



**CECIL COUNTY DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE COUNCIL (DAAC)  
MEETING MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 4, 2014**

**Meeting Location:** Cecil County Health Department, Bow Street, Elkton

**Members In Attendance:** John Bennett, Sean Cannon ,Ken Collins, Joseph Fisona, Jack Foreaker, Kelly Frost, Stephanie Garrity, Howard Isenberg, Tyra Kenly, Rebecca Larson, Sheri Lazarus, Donna Lewis, Mike Massuli, Dr. Alan Mc Carthy, Walter Rozanski, Nancy Turner

**Others In Attendance:** Tammy Asher, Michael Baier ,Elaine Barclay, Richard Bartel, Diana Broomell, Lisa Nickerson Bucklin,, Chris Burge, Sean Burke, Jenny Burris, Daniel Coulter, Bill DeFreitas, Burton Dickerson, April Foster, Taylor Hart, Jackie Hartman, Kathleen Harvey, Dr. Kristine Hitchens, Kate Jackson, Donna Johnson, Steve Kendrick, Becky Kierznouski, Don Mathis, Cheryl Mattix, Glenn McCurry, Step Mika, Jake Owens, Gwen Parrack, Cathy Rutherford, Lynn Schaffer, Jenny Shields, Linda Shroyer, George Stanko, Jennifer Tuerke, Robin Waddell, Karl Webner, Joe Zurolo

**Call to Order:** John Bennett called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. welcomed everyone and announced the meeting would be recorded. Mr. Bennett reminded everyone that in the interest of time, council members may ask questions during the meeting; others in attendance would be limited to three minutes per person during the Public Comment period.

**Presentations/Discussion Topics:**

- **Cecil Whig** – Jake Owens spoke to the progress of “Voices of Recovery,” the newspaper’s partner project with the Cecil County Health Department about recovery from addiction. Inspired by the recent promotion of the film “The Anonymous People,” the Whig began a weekly profile of one person with long-term sobriety to try to break stigmas about substance abuse.
- **Cecil Guardian** - Bill De Freitas announced that the Cecil Guardian’s weekly column strives to build a healthier Cecil County by better informing the community. Entitled, "Building a Culture of Health," timely information on a health-related topic will be featured each week, with an initial focus on substance abuse. The first story was entitled "Drug Overdose is Preventable."
- **PDMP Update** – Michael Baier, Director of Overdose Prevention at MD Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Behavioral Health Administration introduced himself and Kate Jackson, the new manager of the MD Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP). PDMP is fully operational at this time. Mr. Baier explained that this is a secure electronic data base on prescribing and dispensing pharmaceutical-controlled substances, which are prescription drugs

*Healthy People. Healthy Community. Healthy Future.*

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES . . . . .	410-996-5550	ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES . . . . .	410-996-5160
ALCOHOL & DRUG RECOVERY CENTER . . . . .	410-996-5106	HEALTH PROMOTION . . . . .	410-996-5168
OFFICE OF EPIDEMIOLOGY & EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS. . . . .	410-996-5113	SPECIAL POPULATIONS MENTAL HEALTH C.S.A. . . . .	410-996-5112
COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES. . . . .	410-996-5130	TTY USERS FOR DISABLED: MARYLAND RELAY . . . . .	.800-201-7165
DISEASE CONTROL . . . . .	410-996-5100	EN ESPAÑOL . . . . .	410-996-5550 EXT. 4680

that are controlled substances under the law. Data is provided to them by the dispensers/ drugstores.

- **Father Martin's Ashley** – Dr. Kristine Hitchens, Director of Family Services introduced the Family and Children's programs at Father Martin Ashley. The family wellness program is for family members ages 15 and above. Families learn about the neurological and psychological aspects of the disease. Fee includes all meals and materials. On a limited basis there are scholarships available. Scholarships are also available for the children's program, for youth aged 6-14 years old who have been impacted by addiction.
- **Voices of Hope** – Jennifer Tuerke stated that Voices of Hope (VOH) is a group of recovering people in Cecil County who advocate in support of addiction treatment and recovery. VOH also provide mentoring to recovering youth. This group began as a vision from an alumni group from the Health Department's Alcohol and Drug recovery Center (ADRC). The group quickly grew into a vehicle for those in recovery in Cecil County who strive to be a positive influence in the lives of our citizens; the group continues to grow. The meetings are open to all. The group meets every Wednesday at 5:30 pm. at the Health Department.

#### **Review of DAAC Minutes from September 25, 2014:**

- Minutes from the 9/25/2014 DAAC meeting were reviewed and accepted with the following addenda:
  - In September, Glenn McCurry requested participation of law enforcement at DAAC, and inquired regarding the absence of Mr. Rollins.
  - Richard Bartel asked that presenters identify if programs are for-profit or not-for-profit.
  - Monthly DAAC meetings, and a later start time were requested.

#### **For the Good of the Cause / Announcements:**

##### **John Bennett – DAAC Chairman**

- Discussed the anticipated DAAC progress report. A report is completed every six-months. When the report was reviewed in June there were some objections to the way it was reviewed. For the past several years the process appeared to work well. So, DAAC membership needs to discuss how best to proceed. Mr. Bennett asked that the DAAC attend a special meeting to discuss further. That meeting will be scheduled for late January.
- Mr. Bennett stated that the DAAC has been asked to create a set of By-Laws. The council has a final draft of the By-laws which has been sent to the council members. Mr. Bennett asked that the By-laws be reviewed and if anyone has any suggestions they should send them in so when the council members meet in January they can go through them as efficiently as possible.

##### **Howard Isenberg - Open Door Inc.**

- Announced the anticipated addition of substance abuse services at Family Services/Open Door in Elkton. The program plans to provide outpatient and intensive outpatient treatment, as well as early intervention services.

##### **Donna Lewis - Cecil County MD Division of Parole and Probation**

- Reports that they continue to be very busy at Parole and Probation.

##### **Nancy Turner - Serenity Health**

- Continue with the outpatient detoxification program however it remains very small.

**Mike Massuli - Cecil County Health Department**

- Reported a very productive and collaborative partnership with Union Hospital. Mr. Massuli thanked Michelle Lauer from Union Hospital for her assistance. Reported that during the first quarter of FY15, peer recovery advocate staff served 170 individuals at Union Hospital.
- Since July, 339 individuals were served on a walk in basis at the ADRC, which is a 30% increase from the same last year.
- The vocational program has helped 25 people achieve employment to date.

**Rebecca Larson - CADA & Special Services Officer at Cecil College**

- Cecil College hosted a viewing of the documentary Anonymous People. The event was very successful. They are also hoping to start a recovery student club on campus as well as working on building workshops on substance abuse.

**Sherri Lazarus - Adult Treatment Drug Court**

- The Drug Court program is currently at capacity. At the request of Judge Baines there have been some funds made available for a coordinator position. Presently they are looking forward to starting some new programs. The program is considering adding some services inside the jail. Making some adjustments working with law enforcement and the jail.

**Ken Collins - Cecil County Health Department**

- Expressed appreciation for the anticipated best-practice award from MACo (Maryland Association of Counties) for the hospital based Peer Recovery Program.
- Similar to Cecil County, acknowledged that Howard Isenberg/Open Door also received a federal grant for Drug Free Communities. All new grantees plan to attend a meeting in Washington, DC, next week for a new grantee orientation.
- Expressed appreciation to Elaine Barclay for the work she has done over the years with the Recovery Walk. Over 400 people attended.
- 283 civilians and 222 officers have participated in the Overdose Response Program, and credited to the training, seven lives have been saved to date. Contact Karl Webner at 443-245-3785 to enroll.
- With the addition of the Oxford House, five recovery houses are now located in Cecil County.

**Allen McCarthy - Cecil County Government**

- Acknowledged Jennifer Turke for presenting a compelling case to increase support for recovery efforts.
- Dr. McCarthy also acknowledged Officer Zurulo from the Elkton Police Department.
- If we put our priorities in order we can do great things, Dr McCarthy stated. He also said that with a new administration coming in, we may be able to convince them that this is a serious issue.

**Stephanie Garrity - Cecil County Health Department**

- Announced that this is open enrollment time for the Affordable Care Act. People can sign up for Medicaid or commercial insurance. Substance abuse treatment is one of the required benefits that are offered and as we sign people up at the Health Department or out in the community and at Union Hospital, there will be more and more people with access to care.

**Sean Cannon- Cecil County Public Schools**

- Announced that in collaboration with the Health Department, Cecil County Public Schools have started to offer the MET/CBT-5 program. It is a program for students who violate the Cecil

County Public Schools Drug and Alcohol Policy for the first time. Participants attend five counseling sessions, including two individual and three group sessions. Services are provided from within the school. This program has received very positive feedback both from students and administrators, and the program is encouraged to continue and grow.

**Joe Fisona - Council Member**

- Thanked the council for the opportunity to help. Restarting the Mayor's Drug Force. Encouraged all to view the Cecil County Addiction Awareness webpage on Facebook.

**Kelly Frost - Council Member**

- Announced that she met with County Executive a few days ago to share her concerns. Stated that we need statistics, facts, and information on what's working and what's not working. Stated that she hears everyone talking about how successful things are and how we are going in the right direction, but crime is rampant.

**Jack Foreaker - Haven House**

- Reported a successful golf tournament and movie night.
- Reported that Haven House currently hosts two AA meetings per week. The meetings are open.
- Haven House will also host the 12 hours of Christmas Alcahthon on Christmas Day. Recovery meetings will be starting at 10:00am and will run until 10:00 pm. Recovery meetings will be on the even hours and historic AA films will run on the odd hours.
- Mr. Foreaker stated that he is working with someone who can help clients who need cell phones. Offered to share his resources with others.

**Walt Rozanski - Council Member**

- Announced seeing an article on WBAL 11 news which stated that Elkton, Maryland is the most dangerous city in Maryland. There is a 1 in 11 chance of being the victim of a crime in Elkton. Mr. Rozanski stated the news program announced that in Baltimore there is a 1 in 16 chance of being the victim of a crime.
- Stated that he feels strongly about indicting doctors for murder when necessary, when they over prescribe opiates and their patients die. Specifically involves pill mill restore and the like. Asserted that the AMA and the pharmaceutical industry have ruled way too long; \$500 million dollar fines for losing product does not stem the tide, neither does closing the top 200 pill mills in Florida. Reported that some have moved to Maryland and set up shop.

**Tyra Kenly – Department of Juvenile Services**

- Shared appreciation for the walk-in services available at ADRC. Ms. Kenly said that Juvenile Services is taking advantage of the walk-in adolescent services where you can get everything done in one day, including orientation and assessment.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- Glenn McCurry requested law enforcement representation on the LDAAC. Questioned if the DAAC had received any Federal funding. Encouraged additional prevention efforts.
- Richard Bartel stated that too many people looking to make a profit off of this addiction problem. Inquired regarding the absence of the new Sherriff here at this meeting. Asked what the committee would do to make a difference.

- April Foster spoke about the efforts of STEPS, including recent mental health first aid classes. The next presentation is scheduled for Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 5:30 pm. Ms. Foster said that they have not received any grants from the county or the federal government. Announced that they will be at The Harvest Pentecostal Church on Saturday passing out turquoise ribbons to symbolize addiction recovery. STEPS plans to start a GRASP (Grief Recovery After Substance Death) support group for individuals who have lost friends and family members to substance abuse.
- Diana Broomell stated that the DAAC is supposed to address the drug and alcohol abuse issues in the county. Stated that the DAAC has not operated as it was intended. Stated that the matrix of resources for 2013 was incomplete. Stated that the six-month progress report should scrutinize how treatment programs are performing.

Adjourned: 4:30 PM

Next Meeting: TBD

Submitted by Alicia O'Connor

Revised January 27, 2015