

Not One More Child Meeting Notes

May 7, 2018

Opioid Epidemic and Impact on Families

Mary Steiner, Community Program Manager, Community Health Partnership

- The opioid crisis is a result of an abundant supply of a highly addictive substance.
- At the state level, heroin seizures increased 477 percent from 2011 to 2015.
- Locally, authorities are dealing with higher prescription misuse than at the state level.
- The problem is not limited to Denver and Pueblo.
- Majority of nonmedical use starts with leftover medication from the medicine cabinet; more than half of users started with prescription use.
- Walmart is starting a program to dispense a destruction kit with every prescription.
- Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention has a lot of information on its website: <http://www.corxconsortium.org/>, including a list of disposal collection sites.
- Data collected does not always account for opioid-related deaths. The greater impact is beyond death.
- The opioid epidemic means increased risk factors for child abuse and/or neglect.
- Normal/authorized prescription use can lead to poisonings in children. The numbers of such occurrences is increasing exponentially.
 - o More children are being placed in foster care, and more grandparents are raising grandchildren.
 - o It significantly impacts physical and mental health of families.
 - o A 25-year-old who graduated from Falcon High School died because of a heart infection related to her drug use. Her family has shared her story so that others hopefully learn from it and avoid the same ending. Her story always illustrates the generational impact of addiction.
- What is being done in El Paso County?
 - o Coalition for Prevention, Addiction, Education and Recovery (CPAR) started in 2016 and works closely with Community Health Partnership.
 - The coalition is comprised of representatives from the following sectors in the community: elected officials, public health, emergency departments, hospitals, ambulatory care practices, UCCS Medical School, Peak Vista Community Health Centers' Nurse Practitioner Fellowship program, military, dentists, veterinarians, judicial court system, first responders, Colorado Springs School District 11, law enforcement, treatment providers, social change advocates, recovery advocates, and harm reduction advocates.
 - Coalition is digging into the opioid crisis looking at community assessments, strength/weaknesses of response, analyzing data
 - o The opioid crisis demands a full-spectrum response; not just prevention, but also looking at recovery resources.

- Call to action
 - o Continued outreach efforts to specific communities for prevention addiction.
 - o Seek funding to implement identified strategies.
 - o Being aware of the problem gives people the power to influence change.
- Stigma remains, with some families not attending funerals of those who have died from causes related to drug use.
- This is not a low-income problem; it impact all of the community.
- Long term impacts will continue
- Work will happen at the community level. Funding is needed for things such as harm reduction efforts.

Opioids– Additional Notes

- Crossroads’ Turning Points does admit people withdrawing from opioids, but there are guidelines to coordinate with medical needs.
- El Paso County DHS has counted 218 drug-exposed infants (includes opioids, marijuana, and other drugs). These babies need extra care and foster homes that can handled the additional needs.

Child Abuse Prevention Month in Review – Julie Krow, DHS Executive Director

- Child Abuse Prevention Month was April and there was lots of success with the sharing of information and promotion of ways to prevent child abuse and neglect.
- More than 100 people attended the human trafficking education/prevention event and candlelight vigil on April 18.
- Many window clings to show support for the prevention of child abuse and neglect were distributed, as were the new bear pinwheel pins.
- Two pinwheel gardens planned: one at El Paso County Centennial Hall and another at Citizens Service Center. There was interest for a garden in Fountain, so hopefully next year we can find sponsors for more pinwheel plantings. Penrose also installed a pinwheel garden
- The Falcon Exchange Club hosted a very successful information fair on April 27 and gave away many safety items (gun locks and baby boxes) and educational materials.
 - o About 150 families/parents attended
 - o About half-dozen organizations represented
 - o Connected a homeless family to resources
 - o First Visitor Program connected to families
 - o Looking at ideas for future events
- If you have any ideas for 2019 Child Abuse Prevention Month activities, events, etc., please send details to Kristina at kristinaiodice@elpasoco.com.

Committee Updates

Communication

- NOMC Community Cards are available in English and Spanish cards. Contact kristinaiodice@elpasoco.com if you would like some for your organization.
- CDHS has a lot of materials to prevent child abuse and neglect available online to download for printing and sharing. Visit http://www.co4kids.org/2018_CAPM for materials.
- DHS PIO has created a 30-second safe sleep video:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rWN_jw9TGno&feature=youtu.be

Data Committee

- The mapping team is working to build the maps with 2017 data to show the distribution of abuse/neglect reports.
- Past maps are posted online: <http://dhs.elpasoco.com/Pages/NOMCChildAbuseData.aspx>
- CDHS shares a lot of statewide data on the Community Performance Center:
<http://www.cdhsdatamatters.org/>

Faith Based Community

- Solid Rock Christian Center hosts event - Summer Fest will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 23, at Solid Rock Christian Center, 2520 Arlington Dr. Colorado Springs 80910. It's a youth violence prevention family fun day.

Military

- Deployments are increasing at Fort Carson
- All staff at Evans Army Hospital is completing ACES Training to prevent child abuse and neglect.

Public Health

- WIC is in the process of formal screening for depression

TESSA

- Summer camp for past/present clients/families (June and July)
- Hosting a Back to School barbecue on August 4

BACA – Bikers Against Child Abuse

- BACA is looking into ways to support/Promote NOMC

The Not One More Child coalition will next meet on August 13 in the Assessor's Training Room, first floor of the Citizens Service Center.

If your committees plan to meet between now and then, I'll gladly share those details with the group. Just let me know!

Notonemorechild.net