

COORDINATION AND COOPERATION TASK FORCE

Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2023 9:30 - 11:00 am

Hybrid: In-person at the Community Health Institute/JSI and virtually on Zoom

Attendance

Name	Attendance
Task Force Members	
Steve Ahnen	In person
Helen Hanks	In person
Carol Furlong	In person
Lauren Chambers	In person
Suzanne Thistle	In person
Kara Morse	Virtual
Meghan Marcucci	Virtual
Jake Berry	In person
Peter Ames	In person
Phoebe Axtman	In person
Ashley Lewis	In person
Thomas Donovan	Absent
Dan Wargo	In Person
Public	
Harold Rosen	In person
Dan Andrus	Virtual
Elizabeth Biron	Virtual
Lindy Keller	Virtual
Guy Torgensen	Virtual
Liaison(s)/ Subject Matter Experts/ Invited Guests	
Center for Excellence on Addiction/JSI Staff	
Olivia Skaltsis	In person
Becca Spaulding	In person

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Welcome & Introductions

All participants introduced themselves.

Review and approve 7/14/23 minutes

It was noted that a correction be made on page two under Engaging Community Voices, that "harm reduction is a difficult topic" be changed to "harm reduction becomes a topic that requires ongoing education."

Phoebe Axeman requested approval of the 7/14/23 meeting minutes as amended. Jake Berry made the motion to approve, Carol Furlong seconded. Members were polled and unanimously approved. Peter Ames abstained due to missing the last meeting.

Draft Communication Plan and Strategies

The Task Force discussed a communication plan to advertise to the general public an online form and the October 6th public forum to gain feedback about State Plan strategies and funding priorities. The Task Force created a suggested list of organizations and listservs with the goal of incorporating voices across the state.

- To understand workforce capacity, recovery friendly organizations could be utilized, but it is also necessary to get other workforce engagement. Suggestions: Chamber of Commerces, Working Fields (contact is Sandy Coyle).
- NHHRC holds care coordination meetings, one in the Tri-City, Portsmouth, and Manchester areas. A lot of providers in the state are part of these care coordination meetings and they could be a good way to reach these providers and organizations.
- Recovery Home Coalitions. This could help get people in early recovery to have a voice in the process. It was noted that DHHS would have information on certified recovery homes.
- Creating flyers and ads for social media to reach audiences on Facebook and Instagram.
- Additional suggested organizations and contacts included:
 - The NH Hospital Association
 - The Peer Support and Recovery Network listserv
 - Harbor Care and Recovery Centers hold biweekly Directors' Meetings and could have someone come in to talk about GC goals.

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- Drug Court Coordinators Meetings
- NHADACA and Prevention Boards
- A QR code could be made and distributed to community partners for easy access.
- Family support organizations, like Waypoint, TLC Family Support, SOS support group with family facilitators.
- Community Mental Health organizations
- County jails, parole offices
- Superintendents schools – schools utilizing the Youth Prevention Survey (YRBS/DOE), Student Assistance Program (SAP)
- Colleges, offices of professional licensing, newspapers, student wellness
- Town Welfare Officers (Welfare Officers Association)
- Professional development: Social Work, Providers Associations, the Partnership via JSI
- NH Alerts system
- NH Providers Association was suggested by a Zoom attendee
- Partnership for Drug-Free NH has ListServs and trainings frequently

The public forum's tentative date is October 6th with a tentative location at New Hampshire Technical Institute (NHTI). It was suggested that there be both a daytime and an evening forum, so that people who work during the day are able to attend.

The Task Force reviewed a draft version of the online form and provided feedback. JSI will use feedback to update the form and send it to the Task Force Co-Chairs and the Coordination and Cooperation Task Force members.

- A suggestion was made to change the wording to clarify that this form is not meant for requests for funding.
- It was suggested that the form needs a hook to help people understand why they should fill out the form. Suggestions included;
 - Data about the number of people seeking services and the importance of funding correctly.
 - Power of recovery, funds dedicated to help, “your voice matters.”
- It was suggested to have the opening question be about affiliation with the Governor's Commission, to better understand if there are conflicts of interest.
 - Suggested that the opening question be rephrased, and moved to the last question, to avoid discouraging non-members of the Governor's Commission from completing the form.

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- It may be more beneficial to ask more broadly about why the respondent is invested - "How has SUD affected you?" or omit "disorder" and leave "Substance Use."
- One person suggested that Governor Commission members not be allowed to fill out the form and the question could be omitted entirely.
- Instead of asking affiliation or not, instead ask why they made their comments.
- It was suggested that questions about affiliation with the Governor's Commission on the form are unnecessary and should be removed entirely.
- The purpose of the form is not to also get them to attend the forum; the forum and the survey are both standalone options (a person could do one or both).
 - This should be stated in the form and it should also give the dates and location of the public forum.
- It was suggested that the question "What is working well?" should be added as a separate question.
- A Task Force member had a question about how the information will be used from the question, "Why did you choose to take this survey?"
- It was noted that not all of the questions will require a response on the form.
- It was suggested that the form include what county the respondent resides in, in order to understand regional deficiencies.

Third Horizons Report Discussion

The Task Force also discussed the Third Horizons Report with a focus on commercial insurance use out of state, alternative payment models, and coding for co-occurring disorders. JSI to send the Third Horizons Report slideshow to Task Force members.

Public Comment

Harold Rosen, a member of the public from Allentown, gave an opinion on opioid use in NH. He suggested that campus-style facilities should be used to address opioid use in the state using funds through settlements (referencing the Opioid Abatement funds). These facilities should be situated away from the cities most affected, should improve the ability to save lives by providing services to individuals without insurance or medicaid, and should be all-encompassing. He requested that a workgroup be created for further dialogue on campus style facilities.

Harold Rosen referenced Buffalo, NY "Kids Escaping Drugs" that has been running for 30+ years. The capacity of the facility was unclear. It is mostly for teens, but there are

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telethons where people contribute money. Another campus facility noted was a homeless shelter in Florida. It houses about 300 people, and people stay as long as they can be helped (with 3 weeks as the average length of time). The program includes work counselors, housing counselors, and other professionals. Harold noted that this format would be appropriate for NH.

A Task Force member noted that His Mansion in Hillsborough is a similar format that doesn't take insurance and is only funded by donations. These are residential programs that are more advanced than rehab. A Task Force member noted Isaiah's House as being similar. Harold suggested this facility could be associated with a specific municipality or region and using Opioid Abatement Funds to fund this. He requested an amendment for lottery reforms. Under state charter, it is only designated for education.

Decisions/Recommendations Made

1. An amendment to the 7/14/23 Coordination & Cooperation Task Force Meeting Minutes will be made to be more inclusive and person-centered. The amendment is on page two under Engaging Community Voices, that "harm reduction is a difficult topic" will be changed to "harm reduction becomes a topic that requires ongoing education."

Next Steps

- Next C&C Task Force meeting: November 10, 2023
- JSI to send out the Third Horizons Report slideshow to the Coordination and Cooperation Task Force members
- JSI to edit the online form and send out to co-chairs and the Task Force