

MONTCALM COUNTY OPIOID TASK FORCE

MEETING NOTES

Thursday, June 1, 2023 at 8:00 a.m.
3rd Floor Conference Room, Administrative Building
211 W. Main Street, Stanton, MI 48888

Members Present: Liz Braddock Kristen Lindsey
 Jim Dimitriou Kate Behrenwald
 John Kroneck Julianna Kozara
 Andy Doezema Brenda Taeter

Members Absent: Aimee Johnson

Brenda Taeter passed out Exhibit E that Liz Braddock referred to a couple of times at the last meeting, just so everyone knew what she was referencing.

The group briefly touched on the power point presentation that Liz Braddock has her staff member working on, everyone is to send revisions/suggestions to Liz via email.

The group discussed the three priorities that everyone brought back with them:

Julianna	Access (transportation/counselors), Expansion of Recovery Coach
Jim	Treatment (social workers/life coaches), Education (referenced John’s programs), Access
Liz	Equity (making treatment free for those in need)
John	Education programs (“Most kids don’t” campaign/7 youth clubs in schools), First Aid Kits, Helping those in recovery
Kate	Access/Logistics, Expanding care for pregnant females, Recovery Coaching
Kristen	Education (schools and community)

The group collectively narrowed down the three top priorities to: 1. Access to Services, 2. Education, 3. Treatment/Recovery needs.

Brenda relayed that Aimee Johnson indicated in an email to her that Carson City Hospital and Busy Bee print shop are both interested in having a Narcon vending machine. A brief discussion took place but no action was taken.

Brenda inquired with the group to see if anyone had any conversation with Mike Helmer of Randy's House after the last meeting to see what he thought. Kate indicated that she had and that he was surprised there weren't more members from the community involved and he wondered about our process of distributing funds. Brenda indicated that if anyone knew someone that would be a good person to invite to these meetings going forward, that she didn't have any issues with that.

The group then discussed either putting out a simple request or using a formal RFP process to solicit funding requests. Brenda thought the Commissioners would be more receptive to an RFP process; therefore, the group decided to go with the formal RFP process.

The group talked about the Access to Services need and how it would be accomplished. The ideas of purchasing a van and paying a driver a stipend, paying individuals/recovery coaches, or partnering with an agency and/or organization were all discussed. Due to liability concerns, the group decided that partnering with an agency/organization would be the best option.

The group discussed treatment within the Jail, Julianna indicated she would look into getting more dollars via the RSAT grant program (Residential Substance Abuse Treatment) and Kate is waiting to hear back on a Re-Entry grant that she had applied for. In lieu of those two items, no further action was taken.

Brenda provided Liz with an RFP template the County uses; she will have someone from MMDHD put together an RFP and bring it back to the June 13th meeting for all to review. She will also bring the final version of the power point presentation for review and the group will prepare for a presentation to the Board of Commissioner on June 26th.