

Overdose Fatality Review Team Meeting Minutes

Date: July 10, 2021

Attendees: Maranda Williams, Erin Read, Karen Pershing, Greg Roberts, Chris Thomas, Darinka Mileusnic, Lauren Allard, Morgan McMahan, Michele Trofatter, Jennifer Tourville, Aaliyah Riddle (KCHD intern), Pam Leskowsyak, Jack Mason, Veronica Pivrotto, Noah LaFerriere

- Call to order and introductions
- Approval of minutes—June 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 2020 – December 2021 cases
 - Areas of data discussed: basic demographics, employment and education, housing, location, evidence of administration, substances at the scene, toxicology results, bystanders present, Naloxone including administered or having naloxone kits, mental health and suicide, Substance Use Disorder, substance use history, co-occurring disorders, social history, criminal justice history, recent justice involvement, current gaps in data, and missed opportunities adding cumulative data from emergency department visits.
- Brainstorming and discussion
 - Discussion on missed opportunities
 - The statistics were surprisingly high in regards to the individuals that came from a home in which both biological parents did not reside. Suicide attempt data was also high.
 - The team explored ideas on substance misuse protocols in hospital visits due to the high number of previous non-fatal overdoses. A pilot on

protocols has been launched in Erlanger Hospital with a HIA SE Region grant about hiring two additional peer navigators, initiating MOUD, and leaving with a Narcan kit. Dr. Jessica Martin is overseeing this. Lauren is collecting data on local protocols.

- The idea that it could be a missed opportunity to not have drug screens for all overdoses was discussed.
 - There were questions about Narcan allegedly being denied to one decedent who previously overdosed, which brought up discussion on bias getting in the way. Other barriers like a protocol to ask if patients have new Narcan kit when one has been used.
 - Maranda said she is waiting on more data from the District Attorney's office for the judicial history.
 - 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.
 - The team talked about training upon hire for Emergency Department workers and First Responders to combat bias talked about.
- Suggestions:
- Lauren can let us know about state protocols for patients admitted to ED for anything related to a SUD.
 - Inclusion of Wanda Roberts, Larry Hutsell, or John Brinkley for the East Tennessee Healthcare Coalition brought forward as recommendation to present ideas from this team.

Action Items:

- Erin is still 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.
- Maranda is working decrease notifications from the rTeam platform.
- Chris from the Medical Examiner's office and Jennifer from UT offered rooms to meet next.
- Maranda let us know she is still collecting additional data.
- Additional data agreements will be needed upon inclusion of additional organizations.

Upcoming events: OFR Team Meeting- Aug 12, 2021 at 3:00PM EST