

**Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Treatment Committee**

**November 08, 2022, Meeting Minutes**

**Present: Gudrun Parmer, Marc Strange, Christopher Giattino, Steven Loney, Arthur Payne, Lacie Scofield, Helen Tripp, Carlyle Johnson, Tremaine Sawyer, Cindy Haynes, Kim Chansen, Michele Easter, Tammy Vaughan, Dr. Stephanie Euker, Donna Rosser, Major Barnes**

**Welcome & Introductions:**

Carlyle Johnson called the meeting to order, welcomed all present and began introductions.

**Review of October Minutes:**

The minutes were reviewed, corrections made and approved unanimously.

**Opioid Settlement Funding**

Gudrun Parmer asked the Committee to assist in collecting information and updating the inventory of services offered. Gudrun shared the lists that were currently compiled. Committee Members were forthcoming with helpful information that was added as Gudrun went through her presentation and it was decided that additional information would be emailed directly to Gudrun.

Carlyle expressed concern that this would present a false narrative that this appears that we have comprehensive resources and that it does not accurately depict the gaps that we see. Gudrun shared that she hoped that we could provide a more comprehensive picture of services vs. gaps in services; however, this was only an inventory of services currently offered.

**Morse Clinic Presentation**

Arthur Payne introduced himself as a licensed Clinical Addiction Specialist and a Certified Clinical Supervisor and has been with Morse Clinic since 2015. Mr. Payne shared that an OTP is a licensed Opiate Treatment Program meaning they can utilize Schedule 2 narcotics (Methadone) in addition to buprenorphine. Once the Durham Morse Clinic is fully certified through Medicaid and Medicare, they will be able to provide Methadone, Buprenorphine and Vivitrol to individuals that choose to utilize these medications. Mr. Payne shared that Dr. Morse (owner) has provided opioid treatment since 2001 and in NC since 2005. He was awarded the Frederick B. Glazier award in 2021 and the National Dole Award in 2022 for addiction medicine.

The Morse Clinic of Durham was fully licensed September 2022. They can provide all OTP services with the ultimate goal of being able to marry both the MOUD and the Clinical Counseling that is necessary for people to reach recovery. Mr. Payne shared that they look forward to collaborating with anyone dealing with issues.

Helen Tripp shared that they have recently received two grants that would allow them to partner with various programs and that she would love to partner with the Morse Clinic. Arthur Payne shared his excitement to potentially join forces and hopefully smoothly move through the process.

Carlyle Johnson asked if the Morse Clinic is providing Buprenorphine through OTP or OBOT. Mr. Payne shared that they are able to offer both with the plan to start patients in OTP and transition them to OBOT.

**Program Updates**

**Community Linkages to Care** - Lacie Scofield shared that their part-time peer has resigned. He received a job offer with higher wages. As such, they are currently unable to offer peer support CLC services. DRRC is still taking referrals, please call them. For individuals who need peer support it was advised they call Wellness City. The CLC grant will end in May. While they are actively looking to fill the vacant positions, they recognize that this may not happen. Lacie shared that there have been discussions regarding combining the part- and full-time position to offer competitive pay.

They are finalizing updates to the Substance Use Resource Guide, as they were notified of an error in the current guide and are making the appropriate corrections. CLC has completed the Provider Training sessions. Lacie shared that she talked about the Recovery Friendly Workplace Training at the last task force meeting. Commissioner Wendy Jacobs and Council Member Dr. Hyman were in attendance and very interested in a tailored training for Durham County and City employees.

**Detention Center MAT -** Tammy Vaughan shared that in Phase 1 they had served 160 through Suboxone and 77 with Methadone totaling 237 individuals. In Phase 2 induction they have served 57 Suboxone, 40 men and 17 women. Gudrun asked how many individuals they see in a month and Tammy shared that they average 25.

**EMS -** Helen Tripp reported that while they currently are without the Peer Specialist, they still do post-overdose follow-ups, averaging 70-73 opioid related EMS calls per month in Durham. They are currently working on staffing for the SAMHSA Grant and look forward to hiring a Program Manager. Helen shared that the first phase focuses on Harm Reduction and ensuring that first responders have Naloxone on hand for use when encountering an overdose. The second phase will focus on the community helping to identify where Naloxone should be in the community.

**Lincoln CHC** - Carolyn Crowder stated Lincoln continues to interview providers that want to provide MAT in a primary care setting and has a new provider on board. It was shared that Lincoln is in dire need of community partners that think about harm reduction in a broader sense, like non-punitive administration of life saving medications.

Carlyle Johnson added that Alliance has struggled with this as well. They have one provider in Durham that is interested, and they would like to offer a bundled payment approach. Carlyle is currently looking into various possibilities and models that could potentially work with Medicaid. Kim Chansen shared her desire to be part of the bigger conversation regarding this. Arthur Payne indicated he would like to be present for further conversations on this issue. Carlyle Johnson also shared his concerns regarding services for the under-insured and expressed his hope that this may be a possible use for Opioid Settlement Funding.

Gudrun thanked everyone for attending and the meeting adjourned at 4:29pm.

Next meeting is December 13, 2022, 3:00PM-4:30PM