

## **Board of Health Meeting – October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018**

Division of Substance Abuse and Prevention  
Lowell Health Department

Substance Abuse Coordinator  
*Lainnie Emond, LMHC*

### ***Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) Grant Initiatives:***

- Continuing to work with the Chair of the Mayor's Opioid Epidemic Crisis Task Force to plan monthly meeting agendas, identify and contact presenters, and invite new agencies.
  - *Recent/Upcoming Meetings: 9/24 5:30-6:30pm in the Mayor's Reception Room within City Hall, and 10/29 6-7pm in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Tower Room within LCHC.*
- Hosted Data Subcommittee meetings for the Mayor's Opioid Epidemic Crisis Task Force on 9/12 and 10/1. Continuing to identify data sources within the agencies at the table. Working to overlap datasets from various agencies by zip code and neighborhood, as a means to comply with HIPAA, to identify areas of need in regards to substance abuse services and outreach.
  - *Recent/Upcoming Meetings: 9/12 1:30-2:30 at EOC within the LPD, and 10/1 1-2pm at EOC within LPD.*
- Continuing partnership with LPD and UML re: PDMP grant to begin creating a "Death Database" as a means to retroactive study the lives of fatal opioid overdose victims. We plan to analyze victims' encounters with first responders, medical services, and other professionals to see where opportunities for harm reduction and education may have been missed as an effort to identify new opportunities for client engagement moving forward. Lainnie has gathered information of those who died from opioid-related causes from 2015 and 2016 death certificates. A random sample of 10 victims who died in 2016 is being used as a sample; information from Trinity EMS has been shared with Lainnie and she has de-identified the findings to share with grant colleagues. LPD partners continue to utilize Board of Probation records to inquire information, and UML partners are searching victims' digital fingerprints (ie. social media, newspapers).
- Has begun to work on Assessment of Substance Abuse Services after many months of having to commit time to other responsibilities.

### ***Other:***

- Lainnie and MOAPC intern continue to work on an "Overdose Tracking" specific to Lowell. The tracking consists of daily nonfatal overdose number from of Trinity EMS, weather (daily high and low), crime as reported via "CrimeMapping.com", crime as reported by local news sources, program closings, and other events taking place in the city such as house fires, festivals, fatal accidents.

Massachusetts Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative (MOAPC)  
*Michael Hall M.Ed.*

***Strategy One (implement Life Skills Training across the cluster):*** *Life Skills Training is an evidenced based prevention curriculum supported by the Bureau of Substance Addiction Services.*

- MOAPC Coordinator met with school administrators across the cluster on various dates throughout the months of August and September to discuss ongoing support needs for Life Skills Training implementation. As a result, I have been able to offer another LST Training on October 5<sup>th</sup> for new teaching hires and additional teachers from each town. At this time, the towns of Westford, Billerica, Dracut, Tyngsboro and several community agencies are expected to participate.
- On October 17<sup>th</sup> MOAPC Coordinator will be meeting with new school administration of Wilmington. Our agenda consists of an overview of the program and planning initial trainings with an intention of rolling out the first iteration of Life Skills Training to students early in 2019.
- Additionally, after a summer of working with The Nan Project in training their staff in high school transitions level LST, the Director of The Nan Project has met with Lowell High School and is hoping to bring Peer Mentors from The Nan Project into Lowell High School to bring awareness to mental health support and suicide.

***Grant Strategy Two (coordination and promotion of education on harm reduction strategies):***

- On September 18<sup>th</sup> MOAPC Coordinator met with LCHC and Lowell House overdose prevention/Narcan trainers to identify gaps in service for Lowell and surrounding towns in regards to providing overdose awareness training, Narcan training, and Narcan distribution to identified high risk populations.
- On September 24<sup>th</sup> MOAPC Coordinator will be holding an initial planning phone conference with BSAS to discuss Lowell's need to build capacity in providing this Logic Model strategy (both geographically and as it relates to timing; several towns or areas of Lowell are not receiving as much attention as what appears to be needed; weekends/some evenings have available clients with inadequate staffing). The ideal outcome of the call with BSAS will result in identified Narcan/overdose awareness trainers to cover these gaps along with an identified source of Narcan to provide those at high risk.

***Additional MOAPC activities include:***

- Billerica Substance Abuse Prevention
  - MOAPC Coordinator will be attending bi-weekly meetings of Billerica's substance use prevention task force (BSAP) and will act as one of the presenters at the October 14<sup>th</sup> SA forum at the Marshall Middle School
  - Coordinating additional events and supports with Reverend Dr. Kate Adams for faith based groups in Billerica and surrounding towns
- Chair of the Merrimack Valley Substance Use Symposium scheduled for December 7<sup>th</sup> at UTEC in Lowell. This symposium is being developed by many community partners and town representatives (Lowell, GLHA, Billerica, Westford, Trinity, CO-OP, Tewksbury, UMass Lowell, LCHC, among others) to providers across the Merrimack Valley out of the silos to meet, network, and strategize coordination of services moving forward. (meeting bi-weekly by invitation only)
- Hosted Unwanted Medication and Sharps Take Back Event on September 19<sup>th</sup>. Fifty-five pounds of medication were collected.
- MOAPC funded member participation in two major week long substance abuse conferences (Waterville Valley NEIAS- August, CCAS- September), bringing back the most up to date information in this field to better inform our work as a coalition.

## Partnerships for Success (PFS)

*Lainnie Emond is currently acting as interim PFS Coordinator until position is filled.*

### ***Strategy One (social media and education dissemination to high school-aged youth re: sharing prescription medications):***

- Lowell High School: Interim PFS Coordinator has continued to meet with Dave Robinson, Coordinator of Student Support Services at Lowell High School, and has met with Dave Lezenski, Athletic Director, to discuss how PFS can have more of a presence at LHS, as well as engage more with students and parents. Discussions included PFS coalition members presenting at pre-season athletic meetings, being involved with a student group to identify educational messaging at LHS, and presenting in health classes.
- Community Teamwork Inc., (CTI) – Youth Build: Select PFS members will present to Youth Build youth on the topics of Narcan Training and Harm Reduction, Sexually Transmitted Infections and Local Resources, How Drugs Effect the Body, and Mental Health and Substance Abuse. These presentations will occur on four separate days. Scheduling for these presentations is currently being worked out by PFS member Lauren Keisling and Youth Build.
- Middlesex Community College: Jonathan Crocket, Director of Athletics, Health, and Wellness, has been a bridge to PFS educating first year students. PFS will be attending a resource fair on 10/10, and have been invited to present during several classes.
- Teen Block (LCHC): PFS will be partnering with SAPC

### ***Strategy Two (social media and education dissemination to parents/guardians and high school-aged youth re: proper disposal and storage):***

- No updates at this time.

### ***Monthly Meeting:***

- 9/26/18

### ***PFS Grant Coordinator Position Updates***

- Job description is in the final stages of being updated and it is anticipated that the position will be posted soon.

*Lowell Community Opioid Outreach Program (CO-OP)*  
*Maricia Verma*

***Presentations:***

- 8/24 CO-OP presented at DCF Staff Training on the opioid crisis, signs and symptoms of opioid use, Narcan demonstration, and local resources for DCF.
- 8/27 CO-OP presented at the Mayor's Opioid Task Force regarding CO-OP's outreach efforts, clients recently brought to treatment, and adverse factors that the CO-OP encounters while working with clients in the community.

***Smart Policing Initiative Grant:***

- 8/31 UMass Lowell Researchers met with CO-OP and Supervisor to discuss appropriate data collection and potential use of UMass intern to help input data into electronic database.

***Meetings:***

- 9/5, 9/26 CO-OP Team Meeting
- 8/28 CO-OP Supervisors Meeting
  - Next CO-OP Sups meeting 10/3

***Trainings:***

- Upcoming CPR/First Aid – Scheduled for October 23<sup>rd</sup> at Trinity Training Center

***Clinical Recovery Specialist Active Client Caseload Summary:***

Active Clients: 16

***Client Numbers Newly Engaged in Treatment***

- Between 7/30/2018 and 9/19/2018: 27 clients brought into detox or residential treatment
- Clients newly engaged with SOAP or other outpatient services: 8

***Total CRS and First Responder Encounters:***

- Total Client Encounters Between 7/30/2018 and 9/19/2018: 100

***Client Outreach Highlights:***

- Client Requests for Help with Entering the Shelter: 1
- Lowell resident came into CO-OP looking for help for brother in New Hampshire on New Hampshire Medicaid; names and phone numbers of appropriate treatment providers in New Hampshire were provided.
- Continued distribution of bottled water and bandages.