

## Drug Demand Reduction Coalition (DDRC) - Treatment Team

# MINUTES

Wednesday 2/20/13

9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Location: NORAPC - 2601 Tulane Ave., Ste 400, NOLA 70119

Attendees: Onesia Pavich, Amy Schuten, Kelli Bertrand, Natasha Dowell, Stephanie Haynes, Seton Jenkins Debra Morton, Erika Sugimori, Bob Gallati, Maj. Donna Jones (by conference call)

1. Welcome/Introductions - facilitated by Debra Morton

2. Review of Agenda - facilitated by Debra Morton

3. Report Back

*a. Chris Gunther and Natasha Dowell*

- i. Sustainability of Resource Directory Efforts*
- ii. Dialogue with Via Link on Collaboration*
- iii. Data Collected by the City*
- iv. Addition of Substance Abuse to Dashboard*

Natasha Dowell presented and discussed the City Health Department-Behavioral Health Directory & Mental Health Dashboard. She explained how the directory was developed as well as the collaboration involving VIA LINK, State Office of Behavioral Health and others

*b. Bob Gallati*

*i. Survey*

Bob Gallati presented a copy of the N-SSATS and discussed details regarding its publication and collection time. The survey will be released on March 30. Agencies will likely receive it in April. To encourage local participation the group decided to send a letter to treatment facilities to encourage participation and that the letter should be co-signed by Dr. Karen DeSalvo (NOHD) and Judge Calvin Johnson (MHSD). Kelli Bertrand and Natasha Dowell would follow-up with their respective counterparts. Gallati would draft the letter along with another that would follow-up on the first. Sugimori would send the document out for review upon finalization.

*ii. Crosscheck of Provider Lists to Identify Target Providers*

Gallati discussed his work on cross-referencing resource directories and other listings. He found the City Health Dep.t Directory to be the most comprehensive and will be the anchor for the targeted activity of the survey as well as the local resource database.

4. Action Planning

Sugimori reviewed the current status of Treatment Workgroup Action Plan and introduced the GNODDRC Summary Report Template. She explained both are due to the Maj. Donna Jones on Friday 22th. The group reviewed the documents finalized the wording in the report and updated the information to be submitted.

*a. Action Plan Table*

The Action Plan table was updated with activities discussed at the meeting.

b. Interns

Sugimori offered to develop a solicitation to recruit graduate level interns for the N-SSATS data collection effort. It will be directed to Tulane, Xavier and LSU.

5. New Business

a. DDRC Grant Opportunity

Seton discuss the SAMHSA recent Drug Free RFA. The average grant is \$125,000 each year over 10 years. The focus is to reduce substance abuse in youth and adults and it is due 3/23.

DDRC's board plans to submit an application

6. Announcements

MHSD will host a Behavioral Health forum in Belle Chase, LA in the local Auditorium on Mar. 13, 6:00 pm – 8:00; Judge Johnson and Dr. Dunham (OBH) will be featured speakers; a flyer will be distributed soon

Sugimori shared notes regarding Orleans Parish Prison on behalf of Dr. Gore, the medical director. She noted he had reiterated that the jail needs to be a big part of the equation. She provided his OPP notes and statistics:

- 75% have drugs in their system and there is an opportunity to address the issue.
- drug courts are needed in Municipal Court
- OPSO only has one social worker. With enough capacity, they could reach inmates right at intake, hooking them into treatment services right away (60% are released within 48 hours. Thus, many potential "clients" are lost). Such an arrangement would be ideal. Would "the community" be able to help out?
- Regarding case management while in jail, addressing the societal issues related to drug use (homelessness, jobs, etc.) is important, but they are challenged with minimal capacity - only one social worker. Community assistance is helpful, as has been seen with HIV case management and community linkage.

7. Next Meeting – 3/20, 9:30-11:30 AM at NORAPC