

Treatment and Harm Reduction (THR) Committee

Meeting Minutes – January 13, 2026

Attending: Lacie Scofield, Tremaine Sawyer, Helen Tripp, Samantha Smith, Jaeson Smith, Lisa Finley, Lucius Wilson, Adam Barnard, Renee Shaw, Michelle Easter, Carlyle Johnson, Kellie Ross, Quanesha Archer, Roshanna Humphrey, Kristen Patterson, Kimberly Chansen

Call to Order and Approval of Minutes

- Meeting opened by Co-Chair Lacie Scofield.
- Previous meeting minutes were presented and approved following a motion and second from committee members.

Presentation – Unshame NC Campaign

Presenter: Adam Barnard, Community Supports Lead - Substance Use Services, NCDHHS Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Use Services

Overview

- Introduction of the **Unshame NC Campaign**, a statewide anti-stigma initiative addressing:
 - Substance use disorder (SUD)
 - Opioid use disorder (OUD)
 - Acceptance of medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD).

Key Points

- Primarily digital campaign using:
 - Social media outreach
 - Targeted advertising
 - Storytelling from individuals in recovery.
- Campaign aims to reduce stigma and increase treatment engagement.

Research Findings

- Market research identified faith community participation as a strong predictor of skepticism toward MOUD.
- Messaging focuses on:

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- Treatment effectiveness
- Community connection to reduce isolation
- Recovery storytelling.

Discussion

- Committee members expressed interest in partnership opportunities.
- Housing Subcommittee's efforts around housing and MOUD was highlighted as a model that could inform statewide efforts.

Presentation – Update on Day Shelter and Services Center Pilot Program

Presenter: Samantha Smith, Management Analyst, Office of the Durham County Manager

Project Overview

- Development of a low-barrier daytime shelter pilot in Durham.

Contract Status

- Intended award to Urban Ministries of Durham (~\$350,000).
- Contract pending execution with anticipated ramp-up period.

Proposed Services

- Daytime shelter access (approximately 8am–6pm).
- Hygiene services, including showers and laundry.
- Mail services, internet access, and charging stations.
- Case management and resource navigation.
- Behavioral health and employment supports.

Timeline

- Approximately three-month preparation period prior to opening.

Discussion Points

- Importance of accessibility noted. Transportation to the day shelter will be difficult for homeless people who are not located near Urban Ministries of Durham. There are currently no plans to open day facilities in other parts of Durham.
- Potential transportation supports and partnerships discussed.

Committee Member Updates

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Lacie Scofield:

- Durham County Dept. of Public Health (DCoDPH) updated the housing guide for individuals with substance use disorder:
 - Updated provider contact information.
 - Policy changes regarding MOUD acceptance.
 - Noted closures of some housing programs and addition of new options.
 - Added information on naloxone availability.
 - DCoDPH and EMS provided free naloxone kits to housing agencies. All but one housing agency listed in the guide now has naloxone on site.
 - The updated housing guide can be accessed here:
<https://dconc.gov/substanceuseresources>
- Housing Subcommittee continues work encouraging housing providers to accept MOUD. Some policy changes achieved through education and engagement.

Lucius Wilson:

- SouthLight Healthcare partnership with Oxford Houses:
 - Provides funding for sobriety housing.
 - Supports transition from homelessness.

Kim Chansen:

- The CLC Peer Support Program initiated peer-led recovery WRAP classes for STARR participants in the detention center.
- Classes were well received by participants.
- Current virtual delivery with plans for possible in-person transition.

The next THR Committee meeting is scheduled for February 10th, 2026 at 3:00-4:30 PM.