

Board of Health Meeting - December 6th, 2017
Division of Substance Abuse and Prevention
Health and Human Service Department of Lowell

Substance Abuse Coordinator

Initiatives:

- Has meet with the following community agencies to better understand substance use services and gather information for assessment:
 - Greater Lowell Health Alliance, YouthBuild (CTI), Moms Do Care, Merrimack Valley Project, Lowell Fire Department, Tewksbury Detox, Life Connections, House of Hope, Lowell General Hospital Continuity of Care, Lowell General Hospital Paramedics, Senior Center, HKD, Zack's Team Foundation, Learn to Cope
- 11/1 Presented on "Stress and Coping" to Mellissa Wall's UML undergraduate community psychology class; incorporated discussions of burnout, relevant career experience, how epidemics effect a community, etc.

Attended informational trainings to build upon knowledge and skill set needed to address the opioid epidemic:

- 10/25 BSAS Statewide Substance Use and Misuse Prevention Conference
- 10/25 CTI Community Conversation Series - What Does Housing Have To Do With Health?
- 11/14 MOAPC/SAPC led training on Evaluation of Surveys/Data
- 11/18 Supervision of Addiction Work conference

Attended the following meetings and events to build upon relationships, strengthen understanding of local resources, and facilitate open communication regarding needs areas for the substance use community:

- 11/7 Lowell Fire Department Opioid Overdose and Narcan training
- 11/14 City Council Meeting (attendance requested by City Manager)
- 11/16 Zack's House Grand Opening (transitional residential program for young men in recovery)
- 11/21 Review of PDMP budget with Grant Manager (Police Department)
- 11/28 MOAPC Monthly Meeting
- 11/29 Greater Lowell Health Alliance – Mental Health Task Force
- 11/29 PFS Monthly meeting
- 12/5 Greater Lowell Health Alliance – Substance Abuse and Prevention Task Force
- 11/8 District Attorney's Opiate Task Force

Community Opioid Outreach Program (COOP):

- 10/27 COOP Administration Meeting
- 11/8 and 11/16 Joined COOP in the community
- 11/22 Review of Section 12/35 with COOP (presented by Brian Maxfield from MHA)

Partnerships for Success (PFS)

Initiatives:

- CTI-Youth Build- Accompanied by Lainnie, we went to meet with Timothy Caldwell, Clinical Case Manager for the Youth Build Program. The goal was to see what Youth Build has to offer to the community along with establishing a working relationship with the organization moving forward.
- Guest Speaker at Lowell High School- I was contacted by Kara Pigeon (LHS Teacher) to guest speak in her class as her students were about to start a project around the topic of substance misuse. The students were interested in looking at how the increase in prescriptions has led to higher rates of addiction as well as fatalities. I spoke to the class of 30 about the PFS initiative, what the initiative is doing to help with the areas of concern, as well as how they could get involved with PFS. The students were very engaged and there will be a follow-up to see how my conversation helped with their project.
- MIAA Opioid Abuse Prevention Conference- We are currently coordinating with LHS to send students to the annual MIAA faces of addiction conference. The exact number of students we are looking to send is still be worked out at this time.
- PFS Strategic Plan- The PFS Strategic Plan has been completed and will be submitted to the grant manager at BSAS for approval by Friday November 17th.
- Social Media/Marketing Campaign- During the upcoming PFS meeting, the plan is to form two workgroups so we can begin working on both strategies simultaneously.

Strategies are:

- Education of Parents through a Social Marketing Campaign
- Proper Disposal Promotion and Storage via:
 - 1) Social Marketing
 - 2) Information and Education Dissemination at Preseason Athletic Night

Meetings/Trainings Attended:

- Life Skills Meeting with School Department
- Phone conference with MassTAPP Technical Assistant
- Quarterly BSAS Coordinators Meeting
- Evaluation Training coordinated by MOAPC
- Zack's House Grand Opening
- MOAPC Task Force
- PFS Task Force
- District Attorney's Opiate Task Force
- Merrimack Valley Project
- Bullying Prevention Training
- GLHA Substance Abuse Task Force

Massachusetts Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative (MOAPC)

Initiatives

- Career Academy Lowell –Ongoing meetings with students working with overall opioid awareness, focusing on proper needle/sharps disposal protocols and community awareness campaign as well as planning for implementation of Life Skills Curriculum
- Homeless outreach and support- Collaboration with Life Connections outreach in development of ongoing support services to Lowell Homeless; brought in community organizations to outreach the homeless population
- Life Skills Training – Ongoing training with Wilmington/Tewksbury Religious Education leaders
- Coordinated and facilitated a cluster wide training in Evaluation (held November 14th)
- Above the Influence Campaign- Planning for implementation within Wilmington/Tewksbury Religious Education classes
- Completed Quarterly MOAPC report of cluster activity for BSAS
- Life Skills Training Co-Facilitated certification for cluster partners (November 15)

Meetings/Trainings Attended

- Greater Lowell Health Alliance Mental Health and Substance Abuse task forces
- Greater Lowell Health Alliance Substance Abuse Prevention Task force meeting
- Partners for Success (PFS) meeting, Lowell High School
- Massachusetts Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative /Substance Abuse Prevention Collaborative cluster meeting
- District Attorney Marian Ryan Opiate Task Force meetings
- Meeting with BSAS (Bureau of Substance Addiction Services) Grant coordinator
- Bureau of Substance Addiction Services/Massachusetts Technical Assistance Partnership for Prevention Statewide Substance Use and Misuse Prevention Conference (October 25th)
- Met with “Love and Safety” needle distribution group to discuss collaboration in Lowell
- Met with Merrimack Valley Project on transportation for those in need of recovery services
- Attended introductory training for administration of *Drug Free Greater Lowell* website
- Attended Massachusetts Technical Assistance Partnership and Prevention (MassTAP) state quarterly meeting
- Zach’s House grand opening (November 16th)