

Board of Health Meeting – January 17th, 2018

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:
 - Trinity EMS, Lowell Veteran's Department, HART House, Lowell Veteran's Association, CHART Grant (LGH Circle Care), Lowell Community Counselling Center, Habit Opco, Megan's House, Lowell House Inc, Clean Slate, Lowell Police Department, Northeastern Recovery Learning Community (NERLC), Lowell Juvenile Court
- As continued working on written portion of assessment of services working with the local substance use community
- 12/12 Systems of Care Meeting – presented information regarding local substances abuse resources as a member of guest panel

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:

- 11/27 Mayor's Opioid Task Force Meeting
- 12/28 MOAPC/SAPC Monthly Meeting
- 11/28 Life Connections meeting with Health Department
- 12/5 Greater Lowell Health Alliance Substance Abuse and Prevention Task Force
- 12/8 District Attorney's Monthly Opioid Task Force Meeting
- 12/20 Partnership for Success Monthly Meeting

Attended the following initiatives for Smart Policing Initiative (SPI) and Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) Grants:

- 11/29 Lowell SPI Monthly Phone Conference
- 11/30, 12/18 COOP Data Base Meetings
- 12/15, 12/22 Substance Abuse Coordinator and Director of HHS interviewed for two part-time Clinical Recovery Specialist positions

Community Opioid Outreach Program (COOP):

- 11/22 Section 12 Review by Brian Maxwell from MHA
- 12/4 Group Meeting and Section 35 Review by Maria Lucci from Lowell House
- 12/20 COOP Group Meeting and Levels of Care Review by Maria Lucci and Lainnie Emond
- 12/4, 12/20 COOP and Substance Abuse Coordinator participated in second round interviews for Lowell House's Outreach Specialist, a COOP position
- 12/11 Substance Abuse Coordinator spent the day in the community with COOP

Massachusetts Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative (MOAPC)

Initiatives:

- Homeless outreach and support- *Collaboration with Life Connections outreach in development of ongoing support services to Lowell Homeless; Coordination of community outreach of essential supplies to those in need*
- Life Skills Training – *Ongoing training with Wilmington/Tewksbury Religious Education leaders; Facilitation of Life Skills Certification training for teachers from Lowell and surrounding communities* (Ongoing consultation)
- Above the Influence Campaign- Planning for implementation within Wilmington/Tewksbury Religious Education classes (Ongoing consultation)
- Completed Quarterly MOAPC report of cluster activity for BSAS
- Life Skills Training *Co-Facilitated certification for cluster partners* (Next certification training 1/18)
- Prescription Drug/Sharps take back event (12/13)
- Met with members of the Billerica School board and the Assistant Superintendent of Schools to begin implementation of Life Skills Training in Billerica Schools (12/20)

Meetings/Trainings Attended:

- Greater Lowell Health Alliance Substance Abuse Prevention Task force meeting (Chair)(12/5)
- Partners for Success (PFS) meeting, Lowell High School (11/29)
- Massachusetts Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative /Substance Abuse Prevention Collaborative cluster meeting (11/28)
- District Attorney Marian Ryan Opiate Task Force meetings (12/6, 1/12/18)
- Meeting with BSAS (Bureau of Substance Addiction Services) Grant coordinator (weekly)
- Attended administrative trainings for *Drug Free Greater Lowell* website (ongoing)
- Attended Massachusetts Technical Assistance Partnership and Prevention (MassTAP) state quarterly meeting (11/9)
- Mayor's Opioid Task Force Meeting (11/27)
- Regional MassTAP providers meeting (Worcester-11/17)
- Met with UMass Lowell Public Health educator to initiate collaboration with interns and area of focus for students in Lowell (11/20)
- Facilitative Leadership for Social Change- Training at the Interactive Institute for Social Change (12/6, 12/7)
- Greater Lowell Health Alliance Community Health Improvement Plan Steering committee meeting (12/12)
- Northeast Peer Recovery Learning community meeting to coordinate services in Lowell (12/14)
- Communities that Care Survey Planning (11/27, 12/14)
- Health department meeting with community partners (Life Connection) meeting (11/28)
- Clean Slate- Tewksbury Treatment facility meeting (12/28)

Partnerships for Success (PFS)

Initiatives:

- Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church- To build capacity within the faith-based community, an outreach opportunity took place on November 28th with Father Tom of the Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church in Lowell. We brought a variety of resources and educational materials for Father Tom's congregation. Father Tom noted that there are youth groups within the church that PFS could possibly work with after the holidays.
- UTEC- Following our initial assessment, PFS is identifying and meeting with youth serving organizations in the community. On November 30th, outreach was conducted with one of the program coordinators from UTEC around future collaboration. PFS provided UTEC with educational materials and resources. PFS looks forward to collaborating with UTEC in the future.
- PFS Strategic Plan- PFS Strategic Plan was submitted on December 4th to the grant manager at BSAS for approval.
- Girls Inc. - Similar to UTEC, Girls Inc. is a youth serving organization that PFS did not reach out to during our initial assessment. On December 12th, outreach was completed with a program director and a program coordinator where PFS provided resources and educational materials. PFS and UTEC discussed ways they can collaborate moving forward.
- South Bay Community Services- On December 12th, outreach was conducted at South Bay Community Services. PFS met with one of the program director to discuss future collaboration, as well as provided the director with resources and educational materials for youth.
- MIAA Opioid Abuse Prevention Conference- On December 13, PFS took 15 students (12 males, 3 females) to the 2nd Annual Faces of Addiction Conference in Westborough, MA. Students were able to attend workshops and listen to speakers on the dangers of opioid misuse. There will be a follow-up meeting with the students to evaluate their experience and discuss how they will be able to take the information they received and disseminate it to their peers.

Meetings/Trainings Attended:

- 12/4 Meeting at LHS with Students Leaders
- 12/6-12/7 Facilitative Leadership Training
- 12/8 District Attorney's Opiate Task Force
- 12/13 MIAA Faces of Addiction Conference
- 12/14 Communities That Care Planning Meeting
- 12/15 Meeting with Lowell House Outreach Case Manager for 18-26y/o
- 12/20 PFS Task Force

