



**Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council Report
Cecil County Community Health Advisory Committee
July 16, 2015**

SHIP Measure: Drug-Induced Death Rate

Drug-induced death rate per 100,000 population					
	2007-2009	2008-2010	2009-2011	2010-2012	2011-2013
Cecil	21.6	21.2	27.4	29.5	26.5
Maryland	12.9	12.1	11.9	12.3	13.3

HP 2020: 11.3 MD 2017 Goal: 12.6
Source: Maryland DHMH Vital Statistics Administration (VSA)

SHIP Measure: Emergency Departments for Addictions-Related Conditions

Rate of emergency department visits related to substance abuse disorders* (per 100,000 population)				
	2010	2011	2012	2013
Cecil	1538.6	2121.9	2234.8	2057.6
Maryland	1122.4	1237.5	1398.2	1474.6

*Diagnoses include alcohol-related disorders and drug related disorders
MD 2017 Goal: 1400.9
Source: Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC), Research Level Statewide Outpatient Data Files

During the previous six months, the Cecil County Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council (DAAC) met on January 27, 2015, March 26, 2015, and June 25, 2015. During the January meeting, the DAAC reviewed and approved new by-laws. The by-laws had been crafted with the assistance of the County Attorney.

Kelly Frost and Walt Rozanski resigned from their appointed positions on the DAAC during January and March 2015 respectively. The DAAC extended appreciation to each for their service.

During the June meeting, the DAAC developed its plan and priorities for FY2016 - FY2018. The plan was titled: "Plans, Strategies and Priorities for Meeting the Identified Needs of the General Public and the Criminal Justice System for Alcohol and Drug Abuse Evaluation, Prevention and Treatment."

In short, the Council's plan seeks to reduce substance abuse and dependence and related consequences through development and implementation of an integrated and comprehensive prevention/early-intervention, treatment, recovery support and public safety system which meets

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the needs of the general public and the criminal justice system. The major goals of the DAAC are identified below:

- 1) Establish an accessible and integrated continuum of substance abuse treatment services for adult residents of Cecil County.
- 2) Establish and enhance resources and programs to address the substance abuse concerns among individuals referred by the criminal justice system.
- 3) Establish an accessible and integrated continuum of substance abuse prevention, intervention and treatment services for the adolescents and their families of Cecil County.
- 4) Educate and assist families in Cecil County to live healthy and drug free lives.
- 5) Decrease perceived obstacles to prevention and treatment programs.
- 6) Develop a recovery-oriented systems approach that builds on the strengths and resilience of individuals, families, and communities to take responsibility for their sustaining health, wellness, and recovery from alcohol and drug problems.
- 7) Decrease the number of drug exposed newborns born in Cecil County.
- 8) Establish an accessible and integrated continuum of gambling prevention, intervention and treatment services.
- 9) Reduce incidence of fatal and non-fatal overdoses in Cecil County.

The above goals are supported by 43 objectives and related performance targets. Objectives added to the FY2016 - FY2018 plan include the following:

- Increase the availability of Vivitrol (naltrexone), Suboxone (buprenorphine and naloxone) and Methadone treatments for persons addicted to opioids.
- Increase continuum of services (education, support and treatment) for families affected by substance use disorders.
- Support the development and coordination of recovery support services offered by non-traditional (citizen-driven, grassroots, faith-based) groups.
- Increase protective factors and resiliency to prevent or delay the initiation of substance use and other high risk behaviors among youth in Cecil County.
- Increase community awareness of behavioral health prevention and treatment resources.
- Promote the establishment of community based behavioral health services in underserved areas.
- Initiate activities to address behavioral health workforce shortage issues in Cecil County (in an effort to increase the number of residents served).
- Elevate the visibility of behavioral health recovery and decrease the related negative stigma. Incorporate the experiences of those in recovery to help and support individuals and families suffering with behavioral health disease.
- Increase overdose prevention education and related outreach to individuals and groups identified as high risk. Educate community members in overdose recognition and response.

Successful implementation of the Council's goals and objectives is contingent upon receipt of sufficient funding.

The following includes select accomplishments and recent progress toward Local Health Improvement Plan and other DAAC goals:

- Elkton Police reported in January 2015, that 267 pounds of unwanted medication were collected during calendar year 2014, via Elkton's permanent prescription drug drop-off box.
- On January 8, 2015, the Health Department and Union Hospital's Peer Recovery Advocate Program received the Maryland Association of Counties' "Healthy Counties Best Practices" award. The award recognized county programs that contribute to the overall health and quality of life of a Maryland county.
- During the Maryland Tobacco Resource Center's Annual Best Practices Conference on January 22, 2015, the Cecil County Health Department's Alcohol and Drug Recovery Center received a "Certificate of Recognition" for its outstanding record of engaging substance abuse patients in MDQuit's nicotine cessation services.
- In January 2015, the Health Department received an Opioid Misuse Prevention Program (OMPP) grant to support the objectives contained within the current overdose prevention plan, as well as develop an enhanced plan and implement additional evidence-based opioid misuse prevention strategies, utilizing a Strategic Prevention Framework model.
- A sixth recovery house opened in Cecil County on February 1, 2015. The "True Nature Recovery House," located in Elkton, provides sober living support for up to eight men.
- Cecil County hosted Lt. Governor Boyd Rutherford and the Maryland Heroin and Opioid Emergency Task Force on March 17, 2015, for the first of several regional drug task force summits. The meeting elevated support for public health and public safety responses to the heroin and opioid crisis, and helped to identify recommendations for policy, regulations, and legislation for improved sharing of public health and public safety information among State agencies.
- Plans were announced in March 2015 for Cecil County's second permanent 24/7 drug take back box. Initiated by April Foster of STEPS Recovery Resources, and Rising Sun Police Chief F.D. "Chip" Peterson, Jr., the fixed drop-box will be placed at the Rising Sun Police Station. The box will provide a safe, convenient and anonymous opportunity to dispose of unused and expired medications.
- On April 1, 2015, the Health Department presented to other Maryland health departments on its hospital-based Peer Recovery Specialist Program. The initiative was presented as a model to expand in other jurisdictions. The innovative Cecil County program embeds Peer Recovery Specialists in hospitals to connect patients to behavioral health services.
- On April 26, 2015, a "record number take advantage of Hazardous Waste Day" collection, per Cecil Whig. The Whig reported 224 participants in the medication drop off; (the previous high count was 197).
- On May 12, 2015, Upper Bay Counseling announced FUSIONS, a new program providing care coordination and case management for children and families. The program is available to

individuals under 18, who have a mental health diagnosis, a co-occurring issue (mental health diagnosis and substance use diagnosis) or those youth at risk for an out-of-home placement.

- On June 3, 2015, Sheriff Adams announced the award of a \$47.5K grant to develop a Vivitrol/Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) program for the Cecil County Detention Center. The grant was awarded by Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention, via the Byrne Justice Assistance Grants program. The Vivitrol initiative would provide the opioid antagonist medication to inmates just prior to release from the jail. The funding will support care coordination for the re-entry program.
- During the DAAC meeting of June 25, 2015, Dr. Deni Carise of Recovery Centers of America (RCA) discussed plans to convert the former MBNA corporate retreat known as Bracebridge Hall in Earleville, into a 49bed detoxification and short-term residential program. If approved, the program would augment behavioral health resources for Cecil County.
- Also during the June DAAC meeting, community members suggested advocacy for expanding the Whitsitt Center East Wing.
- Cecil County's overdose prevention coordinator facilitated Overdose Response Program (ORP) training for 468 community members during the first 14months of program operation (April 30, 2014 to June 30 2015). Offered at no cost, the training is for anyone who may encounter a person experiencing an opiate overdose. Participants gain education, skills, and the ability to possess and administer Narcan to reverse an opiate overdose. Between April 30, 2014 and June 30 2015, eleven lives were reported saved by community members who participated in the training, including parents saving their young-adult children, neighbors saving neighbors, friends saving friends, etc. Beginning in August 2014, ORP training was also provided for 248 Cecil County law enforcement officers. Between August 2014 and June 30, 2015, twenty one lives were reported saved from an overdose by these officers. [Overall, since the ORP inception in Cecil County, a total of 716 officers and community members have been trained and a total of thirty-two lives have been reported saved.]
- Peer Recovery Specialists working inside Union Hospital engaged 481 patients and family members between January 1, and June 30, 2015. The Specialists provide a range of services which include connecting individuals to recovery-related resources and providing a "warm handoff" to community support and treatment programs.
- During the second half of FY15, 15 multidisciplinary, public health focused reviews of local fatal overdose incidents were completed by the Local Overdose Fatality Review Team (LOFRT). The LOFRT has served as a forum for the sharing of information essential to the improvement of a community's response to overdose deaths. Based on information obtained, the LOFRT has attempted to identify root causes, determine trends, and target resources to decrease overdose death rates.