

**Onondaga County Drug Task Force Meeting  
July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
Zoom Meeting**

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
<b>Introductions:</b>	<p>Introductions made. Christian Zabriskie, Onondaga County Library System Kristen Cerio- Onondaga County Health Department, Outreach Worker for Substance Use and Mental Health Initiatives Jenn Parmalee- Director of Community Services for Onondaga County Brittany Welch- Intern at OCHD</p> <p>Barry Weiss stated that CDC put out a report on the Opioid Epidemic, there were 93,000 Overdose Deaths in the last year, which translates to 11 every hour. We hope that what we do in the task force and throughout the community. Elps a little.</p> <p>Previous Meeting Minutes, were approved and seconded and will be put on the website.</p>	Ni
<b>1. Data and Drug Trends</b>	<p>Previously, 2016 was the peak year of overdose deaths within our community, the pandemic has exacerbated this already significant issue with increased rates of drug use and mental health conditions.</p> <p>We are now seeing the highest number of overdose deaths since 2016, with 156 deaths occurring in 2020 and a high number of overdose occurrences occurring within our community. We see these occurrences daily, on average 6-10 per day on ODMAP. The data in ODMAP comes from 911 calls and can be limited, as these are only the reported overdoses, so we may be just scratching the surface of how many overdoses are actually occurring in Onondaga County.</p> <p>Dr. Gupta stated that we have always supported a three pronged approach, Crisis, Treatment, and Prevention Crisis intervention- we have a lot of efforts going around overdose prevention, like Narcan treatment</p>	

Treatment- There is more available treatment within our community, but are people being linked to it?

Prevention-this part has been ignored and is a central part of the whole dilemma- How do we do an educational component around the epidemic so we prevent use. She asked “how can your organization help to make prevention education robust?”

**2. Johnson and Johnson Opioid Settlement Funds**

Barry Weiss stated that the Johnson and Johnson Opioid Settlement was recently announce, we encourage you to scan the settlement and begin starting the conversations amongst ourselves on how the money that comes to our community can be best utilized. We will receive 6% of settlement, or \$230million. Each county will receive a percentage. How should we utilize this as a county or a cooperative effort? Possibly for next meeting, please think about what we can do to formulate some sort of plan to take advantage of these resources coming into our community. There is a specific list of criteria for use of money included, specific things they will allow.

**3. Overdose Awareness Day**

Mariah Senecal-Reilly stated that the OCHD is partnering with Prevention Network to hold their second annual Drive-Through Naloxone Training. Donna Knap, Prevention Network: stated that there are additional activities planned through the Family Support Program, Donna will send the flyer on planned activities to be distributed.

**4. Naloxone Leave Behind**

Mariah Senecal-Reilly stated that Andrea Mazzini, Adapt Pharma: had sent her information on Naloxone leave-behind efforts. We are interested in partnering to pilot this in our county.

Nick Corbishley, AMR, stated that the issue with leaving Narcan with the family is that EMS agencies are not pharmacies and do not leave medication behind. We will have to get our medical director and corporate legal to approve of that. We could also leave resources behind, like a flyer or brochure to give to family when an overdose occurs? Is this happening?

Dr. Gupta stated that NAVAC were the ones to start this process previously and asked if this is happening/if not, what happened to this?

## 5. Open Discussion

We will explore existing protocol in other places as well.

Dr. Sunny Aslam, Upstate Addiction Psychiatry: On Tuesdays he and Dr. Lyman are going out and vaccinating for COVID, this upcoming week he will be going to Syracuse Housing Authority. He would love to partner with others doing outreach to reach populations that need to be vaccinated.

Kathleen Dermady, Upstate, stated that the zip codes most affected by overdose are also the zip codes that experience high maternal mortality and mental health concerns.

Dr. Gupta stated that when there is significant poverty for both adults and in childhood, other problems along with this, all these things culminate into negative health outcomes

Our County Executive and the Mayor of Syracuse are invested in poverty reduction and economic development, if these are addressed everything else will improve.

She encouraged that we emphasize to people that they should use this data and show what it means, to everyone, not just people connected to substance use and how they can play a part in preventing this.

Christian Zabriskie, Onondaga County Library: Stated that their spaces are considered safe and open to a large subset of our target populations. They would love to host programs to help.

Next Meeting:

Occurs on September 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am.

Dr. Gupta stated that all agencies should encourage the COVID-19 vaccine for staff and clients, meeting in person will depend on what happens in August- 30-60 cases per week- 5-10 cases per day due to the Delta variant.

We will continue to offer zoom, no matter what.