

March 17, 2022 – 2 to 4pm

Brief welcome from Marianne Dean/Dr. Dianne Clark.

Medical Examiner's Office Update: Presenter Reta Newman

- Semiannual update – In Pinellas County in 2021, There were 14,861 drug identifications
 - Over 30% of identified drugs were fentanyl or fentanyl analogues
 - Methamphetamine was the second most identified drug
- In 2021 the projected accidental drug overdose numbers are expected to rise for both Pinellas and Pasco County
- In Pinellas County, accidental overdose death counts are expected to be around 600 for 2021
 - There are 43 cases still pending, but the count is currently at 561 accidental overdose deaths
 - This number shows a 30% increase in accidental overdose deaths in the past two years
 - Illicit Drugs account for 352 accidental overdose drug deaths
 - Combined (prescription & illicit) drugs are responsible for 125 accidental overdose deaths
- Fluorisoobutyryl fentanyl (pFF) is the only fentanyl analog currently in circulation in Pinellas County
 - pFF uses a different precursor than other fentanyl analogs
 - Common fentanyl analog precursors have become illegal to possess leading to a decreased circulation
- N- pyrrolidino etonitazene or “nitazenes” are becoming more prevalent in Pinellas County
 - There have been 8 deaths to date in Pinellas County
 - 100-100x stronger than morphine
 - 10x stronger than fentanyl
 - Almost impossible to prosecute with the analog law
 - Instances of it being mixed with heroin and fentanyl
 - It has been reported that Naloxone reverse the effects of nitazenes; however, reports have indicated it takes several Naloxone dispersals to reverse the effects of the drug

Q: Johnathon Santamour: What percentage of cocaine has fentanyl in it?

A: Reta Newman: A large majority of it

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Trends in Transports: Presenter Craig Queen

- There were 6,997 9-1-1 transports of suspected overdoses in FY20-21
 - So far, in FY21-22 there have been 2,622 transports of suspected overdoses
- Our current transport numbers are just above 30% of where we were a year ago
- There were 3,312 9-1-1 transports with Naloxone administered in FY20-21
 - So far, in FY21-22 there have been 1,355 transports with Naloxone administration
- Last week number of Naloxone to number of incidents was a 2:1 ratio
 - EMS is seeing that more Naloxone is being administered in the field
- Locations where transports are coming from have remained steady from FY20/21- FY21/22
 - St. Petersburg (29.36%), Largo (15.94%), and Pinellas Park (11.74%) lead the county in number of transports

- From 2020-2022 there were 5,805 9-1-1 transports of suspected overdoses with Naloxone Administered. Of those there were 4,534 individuals with a total of 1,271 repeat cases.
 - There have been 123 referrals to COSSAP/Operation PAR as of March 10,2022
 - 4 individuals have had repeat incidents
 - Future goal is to dive a little deeper into data and begin to standardize addresses
- Q: Mohan Sindhvani, MD: Is EMS doing anything to keep track of when first responders disperse Naloxone several times at a scene?
- A: Craig Queen: Not yet

EIS Update: Presenter Mohammad Alak

- Florida's Substance Use Dashboard- public shareable data that can show county level data
 - <https://www.flhealthcharts.gov/ChartsDashboards/rdPage.aspx?rdReport=SubstanceUseOverview>
 - Great data sources
 - Data can be untimely
- EIS Fellows working under OD2A are working on Quarterly and Monthly Overdose Reports
 - Want to provide timely overdose data to stakeholders
 - Using data from: ESSENCE-FI, EMSTARS, Biospatial, FDOH data, and Bureau of Vital Statistics
- ED and EMS Syndromic Surveillance
 - Pros:
 - Real-time data from participating providers
 - Built in statistical tools
 - Chief complaint field adds in the inclusion of free text into syndrome definitions
 - Cons
 - Most syndromic surveillance data is considered provisional
 - Sometimes visits are incorrectly categorized
 - Limitations to data sharing
- Quarterly and Monthly Overdose Reports will contain the most updated ED, demographic, and EMS data

Overdose Data to Action (OD2A) Updates: Marianne Dean

- Intro to new Overdose Outreach Coordinator: Samantha Goodfellow
- NIDA Drug and Alcohol Facts Week: Youth Prevention campaign at DOH-Pinellas March 21-25
 - Posters, flyers, magazines, pamphlets, incentives will be in downstairs lobby at St. Petersburg DOH
- Increase in Hepatitis A infections- vaccine information at FDOH-Pinellas (727) 824-6932
- CDC released a clinical practice guideline: 60-day public comment period will end on April 11, 2022
 - Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and search for "CDC Guideline for Prescribing Opioids". A comment button on the top left of the page will allow you to submit your comments via a webpage with step-by-step instructions

Q: Lourdes Benedict- Can we push more information into the public around spring break regarding the dangers of drug use? It seemed like it was an afterthought this year.

A: Marianne Dean: I can add it to a perpetual calendar so that it does not seem like an afterthought in the future

Q: Dr. Choe: Do we need to post messaging on platforms that younger individuals see, such as TikTok?

SIP – White Papers Update: Presenters Kimberly Johnson, PhD – USF

- Tim Burns- Introduction
 - Automating process among community members
 - Maintenance of actionable items
- Of the 1,362 deaths in the data provided for 2018-2020, 71% had at least one interaction with EMS, Jail, or the Community Behavioral Health System in the two years prior to death
- EMS has the highest number of interactions with decedents
 - The interactions when decedents died were not included in the overall number
- Types of Interaction: EMS, Jail, Outpatient treatment, Crisis Intervention, Inpatient treatment, and Medication for OUD
 - Number is low for Medication for OUD because they are getting services and therefore are not dying
- 77% of decedents had more than one contact with EMS
 - Follow-Up with EMS is critical
- Medication services in jail or linkage to medication immediately following jail is important for health outcomes
 - Population has an increased risk of dying from an opioid overdose following jail stay
- Many of the decedents only received 1-3 days of outpatient services
 - People were connected but they did not remain connected
 - Action Item: How can we keep individuals connected to care?
- Action Item: How do we ensure quick follow-up from crisis?
- Discrepancy in Numbers: The 165 decedents were pulled from the vignette data base. The slide referring to 160 decedents used data from the CFBHN services
- Discussion on the key takeaways from the white papers

There was discussion regarding the formation of action groups within the task force. This will be discussed later.

COSSAP Update: Presenter Joshua Barnett, PhD

- Quick Response Teams Overview
 - The use of technology has been beneficial to the Quick Response Teams
 - EMS referral system and information collection has assisted in communication throughout Pinellas County services
 - Operation PAR and their PAR bots can quickly deploy to participating Emergency Departments.
 - Peer Support Specialists are important to the Quick Response Teams
 - There are 14 individuals referred by the team who are currently in a medication assisted program receiving services
- It is important to look at decedent's history in the form of an Overdose Fatality Review
- Operation PAR team member Angel has begun to interview the families of decedents for the Overdose Fatality Reviews.
- Beginning to develop a dashboard that contains data collected from COSSAP
- Looking for funding to expand the Quick Response Teams

- Received the FR-CARA grant that will be used to equip law enforcement to take control with the Quick Response Teams
- Spoke about the importance of leaving behind Naloxone for individuals
- Grief and Bereavement resources
- Spoke on the importance of coming up with new methods to help individuals who experience multiple overdoses

Review from Northwestern University: Presenters Dr. Wouter Vermeer, PhD & Team

- Northwestern is still working on the data sources they will use for their modeling efforts
- They are not ready to share any data from the outcomes yet
- There was a short break where all participants were encouraged to take a survey at this link:
 - https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe2lyX_L0jvmj0qERebr0wJAxMZcopatH2Zt40Tpm23l7ALZg/viewform

Guest Speaker – Career Source Pinellas: Presenter Melissa Ehrhardt

- Melissa Ehrhardt is a Recovery Navigator at Career Source Pinellas.
 - Email: mehrhardt@careersourcepinellas.com
 - Phone: 727-608-2426
- The Recovery Navigator provides support and guidance in assisting job seekers with substance use disorders (SUD) and those in recovery with services that lead to employment and self-sufficiency.
- Melissa operates under a grant which provides funds that can be used to incentivize employers by reimbursing the wages of individuals they may not initially want to take a risk on
- CareerSource also offers apprenticeship that allow for individuals to participate in a mentoring program where they can learn a new trade/skill
- WIOA- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
 - Federal legislation that provides funding for employment-related services
 - Individuals must meet eligibility/sustainability criteria
- Melissa stated she would appreciate a list of any task force members who could act as employers.

Q: Are felony charges an issue?

A: Melissa is looking to find a list of employers that will hire individuals with felonies.

- Note: If you are an organization that would be willing to hire an individual with a felony then please contact Melissa so that she can add you to her list.

Q: Is there any criteria that individuals must meet to get involved in the program?

A: There are no parameters. Melissa states that she relies on community partners to make informed decisions on if people are ready to go back to work.

Guest Speaker – Live Tampa Bay: Presenter Jennifer Webb

- Behavioral Health Pipeline is increasing funding across the country for the improvement of mental health services
- Regulating/Registering Sober Homes
 - Changed so that homes can now only have 50 residents, and a manager is only allowed to oversee one home
 - Some exemptions allow for up to 100 residents
- Naloxone Expansion
 - Naloxone carry expansion
 - Expansion on who can stock Naloxone

- Schools are no allowed to stock Naloxone
- Mandatory Minimums/Expansion
 - Increases minimums for certain infractions
 - Methamphetamines are now included
- Statutory Definition of Murder and of Drug Free Zones
 - Face a harsher sentence if you are charged with possession with intent, selling, manufacturing, or delivering an illegal drug on the premises of one of these properties or within 1,000 feet of the border of one of these zones
- Deterra Bill
 - Did not move
- Peer Support Specialist bill was expanded
- Mental Health Professional Licensure
 - Revises licensing requirements for clinical social workers, marriage & family therapists, and mental health counselors
- Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact did not pass

Open Forum:

- Marianne Dean- 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment Virtual Adult Prioritization Meeting for Pinellas County is coming up
 - Informs top health priorities for Pinellas County
 - Goal is to keep Substance Use and Mental Health as a top priority in Pinellas County
 - Attendance is greatly encouraged
 - Date: Tuesday April 19,2022
 - Time 9:00 am - 11:00 am
 - Space is limited.
 - Register [HERE](#) or at <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0od-gvqigqG9VMOCwZ02vzFgGbLysE0AkH>

Next Task Force Meeting 16 June 2022

USF Slides not provided as not yet approved for dissemination.

End of Meeting