



Pinellas County Opioid Task Force Notes

06/15/2023 – 2 pm-4 pm – Mid-County Health Department and Virtual via Teams

Welcome & PCOTF Update: Marianne Dean, MS

- Brief overview of the agenda for the meeting.
- Missing EMS representative Chris Jordan, but the information will be sent to the Pinellas County Opioid Task Force (PCOTF). Please reach out to Chris Jordan if you have any questions.
- A Steering committee has been created for the Task Force.
 - The steering committee serves as subject matter experts to provide insight for the direction of the task force.
 - Looking for additional assistance from the PCOTF members.
- Looking for a PCOTF Co- Chair. Looking for someone that will be able to help assist drive initiatives forward and would be from an organization that will not have a conflict of interest regarding future funding opportunities such as the Opioid Abatement Funds.
 - Please email Marianne Dean if you are interested.
 - Marianne.Dean@flhealth.gov

Data Trends: Reta Newman, MA; Pinellas County Forensic Lab

- Drug Related Accidental Deaths:
 - We did not hit 1,000 deaths, though we are on track to do that next year.
 - Total Drug related deaths in 2022: 615 deaths.
 - The percent year to year increase continues to go down. We are not negative, which is the target, but there was only a 5% increase in accidental deaths in Pinellas County.
 - Pasco County had an 18% increase in the accidental overdose deaths.
 - The entire district had a 9% increase with 974 cases.
 - In 2022- 80% of accidental drug overdose in Pinellas County were opioid related.
 - 489 of 615 deaths.
 - 73% were male.
 - 91% were white
 - 446 white
 - 41 black
 - 2 Asian
 - Ages 20-76
 - There were a few child deaths, but those were in Pasco County.
- Seized Drugs in 2022:

- This is the barometer for what substances are in the community.
- It is much easier to identify drugs in seized drugs versus those in biological fluids.
- 17,204 identifications (1.4 identifications per item).
 - Shows more of the poly drug culture.
 - Only controlled substances and analogs were reported/ counted in the graphics.
- 2022 Seized Drug Identifications by Class:
 - Methamphetamine: 2,833
 - 10 years ago, methamphetamine was not seen in Pinellas County.
 - Cocaine: 2,542
 - Cocaine has always been a large contributor
 - Fentanyl: 2,223
 - 25% of the cases are all other substances: nitazenes, opiates, heroin, oxycodone and oxymorphone, synthetic cannabinoids, etc.
 - Many submissions for synthetic cannabinoids from the homeless community. Spending time with their partners at the DEA and other agencies trying to identify, classify and rolled out.
 - The potency of synthetic cannabinoids is unknown because there are no tests on rats and/or humans. Testing is taking place on the street.
 - Some are benign, and some are very deadly.
 - Some may cause lifelong issues with hallucinogenic effects.
- Fentanyl Seized Drug Mixtures 2022 (Controlled Substances Only)
 - 57% Only fentanyl
 - 18% Fluorofentanyl
 - The only fentanyl analog seen, now that there are better restrictions on what is coming from China and Mexico. There is no motivation to make the analogs like there was previously due to laws that have been put in place federally.
 - All analogs of fentanyl are illegal, whether they have been invented or not.
 - They do not anticipate on seeing a spike in analogs outside of fluorofentanyl.
 - 12% of the Fentanyl submissions had Xylazine in it.
 - Xylazine accentuates the effects of fentanyl but is a non-opioid. Narcan will not work with Xylazine.
 - The numbers will not add up to 100% because some of the drugs were often mixed with various drugs.
- Cocaine Seized Drug Mixtures 2022: Controlled substances only:
 - 96% Cocaine only
 - 2% Fentanyl.
 - There is no widespread evidence that there is a prevalence of cocaine laced with fentanyl in Pinellas County.
- Methamphetamine Drug Mixtures 2022:
 - 92% Methamphetamine only.

- 2% Fentanyl
- 5% Various Cathinones
- Most common cut is the various Cathinones.
- Methamphetamine is a stimulant and Cathinones are a stimulant with hallucinogenic properties. Both are in the same stimulant family.
- Fentanyl(s)
 - Precursor chemicals are created in China.
 - Availability of the precursor chemical impacts the type of fentanyl analogs produced.
 - China placed an internal ban on the export of the precursor for ANPP, but there were no bans placed on fluoro which is why fluorofentanyl is being seen.
 - Primarily produced in Mexico and smuggled into the U.S.
 - Mostly across the southwest border in Arizona and Southern California.
 - Drugs that come through the Texas border tend to be more cocaine.
 - Fentanyl analogs as a class are a federally schedule 1 drug.
 - Over 100 different analogs have been created or proposed.
 - The potency varies based upon the chemical structure and can be upwards of 10,000 times more potent than morphine.
 - Not seeing Carfentanil in the United States as much anymore due to the extreme potency.
- N-desethyl isonitazene- Not a scheduled drug.
 - Still seeing nitazenes. Nitazenes are a synthetic opioid that came out 3 years ago.
 - The Pinellas Board of County Commissioners were working with the state legislators to get an emergency schedule for 8 of the medicines. The federal government scheduled them around the same time.
 - There were 2 instances in seized drugs in Pinellas County in December 2022.
 - One with blue A215 tablets
 - One as a powder residue
 - No other drugs were present
 - Not specifically controlled in the current Emergency Nitazene Scheduling.
- Xylazine:
 - Xylazine has been getting a lot of press lately but it has been seen since 2018.
 - Not approved for medical use in humans, but it is used during surgery for large animals.
 - Xylazine withdrawal is reportedly brutal with treatment protocols different from that of an opioid withdrawal.
 - Increased risk of opioid induced respiratory depression.
 - Xylazine does not respond to naloxone and there is currently no accepted reversal agent.
- Post-Mortem Xylazine Identifications D6 ME
 - 2022: 53
 - Expected to be higher than the reported number.

- Xylazine was underreported because it does not appear in a general toxicology report. It needs a special kind of targeted analysis, but it is not easy to detect.
 - Needing better instrumentation to be able to detect all xylazine cases.
- Xylazine wounds can cause skin necrosis.
 - Reported to only happen with long term users.
- 23% of fentanyl powders and 7% of pills seized by the DEA contained Xylazine.
- Only a small percent of fentanyl seized at the US-Mexico border contains Xylazine.
 - Most of the adulteration is domestic.
 - It is assumed that fentanyl is cut 3-7 times between importation and delivery to end-users.
 - Looking to see if Xylazine is being diverted from veterinary sources or by other means.
- Seized drugs are the best way to determine what is being sold and used on the street.
- Limitations on Prevalence Data:
 - Xylazine is not scheduled in many states, which causes the drug to likely be underreported.
 - Many jurisdictions are unaware of the magnitude of Xylazine in their areas.
 - There is a concern from an investigative information standpoint and a public safety/ public health standpoint.
 - Detection in post-mortem cases is limited.
 - Toxicology analysis is targeted.
- Xylazine Test Strips:
 - There was a study conducted by the Center for Forensic Science Research and Education to see if the Xylazine test strips are effective from a harm reduction standpoint.
 - LOD Xylazine- 650 ng/ml
 - There were some false positives, but no false negatives were found.
 - High concentrations of diphenhydramine, lidocaine, levamisole, MDMA and methamphetamine produced some false positives.
 - The study was limited to one manufacturer/ product.
 - There are several brands that have created Xylazine test strips.
- Xylazine Mixtures in Seized Drugs 2022:
 - Identifications that include Xylazine:
 - 95% Fentanyl
 - 26% Fluorofentanyl
 - 8% Methamphetamine
 - 2% Xylazine only
 - It is not common to see Xylazine by itself.
 - Numbers do not add up to 100% due to polysubstance use.
- Medetomidine:
 - Surgical anesthetic for small dogs.

- Currently being tracked for potential scheduling.
- Has been identified in Ohio and Tampa, FL.
- The effects are similar to Xylazine
 - If Xylazine is scheduled, there is an anticipation for a quick uptick in other drugs of this type.

Questions/ Comments:

- The Florida Harm Reduction Collective finds that covering a Xylazine wound with Xeroform has been some of the most helpful ways to treat the wounds.
- You should still give someone Narcan if you think someone is overdosing on Xylazine because it is very rare for Xylazine to be the only drug present.
- Xylazine test strips are illegal in Florida.
 - The legislation has moved to pull test strips out of the paraphernalia category, that is not in effect until July 1.
 - It is not believed that the Xylazine test strips are covered under the Fentanyl Test Strips bill unless told otherwise, but the Florida Harm Reduction Collective has been reaching out to attorneys in the harm reduction realm to see if it is covered or not.
- While Xylazine and Nitazenes are a concern, Fentanyl is still most of the problem in decedents at very high levels.
 - In 2014 the Forensic Lab would see 5-10 ng/mL, and it was shocking. Now, they are seeing fentanyl levels at 200-221 ng/mL.
 - Getting ready to participate in a study with the National Institute of Standards and Technology to see the potency of fentanyl in submissions.
- Do you expect Xylazine's prevalence to increase in 2023 or will it level off?
 - So far, the percentage is exactly the same as 2022 for the first 5 months of the year.

COSSUP/ FR-CARA/ Other Human Services Programs: Karen Yatchum, Director; Pinellas County Human Services

- Criminal Justice Reinvestment Grant: Funded by Florida Department of Children and Families
 - To bridge services gap and improve stabilization outcomes and help connect/reconnect to services.
 - The program is directed to serve those who are experiencing homelessness, justice involved and/or have a mental health and substance use conditions.
 - PERC handles the case management.
 - WestCare works on the substance use treatment.
 - The grant opened in September 2022. Year to date, there have been 71 individuals screened and 36 have successfully enrolled in the program.
- FR-CARA: First Responders- Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act

- Works to expand the first responder naloxone program and increases connections to substance use treatment services that was developed under the COSSUP grant.
- Enhances existing efforts-additional training, increased community access to naloxone and expand the QRT program.
- Outreach and wellness check up to 90 days post overdose.
- Key Activities of the grant:
 - Expands access to naloxone
 - 810 of 4,000 Overdose Reversal kits have been delivered.
 - Completed 20% of the 3-year goal.
 - Training of individuals of naloxone use and awareness of universal prescription. Dan Zsido conducts these trainings.
 - 102 of 500 people have been trained.
 - Completed 20% of the 3-year goal.
 - SUD/OD treatment conversations
 - Roughly 320 referrals and 150 contacts
 - The goal is to have 50% of those engaged with will accept SUD treatment. Currently at 35%.
- FR-CARA and COSSUP are both proactive engagement for someone that has interfaced with law enforcement or EMS. The population that they are doing the outreach for are not going into treatment on their own.
- COSSUP: Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Site-based Program.
 - An innovative program where EMS responds to a call regarding substance use, and whether the individual accepts transport to a hospital or not, the EMT or paramedic has a conversation with that individual about engaging in treatment.
 - If they accept engaging in treatment, and electronic ping is sent to Operation PAR. Operation PAR will then reach out to the individual.
 - 16% have engaged in treatment.
 - Overdose Fatality Review (OFR)
 - Moving slowly because of the process.
 - 10 OFRs over the 3-year grant period.
 - There is a committee that has agreed to share information from their respective subject matter expertise and vantage points.
 - The goal is to share the information with the community.
 - Had an engagement this past April where there were roughly 100 individuals that listened in.
 - The OFR gathers information about the individual's life and takes a next of kin interview.
 - The certified Grief Counselor will meet with the next of kin to learn about the person.
 - The information went a long way when it was shared with the community because it is not just about the data that can be pulled, but it is about the person and who they were.

- It is meant to talk about the value and impact that we can do as a community and where there are gaps to see what we can do as a system of care and reduce the number of risks and barriers.
- Substance Use Data Reporting Dashboard
 - Opioids/ GIS Integration
 - Looking to have more data driven discussions to learn more about our community and the trends that we are seeing.
 - Continuing to work on data automation where feasible.
- Opioid Settlement Funding
 - Opioid Abatement Funding Advisory Board:
 - Managing regional funding allocation. Estimated at \$85 Million over 18 years.
 - For year 1 it was \$13.4 million.
 - The board reviewed the allotted opioid abatement activities, and that report was approved by the board of county commissioners.
 - The 6 areas that will be focused on for this upcoming year are:
 - Community planning- Gap analysis.
 - Evidence based data collection to look at the effectiveness of the opioid abatement activities.
 - Warm hand off programs and recovery services.
 - Mediation assisted treatment (MAT) and other opioid treatment expansions.
 - Pregnant postpartum women.
 - Expanding treatment for Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome. (NAS)
 - The six priority areas will be submitted to the state and the procurement will be available August 1st.
 - The board will be meeting to determine the rank and review process.
 - Looking at \$3 million programs for the funding and there is heavy emphasis on collaboration between small and large partners in the community.
 - City/ County Allocation:
 - Estimated \$19 Million over 18 years.
 - \$1 million the first year.
 - The counties priority list includes expansion of the Pinellas MATTERS program.
- Pinellas MATTERS
 - Enables emergency departments to begin induction of medications for opioid use followed by formal opioid treatment services.
 - Piloting at Bayfront Hospital.
 - Most referrals are made to Operation PAR, and they will soon begin to refer to Evara Health and WestCare.
 - 83 enrolled over 8 months.

- Of people referred to treatment 79.3% successfully followed up.
 - 50% of patients have received naloxone in the ER and leaving the hospital with a bridge to treatment.
- Next steps:
 - Working with Northside Hospital and Largo medical.
 - Using data driven approach.
- Future Grant Opportunities:
 - Treatment for individuals with serious mental illness, serious emotional disturbance, or co-occurring disorders experiencing homelessness (TIEH)
 - Working with Boley and Safe Harbor to infuse additional case management support.
 - Safe Harbor's case management ratio is 1-85 individuals.
 - A very high case load for an in-need population.
 - Goals:
 - Engagement
 - Identify sustainable permanent housing.
 - Case management and Care coordination

Questions/ Comments:

- PCHS is still working on the Coordinated Access Model (CAM).
 - It is one place for an individual to go if they need assessment, triage, and an appointment.
 - It is not information and referral; it is linking them after an assessment has been completed to an appointment.
 - There is internal testing taking place, but no set date at this moment.
 - The first testing is going to be with the Sheriff's Office Mental Health Unit.
- The procurements are going to go for August 1st and close August 31. It is going to be scored very similarly to the social action funding process.

EIS Update: Mohammad Alak, MPH; DOH

- Most of the data is comprised of syndromic surveillance.
 - It looks for signs and symptoms that could indicate an overdose in the emergency department records that are retrieved from participating hospitals in the state to identify a case.
 - The data is considered provisional. This data is used because it can be used in a timely manner.
- There was not any significant deviation in the population that is going to the emergency departments for an overdose.
 - Remains largely white, non-Hispanic males between the ages of 20-54.
- Overdose-Related Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Responses:
 - There is a downward trend in the number of opioid EMS responses.
 - EMS is giving naloxone to every person that needs it.
- Overdose-Related Fatalities:

- Data comes from the Bureau of Vital Statistics.
- The population are those that were diagnosed with a poisoning death, whether it was unintentional, undetermined or suicide.

Questions/ Comments:

- This will be Mo's last PCOTF meeting as he has accepted a job with the Central Office in the Acute Investigations Unit as the Regional Epidemiologist.
- The surveillance data will be continuing at the Department of Health. Mo has set a great pathway and there were many thanks for all of Mo's hard work in the past.

Office of Overdose Prevention: Marianne Dean, MS; DOH

- Coordinated Opioid Response (COPRe) funding will be extended and taken over by Operation PAR to bridge people to the care that they need with the least number of barriers as possible.
- Pinellas County is very resource rich, but the population is not getting that information as much as they should.
 - Marianne would like to explore how we could inform the public or the resources Pinellas County has to offer with the Steering Committee.
- The Recovery Epicenter Foundation and the Florida Harm Reduction Collective had teams going out to areas of the beaches for 8 weeks around Spring Break time to saturate the area with naloxone and educational resources.
 - Reaching out to the Department of Health Surveillance team to see if there were any inferences that can be made about the numbers after the activities.
- Naloxone Training Update: Dan Zsido
 - Funded by the FR-CARA grant with Pinellas County Human Services.
 - Dan has trained 305/500 people for the 4-year grant. The grant began 9 months ago.
 - Dan believes that he will surpass the 500 individuals trained goal by the end of 2023.
 - He will continue to train past the 500 trained goal.
 - Dan brought the Leave Behind Naloxone Emergency Kit that paramedics are leaving at the scene of calls pertaining to substance use.
 - Each kit contains 2 doses of Narcan, a barrier mask, gloves, and instructions on how to use Narcan in 3 different languages.
 - The training is not only a Narcan administration training, but it also encompasses drug trends and what is happening in Pinellas County and much more.
 - If you have contacts that would like this training, please contact Dan Zsido at dzsido@naddi.org
 - Trainings are available for any group that is interested. There are many avenues. A recent training was done for the Pinellas County Park Rangers.
 - There are discussions to do an open session at the Peace for Tarpon library in August.
 - The training is at no cost.

- PCHS is getting ready for Hurricane Season and PCHS has initiated some Narcan Trainings during the shelter manager program. They will be expanding trying to reach as many of the shelter managers and staff.
- The Florida Harm Reduction Collective offers mail based Narcan distribution to anyone that is unable or does not want to go in person to receive it.
- Stigma is still a large barrier.
- Recovery Epicenter Foundation (REF) is working on getting Narcan at all the bus terminals in Pinellas County, as well as being on site at St. Petersburg College Campuses.
- REF will be at the St. Petersburg Pride Festival on June 24-25 to hand out Narcan and educational materials.
- The pride events are opportunities for the Task Force members to remind staff, friends, and family to be vigilant about the substances that are out there. One Pill Can Kill.
- Red Boxes are available.
 - Marianne went to Pasco County to help with their optics on how to produce Red Boxes in Pasco County as well.

Questions/ Comments:

- The Alpha House is a shelter for pregnant women, and they are at capacity: 14 women. The Alpha House is looking for a defibrillator.
 - If anyone knows of a funder or sponsor, please email Dan Zsido.

Naloxone Modeling Update: Wouter Vermeer, PhD; Northwestern University

- Previously Northwestern University presented on simulation modeling and single interventions. This showed limited impact.
- Currently, Northwestern is exploring interventions combined to make larger impact and under what circumstances can these interventions occur and have a multiplicative effect.
 - No results yet but they hope to have available for the next PCOTF meeting.
- Posed two questions for the PCOTF:
 - If you have a specific intervention that you would like Northwestern to include in the modeling, please reach out to Dr. Vermeer.
 - Trying to work on getting input so you can decide what is modeled.
 - How can we support you best? PCOTF members, PCHS or even the abatement board.

Questions/ Comments:

- Regarding complex intervention, what about housing? At BayCare, they have the Emergency Department bridge Program, and many people may benefit from it clinically from outpatient treatment are not stably housed. Placing more individuals in a residential or short-term transitional housing situation with substance use support is a goal. Do you think we could fit that into a model?

- Recovery Epicenter Foundation would be happy to volunteer information that they have to support.
- Jennifer Webb stated that ordinances and codes impacts accessibility to housing, and she has a list of all the cities and their codes impacting any kind of recovery housing and sober housing. She would be happy to email the list.
- Dr. Vermeer would love to see if they are able to include it into their model.
- Sara Gordils requested to build on the housing request to look at if housing is still needed after they've been stabilized and recovering for a month.
- Dr. Vermeer's contact information: wouter.vermeer@northwestern.edu

Syringe Service Program Update: Amanda Bonham-Lovett, MPH, LMSW; IDEA Exchange Pinellas

- Opened on February 22,2023. Open 3 days per week; Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 10:00 am- 3:00 pm.
- The participants are engaging in services for syringe exchange, although there are several community members who come in for additional ancillary services.
 - Receiving condoms, naloxone, vaccinations, wound care and other supportive services.
- Most participants are seen more than once.
- Able to provide a lot of information and messaging regarding drug trends, xylazine wounds, etc. to the participants.
- Linked with the Department of Health and Pinellas County Urban League to administer vaccinations.
- Last week, they had their first participant enter detox.
 - The client had been engaged 8 separate times.
- Upcoming events:
 - 06/16/2023 & 06/22/2023: Pinellas County Urban League (PCUL) Health Services. DOH and PCUL will be providing Covid-19 vaccines and boosters and there will be a \$50 Wawa gift card incentive. There will also be Hepatitis A&B vaccinations and STI testing.
 - 06/22/2023: PCO Human Services primary medical and wound care services to unsheltered individuals through street medicine.
- These events are mutually beneficial because it may bring in participants that may not have come otherwise.

Questions/ Comments:

- Operation PAR bot is on site.
- Clients are screened every time they enter IDEA Exchange to see if their needs have changed. This is creating more firm linkages to care, and the staff have built a rapport with the participants.

- Participants that are enrolled in the County Health Program receive bus passes that allow them 10 days per month on the bus for free, or they can enroll in the disadvantage program which is \$11 per month for an unlimited bus pass.
 - The Florida Harm Reduction Collective also has bus passes.
- How could we get participants to substance use treatment that would like to go.
 - Uber Health.

Guest Speaker: Desiree Crevecoeur-MacPhail, PhD; Kloxxado

- Opioid overdose deaths are primarily being driven by synthetic opioids such as nonpharmaceutical fentanyl.
- Increase in deaths is being driven by a couple factors.
 - Fentanyl's potency.
 - Fentanyl can be found in other drug supplies.
 - Fentanyl is being added to counterfeit pills which is being used by a younger demographic.
- The time that an individual experiences hypoxia or lack of oxygen has increased over time in certain communities.
- The Department of Health reported that over 75% of Opioid overdose victims reported at least one post overdose complication.
 - The individual survives the overdose, but their brain goes without enough oxygen, causing things like ataxia, catatonia, mental disorientation, paralysis, etc.
- More naloxone may be needed due to the potency of the substances in the community.
 - People are looking at using a higher dose of Narcan because most people need more than one dose of the 4 mg Narcan to reverse an overdose.
- There are 4 different types of naloxone.
 - Kloxxado is the only 8 mg naloxone medication that is available on the market.

Questions/ Comments:

- One dose of Narcan is often used, but how do you know how much is required versus people administering more than needed before the 2-3 minutes because they are in an opioid overdose emergency.
 - The perfect dose is unknown because it depends on the persons history of use, potency, metabolism, what was used, etc.
 - It is better to give a person too much naloxone than too little.
- Hospitals are beginning to use various medications as a nasal spray instead of injecting the medication.

Guest Speaker: Tina Miller; Florida Recovery Schools of Tampa Bay, Inc

- Victory High School is the first nonprofit, recovery high school in Pasco County designed for students that are in recovery from substance use disorder or dependency.
 - Looking to open another school in Pinellas County in Clearwater. 3 students have been enrolled.

- Senator Rouson approved the funding.
- Tina began Victory High School because she had a background in the juvenile justice system. Tina saw the same youth that continuously cycled through the system.
 - There are many gaps for the youth with substance use disorder.
- Pinellas County has rising suicide rates for teenagers, while the state average is decreasing.
- Victory High School has many community, family engagement and fundraising events.
- There is accountability for the students through weekly and random drug tests, but the students are not penalized if the drug test comes back positive. They are focused on a healing environment and to build trust and honesty with the students.
- Many of the students have cooccurring disorders and the majority have had a medical trauma before the age of 12.
- Emphasis on the fact that students are a person, not a diagnosis. There are power in your words.
- The students are taken on many field trips to reintroduce environments in a positive light, like parks, etc.
- Christina, a Victory High School graduate, shared her recovery story.
- Summer programs are open.
 - Golfing for Victory
 - Sober Summer for Teens in Recovery: 9/25/2023.
 - Sponsors are needed.
- 45 families have been served with system navigation to assist them find drug treatment for their child.

Questions/ Comments:

- Students struggle with a wide variety of drugs. THC is most common.
- Students are referred to Victory High School because they have not been successful in their traditional high school, expelled, etc.
 - The students go to Victory High School as a second chance.
- If a student has a return to use, they work on getting the student back on their feet to keep moving forward.
- The 5-year vision is to have a recovery high school in Pasco, Pinellas, Hillsborough, and Manatee.
 - Tina states that she thinks that will be accomplished before the 5-year mark.
- IDEA Exchange Pinellas offered support on the harm reduction aspect for the parents of the students to engage them with services to lead to a higher likelihood of treatment outcomes.
- Career Source Pinellas offered support to individuals looking to join the workforce, multiple programs and trainings.
- Identified gaps and barriers for adolescents: access to treatment, housing, MAT, stigma, etc.

- There is an adolescent residential program with Operation PAR, but the high deductible insurance can make it difficult to afford for families.
- Looking for help getting the word out to the community about their school.
 - Florida Harm Reduction Collective would like to collaborate on how to spread the message.
- They have been successful returning students back to traditional high school.

Next Steps & Open Forum

- The FDE has approved a new medication, Brixadi, the medication is like buprenorphine that can be given on a weekly or monthly basis. It should be available before September 2023.
 - Using it in a study at Operation PAR to see how successful it will be.

Next Meeting: September 21, 2023