

Opioid Abatement Working Group

Meeting Minutes

10/11/2023 – 6:00pm

Attendance:

- CarrieAnn Salemme, City of Revere SUDHI Office
- Nicole Palermo, City of Revere SUDHI Office
- Lauren Buck, City of Revere Public Health
- Joe Internicola, Revere PD
- Joe Singer, Revere PD
- Chris "BC" Godfrey, Revere Resident
- Nikki Rossi, Health Innovations
- Debbie Hanscom, Revere Resident
- Kirby Taylor, Health Innovations
- Dr. Drew Bunker, MGH Physician

Agenda:

- Introductions
- Data review
- Presentation on Opioid Settlement Funding
- Discussion

Notes:

- Importance of bringing someone into the group who is actively use
- Could do surveys to lived experience community if we provided gift cards
- Importance of bringing prevention work into schools
 - o Smaller group work is better than big presentations in auditoriums
- Is there an existing curriculum that teaches about prevention that we could use?
- Important to think out of the box and really focus our money on the people that are out on the streets right now
- People who end up using are those that are victimized by the system, this starts young
- If we really wanted to make an impact on kids, we would have to start by talking to parents and caregivers
- Habit-forming behaviors are really starting in middle school now, kids start experimenting with vaping in middle school
- It is possible for us to focus on more than one idea at a time over the next few years, we can focus both on prevention and harm reduction methods
 - o Knock out addiction boxing event is way to focus on prevention that would actually reach the most at-risk kids

- Review of post-overdose outreach program
 - o Review of Narcan kits that we are passing out
- Important to remember to check the Narcan expiration date on all RPD cruisers
- Yoga/wellness programming is helpful for prevention strategies as well
- If we are going to be successful working with active users, we have to go to a more mobile model
 - o Retrofitting a sprinter van, syringe exchange needs to happen on the streets, physicians
- Important to meet people where they are at
- If people are in front of you, its important to do as much as you can with them while they are right in front of you
- Need to be thinking about longevity, not so much about events, but about sustainable programing like Narcan vending machines, nalox-boxes, etc.
- We would need to do marketing to make sure community members know about our services and the new programing that we choose

Action Steps:

- Everyone brainstorm ideas to use the FY24 \$10,000 that we have allocated for miscellaneous goods and services
- Emergency Warming Center updates