



**Cumberland County**  
**Public Health Department**  
***C-Fort Minutes, Oct 27th, 2022***

***Guest Speakers/Presenters:***

- Louis Leake
- Chris
- Kirk Dougly
- Nidhi Sachdeva-NCA
- Greg Berry
- Steve Mange- NCDHA
- Louis Leake-CTC
- Charlton Roberson
- Noah Johnson
- Dr. Jennifer Green
- Martina Sconiers-Talbert
- M. Everett
- Kendall

***Data:***

**Louis Leak**

-For the month of September CC had 193 opioid overdose emergency Dept. visits for 2022 YTD in comparison to: 158 from January 2021-September 2021 of last year.

-Our numbers are increasing even across ethnicities

-799 are all opioid overdose, ED visits: September 2022 compared to 754 September 2021 - There were 239 fentanyl-positive deaths increase in July 2022 as compared to 287 in July 2021 - Statewide 799 all opioid overdose ED visits: September 2022 compared to 754 September 2021 -question: Is there any progress towards the heat maps here in CC? We do not have enough information on this.

**Greg Berry and Charlton Roberson (NC Harm Reduction Coalition)**

- Quarterly data update for C-fort

- Update on effects of xylazine in the community
- Questions

#### Harm Reduction Data:

- There were 873 Narcan kits distributed to 516 people
- Of those 516 distributed, 138 kits were reported as being used successfully in an overdose reversal
- a total of 51 of those were successfully linked to services and received care.
- of those 51, 3 people received services for less than 30 days & 48 people received services for more than 30 days.
- Lastly, there were 3 links made for friends/families. This is an area that we have identified as an area for improvement.

#### Xylazine update:

- over the last 6 months, participants of the FAY SSP continue to arrive at the syringe exchange with varying degrees of skin infections.
- wounds appear to be lesions, w/c progresses to ulceration
- instances are becoming more frequent
- stages of ulceration are becoming more serious
- approx. 100 participants have been observed w/ these wounds
- There were images provided by Roberson co. of examples of the lesions
- There is a lot that's not known about xylazine yet. Not enough research to support this topic of discussion. It's unknown but we do know the wounds are directly related to xylazine. -The wounds are a hygienic issue

#### ***Action Items on to-do-list.***

#### **Dr. Green**

1. We will resend xylazine to this group
2. We will re-blast facts to all the providers in the community "the xylazine alert we sent out in July".
3. Talk with Dr. Chima to see if we can provide his information

-Misty Averitt (from Methodist) helped write some parts of the grant that ED @ CF opt. It's to implement 24/7 peer support specialist in the ED... & section of the grant w/c mention these wounds & wounds supply.

*Contact info for Harm Reduction:*

- Greg Berry (Linkage to care Coordinator) – [gberry@nchrc.org](mailto:gberry@nchrc.org)
- Charlton Roberson (Eastern Regional Coordinator) – [charlton@nchrc.org](mailto:charlton@nchrc.org)  
[www.nchrc.org](http://www.nchrc.org)

### Chris Dudley, CFV

-Chris has been assisting our library staff with training on how to use Narcan & making sure they have kits in place.

-4 libraries that utilizes Narcan services are:

- Spring Lake
- East Regional
- Hope Mills
- Downtown library

-17 staff members have been trained in how to use it.

-we are working on the breakdown of ethnicity, sex, age groups, etc. to see what %'s are being impacted the most. Also correlating this data to the # of deaths that are opioid related.

-Federal BJA grant received almost 3yrs ago, is up and running now. This helps w/ our ability to provide funding for housing.

-If there are individuals that are in treatment/recovery that need housing, we have been working with oxford housing. We have funding for 16 individuals; 3 have already been placed. - we can pay for the 1st two months. However, we pay on a case-by-case basis.

-The grant ends in Sept. 2023; we can't apply for this grant again, but this is where the opioid settlement comes in.

### ***Opioid Settlement updates:***

-We have put out an RFP (Request Proposal) for the opioid settlement funding

-Recovery housing pays lease/rent/hotel for those individuals

-the idea is there will be funding & a support system even after this grant is over -RP is due on Dec. 8th

-Informational sessions on Nov 2nd, Nov.8th

-MAT in the detention center vital strategies, draft job descriptions & other base level information, & webinars.

-restarted our jail health meetings

-commissioners allocated more funding for Narcan/syringe service programs (\$70,000/yr.)

-We anticipated that those funds would be ready in January. We must reapply for the matching funds we will be notified of in December.

-Members from the county commissioner's admin was on to answer any questions on the opioid settlement funds & American Red Cross funds.

Presenters:

-Nidhi Sachdeva-NCA

-Noah Johnson- worked with settlement funds & Red Cross funds

### ***Suggestions & Resources***

-There is a webinar series that's done with NCCC, walking through each of option A strategies. - Greg stated that Asheville's Sunrise Community for Recovery & Wellness is potentially an ideal place to look at for recovery community centers meetings.

-it was asked by Dr. Green that if they outgrow their facility how do we plan forward so that we don't invest in a facility that's not big enough? There will be more info on this topic. -Recovery Community of NC was suggested as another great resource.

-map on community impact NC- has recovery communities around the state outlined. Another potential great resource!

-it was inquired "can we bring back a webpage that has a list like Gov't institute of events originally housed under samsa.gov now given to faces and voices. Comment shared, "it was great when NC had its own page.

-It was suggested that we take time out of the meeting to reflect on some of our successes! - CDC Foundation is working w/ HD to bring 5 individuals to NC. They are overdose prevention specialists whose goals are to provide local support. This is a short-term position. Note: we may be sharing time with another country.

-Martina Sconiers-Talbert will be sharing info about the job post.

-For those that need to get their C-Fort guides, they are available at the Health Department.

### ***Grant updates:***

-Kendall should be able to find out by next week if they'll get it or not. Looking forward to a good report at the next meeting.

### ***Final Thoughts:***

-Next C-Fort meeting will be held on Dec.15, 2022