boskey – Yarmouth BOH, K.C. Myers – Cape Cod Times, Dr. Brian O’Malley – Assembly of Delegates, Judith Reppucci – Harbor Community Health Center Hyannis, Michelle Aceto – Harbor Community Health Center Hyannis</p>	

- **Welcome and Introductions:**
  
- **Minutes of February 2015 Meeting:** Motion by **Linell Grundman**, seconded by **Heidi Nelson** to accept the February 5, 2015 minutes as written, unanimously approved.
  
- **State & Federal Legislative Updates – Samantha Kossow:** Distributed and reviewed. Federal news: Michael Botticelli, former head of the MA Bureau of Substance Abuse Services and Deputy Director of White House’s Office of National Drug Control Policy, confirmed by Senate to become U.S. “drug czar”. State news: Governor Baker announced initial steps to combat opioid addiction crisis with establishment of a 16 member working group. A listening tour of the state will take place over the next month. County level data released on the number of prescriptions written for opioids from data compiled from the online Prescription Monitoring Program and the number of confirmed opioid-related overdose deaths. Five bills passed in the previous legislative session were reviewed. For more information about new legislation in the current session, visit [www.bchumanservices.net](http://www.bchumanservices.net) and click on the Behavioral Health Portal and Service Directory.
  
- **Baseline Assessment Report – Final Review - Vaira Harik:** Executive Summary distributed to Council members present and reviewed. Previous edit suggestions have been incorporated in the version distributed. Additional suggestions and minor edits from today’s meeting will be incorporated. Noted that the section titled “Preliminary Recommendations” on page 5 will provide opportunity for the Council to review and update this section as needed. Additional suggested edits will be received through close of business on 3/10/15. **Sue Rohrbach** motioned, seconded by **Ron Bergstrom** to finalize the report with edits, unanimously approved.
  
- **Plan for Release of Final Report – Beth Albert:** After edits have been incorporated the Executive Summary will be released at the close of business on 3/10/15 and posted on the Barnstable County Department of Human Services website at [www.bchumanservices.net](http://www.bchumanservices.net). A finalized copy of the report will be forwarded to Council members. A press briefing is scheduled for March 11, 2015 at 9:30 in the Harborview Conference Room in the Barnstable County Complex, 3195 Main St., Barnstable Village. Beth will invite media outlets on Cape

Cod to attend & Council members are welcome. Talking Points were distributed and reviewed. These talking points will provide unified messaging when speaking about the Baseline Assessment Report to press and community members. Talking points included brief summaries about the RSAC; the Baseline Assessment Report and why it was produced; the methods used for data collection and analysis; Findings, both epidemiological and cost analysis; Preliminary Recommendations and Next Steps.

Suggestions for inclusion in the Talking Points: definition for endemic, what is the story now – current overdose mortality data, Narcan usage, fluid addendum – what we are seeing as a community, source of funding for the report (the County), and list of council member affiliations – wide representation for many sectors. Reiterated that this is a “Baseline Report” and updates will be on-going as new data is collected.

- **Planning Committee – Beth Albert:** At the December 2014 RSAC meeting a vote created an Ad Hoc Planning Committee. Group is comprised of Randy Hunt, Ray Tamasi, DA Michael O’Keefe, Sheriff Cummings, Heidi Nelson, Cheryl Bartlett, Gina Hurley and department staff. Group will focus on developing a Regional Substance Abuse plan guided by the Baseline Report and the Council. Recommendations will be brought back to the Council for discussion and approval. We will be conducting about 15 focus groups to engage the broader community. A list of proposed focus groups was distributed and council member/point persons were assigned to individual groups to be scheduled for April and May. Its not unrealistic that there will be a draft plan by end of June. Suggested focus groups include: school superintendents, school nurses, police/law enforcement, Chambers of Commerce/Employers, Substance Abuse providers, Town Health Agents, School Guidance Counselors, Town Managers, Faith-based groups, Emergency Room staff, Parents/Significant Others/Siblings, Persons in Recovery, Persons actively using/addicted to substances. Additional groups suggested: Youth, Town Substance Abuse groups, Seniors, Criminal Justice: Probationers/Parolees/Inmates and a broad-based Community Forum.
- **MOAPC – Beth Albert:** The first meeting has been rescheduled to March 12<sup>th</sup>. RFP for MOAPC grant coordinator has been reposted. The RFP can be downloaded from the County website at <http://purchasing.barnstablecounty.org/>.
- **Prescription Monitoring Program – County Level Data – Vaira Harik:** Vaira distributed and reviewed information from the MA Department of Public Health’s Prescription Monitoring Program: A Report to the MA Legislature, 2013. Attendees had questions re: how does the data from the Barnstable County compare to the rest of the state. Is the Cape using the program more or just better at reporting. Vaira is going to look further into this information and underlying variables and report back to the Council.
- **Updates from Representatives:**
  - Linell Grundman: Last week over 60 people came to the documentary film screening held in Sandwich of “What Happened Here: The Untold Story of Addiction on Cape Cod”. The recovery and counseling community are coming together in support of the film. Q&A after the film works well with a facilitator. New Substance Abuse Prevention Committee has been convened in Sandwich.
  - Patty Mitrokostas: Distributed invites to the second in The Charlie Wilkerson Lecture Series "**Opiates, Pain and Addiction**" which will be given by Dr. Charles Reznikoff on Wednesday, March 18, 2015 from 6:30-8:00 PM at the Cape Codder Resort in Hyannis.

- Sue Rohrbach: Senator Wolf and Senator DeMacedo have been holding a "**Commonwealth Conversations**" tour concluding with a public forum on March 18<sup>th</sup>, 6-7:30 PM at Admiral's Hall Auditorium at Mass Maritime Academy.
  - Michael Jackman, Congressman Keating's office: Congressman Keating will be holding a roundtable on March 12<sup>th</sup> to engage clergy and faith leaders in a discussion about substance abuse and how to access resources for families and individuals in need.
- **Public Comment:**
- Dr. Brian O'Malley: New initiative – chronic pain consultation service which includes 7 medical specialties. Any physician in the system who is uncomfortable with their patient's chronic pain management can solicit a consultation to review each case.
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- **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 PM.
- **Next meeting scheduled for April 2, 2015 @ 4 PM in the Harborview Conference Room in the County Complex**

Respectfully submitted: Kathie Callahan