

Attendees: Dr. David Carlbom; Chief McKern; Jeremy Simmons (Brinnon Community Center); Gabbie Caudill (Clinical Director of Belief and Recovery); Greg Brotherton (Jefferson County Commissioner); Jim Novelli (DBH); Holly Gumm (soon transferring to Port Townsend Empowered Teen Coalition); Anya Callahan (BHC); Lori Fleming (BHC)

SUMMARY

The meeting focused on updates and discussions regarding harm reduction initiatives, community engagement, telecommunication challenges in emergency services, and staffing transitions within the community outreach programs. (Links to our 3/26/2024 SCHR [Meeting Packet](#) and [Meeting Video](#))

DISCUSSION POINTS

Outreach and Community Engagement Updates: Naloxone Update:

Distribution Success and Expansion:

- Anya shared that as of the last week, she and her coworker Amelia have been actively using a van for outreach, setting up at the Quilcene food bank where they were warmly received. This setup allowed them to distribute essential supplies, including toilet paper, body wipes, safer use tools, and notably, Naloxone.
- They distributed ten boxes of Naloxone during their visit and engaged with many community members about the availability and use of Naloxone, which helps combat the effects of opioid overdoses.

Community Support and Interaction

- The presence at the food bank not only facilitated direct distribution but also opened dialogue with community leaders and even a coincidental meeting with a congressman, which helped raise further support and awareness about their activities.
- Anya highlighted the positive community response and mentioned that they were invited to set up similar outreach efforts at other food banks, indicating an expansion of their program.

Introduction of New Naloxone Brand

- A significant update was the introduction of a new brand of Naloxone, named 'Revive'. This new product has a dosage of 3 milligrams per dose, compared to the previous 4 milligrams. Anya pointed out that the lower dosage is sufficient for effective response and has a reduced risk of precipitated withdrawal symptoms in individuals being treated.
- This change was part of their ongoing efforts to optimize the effectiveness of their harm reduction tools.

Future Plans and Coordination:

- The discussion also covered future plans for Naloxone distribution, with an emphasis on setting up additional Naloxone boxes at various community centers. Anya mentioned they ordered 10 more boxes, which are smaller and more cost-effective, allowing for broader distribution.

- Anya encouraged feedback on potential new locations for these boxes and further community integration, underscoring the program's adaptive and responsive approach to community needs.

Ongoing Education and Engagement:

- Anya's update also included plans for ongoing community education around Naloxone use and overdose prevention, highlighting the importance of continuous engagement and dialogue with the community to ensure the effectiveness of their harm reduction strategies.
- there was a discussion about creating a resource list of South County-specific services during the meeting. This topic was brought up as part of the broader conversation about enhancing community outreach and accessibility to services in South County. Here's how it was addressed:

Initiative Proposal

- The idea of creating a South County-specific resource list was suggested as a means to consolidate and provide easier access to local services, especially for seniors and others who may not be aware of all available resources. This would include information on various services within the South County area that residents could access without needing to travel far.
- Community Input: Jeremy Simmons and other attendees discussed the potential benefits of such a resource list. Jeremy highlighted that not everyone in the community is aware of the resources available, particularly seniors. He mentioned that this list could be very helpful in making sure people know where to go for services like in-home care and transportation, especially after medical procedures.
- Potential Locations for Resource Distribution: During the conversation, there was also talk about where to place these resources to ensure they are accessible. Suggestions included community centers, post offices, and other popular local spots where residents frequently visit.
- Follow-up Action: Holly Gumm offered to take responsibility for the resource list, proposing that she be the liaison, especially since she would soon be transitioning to a full-time role in Port Townsend. Holly will be coordinating the Quilcene and Brinnong ETC until the end of March
- Holly also expressed willingness to maintain ownership of this responsibility for the remaining days in her current role, and she seemed ready to help transition this task to her successor once that person was in place. Her initiative to maintain and potentially expand this resource underscores the importance of having local, accessible information for community members, particularly those in more isolated or rural areas. It was suggested that the creation of this resource list should be a collaborative effort involving various service providers in South County to ensure the information is comprehensive and accurate. Regular updates were also deemed necessary to keep the information relevant as services and contact details may change.

Staffing Updates

Holly Gumm discussed her upcoming role change and the active recruitment for her successor, focusing on having a South County coordinator.

ACTION ITEMS:

- **April Meeting:** Set up our next meeting for April 23, 2024 @ 1p meeting. Lori sent out zoom evite to the group who will focus on planning the Community Conversations effort and clarifying for Holly Gumm what resources should be included on a South County Specific Resource Card.
- **Finalize Mobile Clinic Operations:** Continue fine-tuning the operational schedule/plan for the mobile clinic, including service offerings and scheduling, to enhance harm reduction service accessibility in South County.