



Cumberland County

Public Health Department

C-Fort Minutes May. 16, 2023

Agenda item 1. Introductions

Guest Speakers/attendees:

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Tomeka Shaw	
Tracie Zacharek	
Yarinel Rodriguez-Rivera	

Agenda item 2. Data and Progress Updates

Louis Leake, Carolina Treatment Center

-No data available from the state currently

Charlton Roberson, NC Harm Reduction

-The city of Fayetteville offered a partnership, allotted us some additional funds.

Elijah Bazemore, Vital Strategies CCDS MAT updates

-Mr. Roka helped bring community resources to them.

-we just did RFP for a medical provider. So were waiting on the Sherriff's office (currently at a standstill) to work through that process.

-helping Mr. Roka up to speed of what a program would look like

-they are now focusing on the discharge planning component and go from there. They will be looking at what community resources we have and what we can do to help an individual once they are released to connect to those resources.

Tamra Morris, CCDPH

-We are working on improving our list server. Which may improve their re-entry and their recovery services.

Mitzi Averette, Methodist University Collegiate Recovery

-There are 3 peer support specialist openings at the ED. Role includes on-site services. However, there is an opening for a minimum of 2.

-Better beginnings also have transportation services.

-She's met with Dr. Zappa (member of the ED team)

-Dr. Zappa wanted a total of 5 (full-time) and the 6th individual will be a part-time (to be a fill-in whenever needed)/

-The goal is 24/7 support with peer support.

-Naisha Smith- handles the direct things with peer support (POC) & Jimmy Henley is the CEO (POC). They are the best people to get in contact with for all peer support needs/questions.

Dr. Green, CCDPH

-If people have peer support in their office, email Tamra so we can start exchanging emails.

Amy Jordan, RI International

-is the nursing director at CRRC.

- in terms of transportation, if the hospital has folks that need to come over, we just need a nursing report & just let us know when they're ready. We would like it to be a robust collaboration.

Orlando Smith, CCDPH BJA Funds housing updates

-41 total funding request since August we got the 1st request for funding.

-16 of the 39 are currently active.

-4 out of 6 are still in Oxford housing. You may stay for about 4-5 months.

-Oxford house opened a new house on Kinlaw Rd.

-Helping them w/ the 1st month rent

-Part of that grant was for Cape Fear to receive specialized training.

-Wake Med received high traffic volume concerning overdoses.

Elijah Bazemore, Vital Strategies

-You'll have to have an ER team on board to develop a smooth transition to the peer support specialist. Also, Peer Support in the ER works best when you have a person at the ER that is committed to the coordination & making it work.

-Depends on how the triage system is setup.... When people are in the ED the individual can be referred to the peer support.

Greg shared that a lot of the nuances being discussed...the subcommittee could really iron this topic out.

Agenda item 3. Upcoming Healing Holistic Event

Serena Gunn, Healing Holistic

- Heal Holistic Journey, Inc has upcoming mental health awareness event hosted by blissful alchemist called: Shattering the Stigma Wellness Expo

-Held May 21st from 1pm-4:30pm focused on one's mind, body, and soul.

-Location: 414 Ray Ave Fayetteville, NC

-Email: hailey@sunshinebeautybliss.com if interested in reserving a spot for the event.

-This event will include:

-Yoga @ 2pm

-Native American dance

-Gong Sound bath

-innovative breakout sessions

-motivational speakers

-advocates from Asheville, NC

-Business vendors

-therapy dogs

-some components of the military (army)

-Share, Share, Share!!

-They are a non-profit organization providing education and support in a holistic way.

Charlton Roberson, NC Harm Reduction

-Recover out Loud will have their 3rd annual event in September. It focuses on recovery! Date considered is 9/16/2023.

Agenda item 4. Survey Reminder/Feedback

Tamra Morris, CCDPH

-Our C-FORT guides are due for updates in August so we can add our holistic health groups.

-We want to see who all wanted to remain a C-FORT member.

-26 responses so far indicating that they wish to remain active, which is less than 25% of the email address of coalition members on the list server. We are looking for more responses.

-C-FORT center naming results: most people voted for “*CFORT Recovery Center.*”

-We're looking to have quarterly outreach events.

- The recovery center & the recovery resource committee are 2 different things.

Greg Berry, CFORT Coordinator

- The direct service committee is not just for peer support specialists...it's for a good working group of members that are collaborating to try & connect people to care whether you're a counselor, case manager, linkage to care individual, peer support, etc.
- The survey is going to remain open; we encourage people to go there and complete it.

Agenda item 5. Grant Updates

Dr. Green, CCDPH Grant updates

- The grant from SAMHSA is due in June. 27th
- It's for preventing youth overdose treatment, recovery, education, awareness, and training grant.
- PYO for short
- Eligible people: an agency has to be an institution of higher education. Ex: local public board like schools, school board/school district, state government etc.
- Focuses on ages 12-18 yrs. old (but not exclusive to only this age range). They're focused on high school youth. Focus on youth, education, and prevention services for the youth.
- We just need an applicant to apply for the grant. If any are interested, Tamra & Dr. Green will be your contact.

Mitzi Averette, Methodist University Collegiate Recovery

- Fayetteville Tech has a ton of HS students in early college that may benefit.
- There's a portal (available to ALL teachers) for at risk youth. There is a list they can pull from. School social workers should have the list, too.

Agenda item 6. Next steps

Tamra Morris, CCDPH

- There is a proposed C-FORT taskforce
- The C-FORT taskforce is our proposal project for our quality improvement project.
- Looking to create a group that will serve as a network of individuals and organizations to help push forward the active committee engagement

- We're looking to have quarterly outreach events where individuals can come and receive services, get connected to other referral points.
- We want to have a C-FORT taskforce to be more active and engaging in the resource center.
- We need more organizations who will be a part of the taskforce to keep the continuous movement of the recovery center going.
- So, we need organizations to commit to time spent at the recovery center and/or covering SMART recovery classes.
- We're looking to get something scheduled so that C-FORT members who are interested in becoming trainers in SMART Recovery can do so and be a part of the taskforce & commit to hosting the SMART Recovery classes.
- Heal holistic has a wellness outreach program. Their representative is interested in seeing how they can support.
- Greg Berry shared: We are looking to have the ability of operating under a MOA where the network of individuals will be able to collaborate in real time daily.
- If you have questions or comments, you can direct those to Greg Berry via email: gberry@cumberlandcountync.gov
- Lastly, C-FORT is going to order fentanyl and xylazine test strips & will notify you once they are in.
- Our county specialist is completing our order; Tamra will check with her to see if the vendor they've chosen is VTNX and pass along Mitzi's message in regards of they may not be reliable.

Chat box feedback

- Tamra Morris: email me if you have Peer Support in your agency, and their email address so I can coordinate a meeting: tmorris@cumberlandcountync.gov
- Elijah Bazemore: namiwalks mental health for all round logo...May 20th at 9am-12pm EDT. Namiwalks NC Perimeter Park 3015 Carrington Mill Blvd, Morrisville.
- Join us for our biggest event of the year and help us raise awareness and funds for mental illness! To register/participate: <https://www.namiwalks.org/northcarolina>
- Lisa Lofton-Berry: NAMI Cumberland, Harnett, Lee (CHL) Affiliate has a NAMIWalks Team called NAMI CHL Overcomers. <https://www.namiwalks.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donordrive.team&teamID=56456>

Next C-FORT meeting is **June 20, 2023, 10am-11:30pm** (with both Hybrid and in-person options)