

Attendees: Sheriff Nole, Holly Gumm, Anya Callahan, Amelia Massucco, Commissioner Greg Brotherton, Lori Fleming

SUMMARY:

The meeting focused on the ongoing and upcoming harm reduction initiatives, emphasizing the need to engage South County stakeholders more effectively. Despite previous challenges, there was optimism about expanding services and the potential impact of new funding and grants.

DISCUSSION POINTS:

Funding and Grant Applications:

- **Opioid Settlement Funds:** DBH has received Opioid Settlements funds to keep the BHC table and Lori's support of the BHC Member's collaborative efforts around Harm Reduction efforts going throughout the County – especially South County.
- **Grant Collaboration:** Lori shared the completion of the RHNDP-P grant application to HRSA. The application development was quarterbacked Lori, and submitted through Jefferson Healthcare, on behalf of the **Jefferson County Patient Care Continuum Consortium (JCPECC)**, including Jefferson Healthcare, Discovery Behavioral Health Care, East County Medical Council, and Jefferson County Public Health. This funding proposal aims to support the JCPECC to create Strategic and Sustainability Plans focused on improving patient care coordination through data-based decision-making. The planning effort proposed targets three specific groups: Pre-hospital, non-transport patients, frequent emergency room visitors, and patients facing discharge challenges

Outreach and Community Engagement Strategies:

- **Opportunity to Invigorate South County's community member engagement** to ensure harm reduction efforts are community-aligned.
- **Community Meetings and Partnerships Strategies** for engaging community groups and leveraging community meetings to spread awareness were discussed. Commissioner Brotherton's suggestions for utilizing community centers and business groups to facilitate outreach will be developed as avenues toward a collaborative approach. Toward that end there is a community meeting At Brinnon community Center on Thursday @ 6p led by Andrew Schwartz @ as2020@me.com. Also the North Hood Canal Chamber of Commerce meets on the third Monday of every month @ 5pm (Feb. 19, 2024 would be the next one).
- **Educational Efforts and Updating Perception of What Harm Reduction (HR) Is** The meeting touched on the importance of educating the community about the comprehensive nature of harm reduction. Holly Gumm proposed reframing harm reduction as encompassing various safety practices. (Ex: The practical application of harm reduction in various arenas including how JCPH's HR team's efforts are not solely focused on providing syringes or pipes but also include supporting individuals with various needs such as blankets, hand warmers, deodorant, and laundry vouchers. There is a broader scope of harm reduction efforts in addressing the immediate needs of vulnerable populations, not just those related to substance use. HR is a concept that includes everyday safety measures like sunscreen and

speed limit reductions. There is an opportunity to collectively update our shared definition of harm reduction in a way that resonates with a broader audience, by demonstrating its application across various aspects of health and safety, beyond just substance use.

Expansion of Harm Reduction Clinics and Naloxone Training:

- **Harm Reduction Clinics** Anya Callahan outlined JCPH's plans to establish dedicated harm reduction clinic hours in South County, particularly in Brinnan and Quilcene, to provide accessible services like wound care and health insurance assistance.
- **Naloxone Training** Upcoming Narcan training sessions for the will be led by Anya in Brinnon for the Seniors' Group (Community Center on 2/1 @ 10a) and Quilcene (didn't have date just yet.)

Mobile Clinic and Enhanced Case Management

- **Mobile Clinic Services:** The deployment of a van for outreach purposes was discussed, aiming to provide direct harm reduction services within South County. This mobile clinic initiative seeks to enhance service accessibility and community engagement.
- **Case Management Expansion:** The introduction of a new harm reduction coordinator role, funded by a Department of Health grant, was discussed. This role is set to include case management services, offering more personalized support to individuals in navigating healthcare and recovery services, marking an expansion of the harm reduction support model.

ACTION ITEMS:

- **Plan March Meeting:** Organize a follow-up meeting in March to discuss progress and further strategies for engaging South County stakeholders. Plan update on JCPH Mobile Clinic Operation The next meeting is scheduled for **March 26, 2024, at 1:00 PM. Lori sent out evite.**
- **Develop One-Pager:** Create a summary document highlighting harm reduction efforts, successes, and future plans. Use to facilitate community engagement and outreach (ex: Get this to Greg so he can take to North Hood Canal Chamber of Commerce Meeting on 2/19 @5p.)
- **Outreach to Community Groups:** Engage with local community centers, schools, and business owners in South County to increase awareness and support for harm reduction efforts.
- **Finalize Mobile Clinic Operations:** Detail the operational plans for the mobile clinic, including service offerings and scheduling, to enhance harm reduction service accessibility in South County. Plan to present at the March 26, 2024 @ 1p SCHR meeting.