

Linn County Opioid Steering Committee

MINUTES

Friday, May 4th at 2:00 PM
Linn County Public Health
Conference Room at 501 13th Street NW

Welcome & Introductions

Mr. Dwivedi welcomed everyone to the meeting. Emphasizing this is the 4th meeting, but the first as a steering committee. He acknowledged two elected officials; Dale Todd, Cedar Rapids Councilmember and Jim Houser, Linn County Board of Supervisor.

Present:

Andy Oleson, Dustin Arnold, Laura Faircloth, Chief Jerman, James Houser, Tony Myers, Erin Foster, Jennifer Seyfer, Lori Taylor, Dennis Marks, Timothy McGillam, Rod Courtney, Katie Reasner, Rev. Cathy Allen, Jacklyn Gillen, Michaela Ramm, Joe McHale, Jacquie Fitzgerald, Mallory Hughes, Joe Lock, Dale Todd, Alex Flesher, Pramod Dwivedi, Arleen Zahn-Houser, Pat Reinert

Discussion on Structure of Steering Committee

Mr. Dwivedi shared the Board of Health approved the Opioid Steering Committee with Erin Foster with ASAC as Committee Chair and Sgt. Al Fear with the Cedar Rapids Police Department as Committee Vice-Chair. Also legislatively there is work being done with elected officials. There was some discussion/education on the Needle Exchange Bill that was not passed.

Representation at this meeting from the following sectors

Behavioral Health, Health Care, Colleges/Universities, Law Enforcement, Criminal Justice, Community Organizations, Elected Officials/Government, City Fire, EMA, Medical Examiner's Office, Treatment and Prevention, Pharmacy, Faith Community, Media and AmeriCorps

❖ Roles of Steering Committee Members

After some research, Ms. Foster used Franklin County, OH, examples, along with others, and structured a model of what Linn County's should look like. Discussed what this group will be responsible for, the roles of chair and co-chair and then the sub-committees, which will be the doers. This group will meet quarterly and oversee the sub-committees, with possibly meeting monthly for a few months until it takes off (see handout from the meeting).

❖ Sub-Committees

• Topics

The three identified sub-committees are approved: Prevention & Community Education, Health Care, Treatment & Risk Reduction, and First Responders & Law Enforcement. Possibly adding sub-committees for Data, Legislative and Public Information Officer/Media.

- **Chairs**
A member of the Steering Committee acts as a Chair (may also have a Co-Chair - someone not on Steering Committee). The Sub-Committee Chair then would report back to the Steering Committee.
- **Strategies**
Chairs and Co-Chairs will set the sub-committee meetings, how often they meet and set the specific goals they will work on.

❖ **Recruitment of Sub-Committee Member Activity**

- Who should be invited to a sub-committee?
Be thinking about who should be added to the sub-committee.
- Prioritize the things/issues should be working on?
Tackling the evidence-based ones first (see handouts). Discussed the Access Center and purpose that is on the horizon in Linn County.
- Who is not represented at this meeting?
Department of Corrections, Linn County Sheriff's Office, Linn County Jail, Abbe Center and Foundation II.
- Ms. Foster asked everyone to consider being a chair or co-chair on a sub-committees. What can be suggested for the sub-committees to look into for their action?

Wrap-Up & Next Meeting Plans

- Correspondence via email in the next few days...
 - Where do you feel your role is with this group? Just a steering committee member or would you like to be part of a sub-committee or chair a sub-committee. Ms. Foster will create a document for you to fill in where you think you belong.
 - Regarding the sub-committees – think about who is missing whether it is a person or organization. Plug them into a sub-committee. This is not a sign-up for them, but something to look into.
 - A “doodle” survey will be sent for a meeting in early June. Will discuss meeting frequency and the sub-committees.