



County Leadership Forum on Opioid Abuse

Follow-up Report

County and Location of Forum: Gates County; Gates County Library, Gates, NC

Date and Length of Forum (Please attach agenda): Wednesday, November 29, 2017, 1 pm to 4 pm

Number of Attendees (Please attach list of participants): 26

Name of Person Preparing Follow-up Report: Ashley Stoop, Albemarle Regional Health Services

Key Ideas and Next Steps:

IDEA #1: Expand School Aged Education Resources and Strategies

- What specific tool do you want to implement in our county?

Enhance and expand school-based education programs, and begin to introduce those programs in earlier grades. Review existing programs to ensure their applicability and effectiveness, expanding or revamping as needed. Also explore additional evidence based programs for the region.

- Who are the key partners you need to help champion this idea?

Albemarle Overdose Prevention Coalition – School Aged Children Committee

Law Enforcement and School Resource Officers

PTA

School Officials

Community/ Civic Organizations

PARENTS

- What assets do you have that could help you implement this idea?

DARE (however noted it needs to be reviewed to ensure applicability)

Keepin' It REAL/ Albemarle Overdose Prevention Coalition

County and City Governments (possibly funding opportunities)

Utilize existing programs and requirements to gain a captive audience with the parents to provide education and information

- What are the hidden obstacles to implementing this idea?

Other mandates, requirements placed on School Systems

Time Management

Additional resources (i.e. staffing, funding) may be needed

Name of lead person for idea: School System



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Timeline to implement idea: Review existing programs within next 3 months and begin review of additional needs/ system for possible implementation next school year.



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IDEA #2: Continue and expand efforts for community education and outreach to enhance awareness and reduce stigma

- What specific tool do you want to implement in our county?

Utilize the community collaborative and the local newspaper to provide an educational campaign on the issues faced through the Opioid Epidemic. Host regional workshops/ forums for targeted community groups (i.e. parents, students, community partners, faith based partners, etc.) to continue to the discussion and get feedback on how to increase impact of our outreach efforts and education on the current situation in order to encourage awareness and reduce stigma.

- Who are the key partners you need to help champion this idea?

Law Enforcement

EMS

Public Health

GP4H

Elected Officials

Community Members/ Groups

Former Addicts/ Family Members with first hand experience

Medical Community/ Community Resources

- What assets do you have that could help you implement this idea?

Albemarle Overdose Prevention Coalition Members and Community Partners

Trillium Peer Support System

- What are the hidden obstacles to implementing this idea?

Limited Outreach Tools – Lack of access/ forums

Funding

Timing

Finding the right targeted message

Getting attendance and participation

Name of lead person for idea: Albemarle Overdose Prevention Coalition

Timeline to implement idea: Plan sessions for a 2018 campaign



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IDEA #3: Implement a Community Watch Program

- What specific tool do you want to implement in our county?

Through a Community Watch Program, community awareness and partner coordination would be enhanced and would ensure additional resources through those community partnerships.

- Who are the key partners you need to help champion this idea?

County and City/ Town Elected Officials

First Responders

Faith Based Organizations

Gates County Residents

- What assets do you have that could help you implement this idea?

Safety programs are in place but can be expanded.

- What are the hidden obstacles to implementing this idea?

Funding sources

Training

Name of lead person for idea: Law Enforcement Agencies

Timeline to implement idea: Begin exploring options immediately



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IDEA #4: Safety Education and Resources for Public Sector Workers and the Community

- What specific tool do you want to implement in our county?

It was discussed during the forum that additional guidance is needed for Public Sector workers and the community on the safety needs regarding this epidemic. Additional education and training is needed, along with sample policy and procedures for social workers and others who may provide case management in the home setting.

- Who are the key partners you need to help champion this idea?

Elected Officials

State Agencies

Local Agencies

- What assets do you have that could help you implement this idea?

Local Agencies and State Agencies

Training has been provided through the State and will be provided again in the Spring of 2018

- What are the hidden obstacles to implementing this idea?

Training

Timing/ Timeline

Name of lead person for idea: Local Agencies should reach out to state agencies to make the formal request

Timeline to implement idea: Begin research of primary contact and reach out as soon as possible. Resources can also be requested through the State Training provided in Spring 2018.



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IDEA #5: Implement and Expand Intervention and Treatment Programs through Law Enforcement and the Jails; Expand support for individuals when Naloxone is administered; Explore treatment facility options

- What specific tool do you want to implement in our county?

Implement and expand regional programs through law enforcement and jails that will allow intervention and treatment. This should include Assisted Diversion Programs and Programs within the Jail/ Release Programs, etc.

Also, explore a partnership between regional/county agencies, Law Enforcement and EMS for a response vehicle assigned to case management and follow up for at risk clientele that will not only limit and save “emergency response” resource expenditures but will also provide a community liaison/ outreach component to existing emergency services.

Finally, explore additional treatment facility options throughout the region and NC.

- Who are the key partners you need to help champion this idea?

Law Enforcement

EMS

Public Health

Elected Officials

NC Legislature

Trillium

Community Members/ Groups

Prisons

Medical Community/ Community Resources

- What assets do you have that could help you implement this idea?

Community Care Clinic

Trillium

ARHS

Providers

Albemarle Overdose Prevention Coalition

Existing Treatment Centers

Elected Officials

- What are the hidden obstacles to implementing this idea?

Availability of Intervention Services

Limited Funding

Stigma Surrounding Treatment Facilities and Addiction

Name of lead person for idea: Regional Law Enforcement Partners and Albemarle Overdose Prevention Coalition



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Timeline to implement idea: Assisted Diversion Program development is underway and will be launched by January 2018; Jail programs are also in discussion; over the next 4 month other programs will be reviewed by the Albemarle Overdose Prevention Coalition and partners in EMS and LE.