

Durham Joins Together to Save Lives Task Force

Mental Health Treatment Committee

Minutes

October 12, 2021

Attendees: Donna Rosser, Gudrun Parmer, Elijah Bazemore, Christopher Giattino, Helen Tripp, Joe McKinney, Marc Strange, Michele Easter, Rod Jenkins, Lacie Scofield, Brittany Agnew, Tremaine Sawyer, Nidhi Sachdeva, Susan Kornett, Carlyle Johnson, Keyanna Terry, Cindy Haynes

The group convened, Cindy welcomed everyone and began introductions.

The minutes were approved with said correction on the housing update, "Alliance would be providing the funding and contract with Oxford House."

Alliance Health

Carlyle reported Alliance waiting on additional funding from state that should arrive any day now. Did receive funding from Emergency COVID Grant which enables expansion of opioid treatment to uninsured. Adding contract for state funded services in Durham (Durham Treatment Center) and Fayetteville (Fayetteville Treatment Center). Currently only have state funded services at BAART but now will have choice of two. The contract in process with effective date of October 1st. Carlyle is expecting to have funding to support Detention Center MAT Program, and could help with housing. Also looking at data from State IVP Branch recently in Alliance catchment area. Noticed increase in synthetic opioids and overdose for all counties in Alliance catchment. However, in Durham, notice increase in stimulant related overdose (Cocaine) just as high as overdose involving synthetic opioids. Carlyle stated there's funding available to address stimulant use, wondering what we can do to address it. In Cumberland, Native American disproportionately affected and in Durham, African Americans. This data supports DJT Task Force's interest in a SUD rather than opioid collaborative. Alliance moving forward with becoming tailored plan.

Director Jenkins asked for progress report from Carlyle on Alliance becoming tailored plan. Carlyle reported standard plans went live on July 1. There are no major bumps but challenges to explaining changes and to navigating system. We have Supervising Masters-level psychologists working in call center. We are getting calls where client confused because child with developmental disability now managed by Alliance, where previously managed by Blue Cross with parent. Another challenge starting December 15th, we will add coverage for Orange and Mecklenburg Counties. Alliance will have providers in Orange County that will be in network with Alliance. July 1, 2022 recruiting as tailored plan network of pharmacy, primary care, physicians, durable medical equipment, nursing home. We will work with Public Health Departments and Federally Qualified Healthcare Centers. We have a department that will work on those transitions. Currently Alliance is working to fill 400 positions. All tailored plans required to have an Opioid Misuse Prevention Treatment Plan, which is a plan to address opioids in the community. Plan has been submitted to state and we are waiting on feedback. Director Jenkins

thanked Carlyle for updates. Carlyle willing to make Tailored Plan updates as a standing agenda item.

EMS Opioid Data with Race/Ethnicity Stats (Captain Helen Tripp)

Continuing work with post-overdose response typically within 48-72 hours. For first quarter of fiscal (July-September), it looks like overdose numbers going down. Helen will share number of calls with Lacie by Wednesday. We are doing well with number of follow-ups but not as well with visits with Peer Navigators. Helen also shared Race and Ethnicity data and reasons why they are unable to contact clients following overdose. EMS still does deferrals to Crisis Center for mental health patients. We are averaging 12 percent of overall call volume being behavioral health related. We started keeping records in March 2016, at which time about 5 percent of calls were behavioral health related. It would be interesting to find out why the increase.

Duke ED Peer Support Services

Susan reported we are in the process of setting up meeting to finalize peer's ability to enter Duke ED in person. We are excited about opportunity and looking forward to it happening soon.

PSS Services in Duke Regional ED (Dr. Jason Tatreau & Dr. Aparna Kamath)

Susan reported that we are on cusp of peers being allowed to enter Duke Regional ED. We had a go-live date but we ran into snags with the documentation upload into Duke System. We are getting everyone processed through Duke HR. Also we have secured most of what is needed to complete recordings about RI to share with clients. We are very excited about increase in activity. Susan thanked Lacie for coordinating efforts to get processes smoothed out.

DRRC OBOT

Brittany reported they are very busy. We have two new counselors and another provider. Working hard to get more referrals. We want to find more time to do groups. Susan added working to soon add med management for mental health conditions. Currently we are doing this for those treated for Primary Opioid Use Disorder. There are plans to begin treating those who may not have a SUD. We are excited about expansion.

Housing Update (Group)

Carlyle reported we are waiting on funding. We think Alliance will be able to support housing. Has been given preliminary quote but waiting on approval through levels of DHHS. Cautiously optimistic. Lacie asked if Carlyle wants to postpone meeting until after approval. Carlyle said he will check on status but would rather hold off on meeting until he knows status. Lacie added feedback on housing table was helpful. She also stated that people on her staff would like to see indication that housing option is LGBTQ friendly/safe and affirming. She has been calling each to ask questions regarding the LGBTQ community. Most responded they look at a case by case and have rated themselves as such but they had a difficult time responding to questions about Trans individuals. She called LGBTQ Center of Durham. They were not familiar with all housing options on list and hesitant to give seal of approval on any of them. They identified two options as safe and affirming (Project FAM and Urban Ministries). Lacie will update table with this information on the housing table.

Program Coordinator (CLC Grant)

Lacie reported that Susan mentioned in her update the 6 new participants in September. There were 7 new enrollees and the 7th was a participant from previous month who decided to take baseline survey and become an enrollee. We distributed 4 Naloxone kits. Numbers down due to fewer visits with EMS and missed opportunities. We think this will pick up. Looking forward to accessing patients in Duke ED but the hold up with badge process and DRRC must become official vendor. There is also a cost of \$335 to complete this process. Either CLC grant or DRRC can cover the cost. We will hopefully be able to enter next week. Also, cannot bring Naloxone kits into ED. Nidhi asked if Lacie could share Vendormate Fact Sheet. Lacie will share with Nidhi and Cindy. Have had many meetings with Duke Regional about process and how it will work. We will not start with ED but instead with hospitalized patients, with hopes of expanding to ED. They PSS will have set hours on Mon., Wed. and Fri. and will schedule appointments with patients who call.

Need to meet with Duke University to discuss how process will work in ED. Initially expected to show up within the hour but busier with referrals than previously. We are meeting with Dr. Eucker to discuss. We have meeting planned with staff from Detention Center, CJRC and EMS to talk about referral process. With Phase 2 beginning, there will be four treatment options upon release. DRRC is one of the options. Transportation assistance is needed. If DRRC is chosen, UBER gift cards are available for assistance to treatment appointments. A meeting to discuss possibility of enrolling those who do not choose DRRC for treatment into CLC program and make them eligible for transportation assistance.

Helen would also like to share services EMS Community Paramedics can offer to the recently released as well. Finally requesting assistance from group (Duke especially). Ryan Bell using survey and medical records data to determine benefit of CLC Program on overdose and hospitalizations. He presented data on first 6 enrollees and control group at previous meeting. Ryan has been informed that brand new rule in place preventing him from getting additional medical records data on program enrollees. Lacie shared email with explanation of new rule. This an important part of the evaluation and asked if Duke employees may be familiar with new rule and if they know of a way around it. Nidhi said similar problem experienced by Stephanie Poley. Someone asked if working with Protected Analytics Computing Environment. This may be a way around the rule. There is a charge for using it. Michele Easter put something in the chat as well. This may have been it. Proceeding with Faith-Based Initiative. Donna has agreed to take lead. Donna shared that plans are to hold a Faith-Based Mini Conference with an intended audience of Faith Leaders, educating them on harm reduction strategies. They will also receive information on the needs of individuals with substance use disorders and how they can best serve them. We met with Elizabeth Brewington (NC Council of Churches) and discussed pulling together a planning committee for the event with hopes of scheduling it for spring 2022. Lacie added that Rev. Bradford would be asked to sit on the planning committee. This may help to improve some of the housing resources for individuals on MAT. Tammy expressed interest in serving on planning committee.

Detention Center MAT

Chief Bazemore (Interim) reported they are not formally in Phase 2 yet. He will announce a target date before end of the month. As of October 12, there are 149 participants: 93-Suboxone

and 56-Methadone. Moving ahead with getting OTP set up and running. The State approved the initial application. The Detention Center is working on two additional State applications. The equipment is in and contracts approved to complete space. Chief Bazemore should have more information by next meeting.

Gudrun announced last day to apply for CJRC Substance Use Disorder Counselor position. County funded position. Reach out to Marc if interested.

Next steps are: Update

- Carlyle (Alliance) expecting funding to support Detention Center MAT and possibly housing
- Carlyle to provide updates on Medicaid Transformation & Tailored Plans as a standing agenda item moving forward
- Nidhi and Cindy to see if they can assist with Vendormate information
- Lacie to share Vendormate Fact Sheet
- Lacie to update Housing document to include LGBTQ friendly sites
- Interim Chief Bazemore continue working on two State funding applications
- Continue discussion on how to address stimulant use
- Spring 2022 Faith-based mini-conference

Please note our meeting will convene from **3:00 PM - 4:30 PM Virtually**.

***Our next committee meeting is scheduled November 9, 2021 at 3:00 PM via WebEx and phone.**