

Bristol HEZ Opioid Overdose Prevention Plan Subcommittee Meeting 2
Monday April 29, 2019
2:00-4:00pm

In attendance: Craig Pereira, Emily Spence, Sarah Bullard, Tommy Joyce, Scott Panella, Madeleine Crowe, Reverend Liz Habecker, Donna Wilson, Meghan Elwell, Lt. Steve St. Pierre
(phone) Allison Minugh, Susan, Nicoletta, Margo Katz, Laurie MacDougall

2. Meeting 1 recap:

- all work moving forward will be on BHEZ website;
- discussion of draft focus groups (4 in development – EBRC, REST, Senior Center, Bristol County Medical Center physicians);
- have not yet identified a source for newborns; reviewed list of community resources.
- Discussion of providing incentives (meals, gift cards etc.), RIDOH has approved redirection of funds to allot for food/gift card for focus group participants.

3. Review of existing assessments/discussion of gaps (Datacorp)

- Town of Bristol ranks in the middle of the state for opiate problems
 - 5-6 deaths from opiates annually
 - adult opioid use seen as problem by focus group participants and also reported by teachers (parent use affecting children)
 - lack of connection to resources
 - police response seen as reactive rather than proactive
 - 2-3% youth opioid use reported
 - multiple contributing factors: anxiety, stress, depression, peer pressure, lack of parental involvement
 - Adult and youth data gaps:
 - personal stories of those affected
 - what is the perspective of users - how did they get started, what would help, what's stopping them from getting help?
 - what issues are specific to Bristol?
 - Senior citizens – only data available is among Medicare beneficiaries
 - Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome steadily increasing across RI, no Bristol specific data available
- More data is available through Bristol PD and EBCAP/East Bay Center
- Datacorp will be looking for other sources of data
- Laurie suggested Tracy Green or Jennifer Koziel for information on SEN (Substance Exposed Newborns)