

## Overdose Fatality Review Team Meeting Minutes

Date: June 10, 2021

Attendees: Brian Winbigler, Maranda Williams, Erin Read, Karen Pershing, Sgt. Phil Major, Candace Allen, Greg Roberts, Chris Thomas, Darinka Mileusnic, Michele Trofatter, Jennifer Tourville, Pam Leskowsyk, Jack Mason, Veronica Pivirotto, Noah LaFerriere

---

- Call to order and introductions
- Approval of minutes—April meeting minutes approved
- Set the agenda
- Open Meetings information
  - Public and media can attend the monthly OFR Team meetings
  - Using the chat feature or directly unmuting of participants for asking questions and discussion
- Case selection criteria
  - Current selection criteria is the age range of 25-44 years of age as primary data pool with an average age of 34
  - Case selection criteria is based on data from TBI, the Knox County Sheriff's Office, initial search criteria suggestions, as well as information from other groups working on similar projects and reporting
- Presentation of data analysis
  - November and December 2020 cases
  - Areas of data discussed: basic demographics, employment and education, housing, location, evidence of administration, substances at the scene, toxicology results, bystanders present, Naloxone, mental health and suicide, Substance Use Disorder, substance use history, co-occurring disorders, criminal justice history, recent justice involvement, current gaps in data, and missed opportunities
- Brainstorming and discussion
  - Discussion on missed opportunities
    - So few persons involved in fatalities had intervention of Narcan. Can this be changed?
    - Narcan training offerings are available as intervention.
    - CPR being offered at the same time as Narcan Training is a suggestion but adding that additional training time might become a barrier

- Since this is a disease of isolation, there may not be anyone to rescue. Perhaps a buddy system could be developed.
  - Law enforcement added often substance misuse takes place as a person goes to bed or in the bathroom and they are discovered later.
  - Recovery Center plans are in the work at MDC will address these concerns.
  - What happens to those who have overdosed and are denied immediate services? The group would like to explore more access to treatment and stigma reduction.
  - Hospitals who have peer navigators have emergency department protocols in place to address the person as a person. Hospitals without peer navigators could use education on protocols to access service and treatment of people and not less.
- Suggestions:
    - Maranda will meet with members present and seek out others to get a larger data pool. She also will consider best ways to interview families for more detail so as not to repeat previously given information. Karen assured her the families generally welcome talking about their loved one.
    - Maranda will explore Patient Care Pathways with Julia.
    - Explore avenues to educate more on Narcan distribution and a “buddy system” and “never use alone” strategies
    - Consider educating hospitals without emergency room protocols for stigma reduction and access to treatment options for those who do not have it.
    - Think over what causes some people to utilize services more than others.
    - Veteran status and PTSD are a data pieces to consider.
    - Suggestion to pick a trend and look at it monthly.
  - Other Items:
    - Erin is working with the Health Department to find a way to make our Overdose Fatality Review Team meetings private so that more detail and data can be discussed in detail. She will keep us updated on this process.
    - Kinks in the hybrid of virtual and in person meetings will continued to be work out.



**Action items:** Fill in the survey on the rteam platform user experience.

reach out with any questions or comments regarding meeting and action items

**Upcoming events:** May OFR Team Meeting- July 8, 2021 at 3:00PM EST