

## DOPP PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY TEAM MEETING

707 N. Armstrong Place, Boise, ID 83704 | Huckleberry 1 Conference Room  
Tuesday, June 18, 2024 - 10:00 a.m.

### Meeting Minutes

#### Call meeting to order and roll call *by Jessica Harris, Public Health Lead*

Jessica Harris, Public Health Lead, called the Central District Health (CDH) Drug Overdose Prevention Program (DOPP) Public Health and Safety Team (PHAST) meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The PHAST members were identified by roll call: Mark Babson, Ada County Paramedics; Dave Steece, ROC; Dr. Radha Sadacharan, IDOC; Jordan Eperilla, Boise Police Department; Nick Kulack, Meridian Police Department.

No guests or staff were in attendance.

#### Vote to approve of agenda *by Jessica Harris, Public Health Lead*

Jessica Harris asked to approve the agenda as presented.

**Motion: Ayes** motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Dr. Radha Sadacharan No further discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Discuss the “why”: *by Jessica Harris, Public Health Lead*

Jordan Esperilla identified that mental health and substance use go hand in hand. There are repeat callers, and the goal is to divert out of incarceration and into treatment options.

Nick Kulack discussed the repeat utilizers of service in Meridian, seeing first-time users dying, while also trying to find a way to enforce and educate.

Dave Steece identified that he is in long-term recovery and tries to be a peer support. He has lost clients to overdose recently and the present efforts are not enough.

Dr. Sadacharan identified that from a physician perspective, people using upon release from incarceration is a large concern and risk for overdose. There is a need to increase protocols for setting people up for success on release.

Mark Babson discussed that service is an important value to him personally and his organization. Reducing overdoses is part of better serving the community.

#### Discuss and identify the roles of members: *by Jessica Harris, Public Health Lead*

Jessica Harris identified the roles of public safety members of the team based on the PHAST model. Meeting participants provided insight on current issues in reducing overdoses.

Nick Kulack, discussed that Meridian Police Department do a leave behind program with naloxone and resource cards. Individuals are declining offers for naloxone and help. It would be helpful to build a way to use the overdose hot spots as law enforcement. Officers in uniforms may not be the best option to offer resources. Fire and paramedic response are not difficult to have them come to the scene and would likely be a better option.

#### Ada & Boise County

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208-375-5211

#### Elmore County

520 E. 8<sup>th</sup> N. Mountain Home, ID 83647  
208-587-4407

#### Valley County

703 1<sup>st</sup> St. McCall, ID 83638  
208-614-7194

Jordan Esperilla stated that Boise Police Department doesn't have a policy to leave behind naloxone after an overdose call. The clinicians on the team do a follow-up when repeat calls for service are identified. Common barriers from callers not accessing resources were fears about officers coming back in the future to arrest them, treatment waitlists and transportation.

Dr. Sadacharan discussed that withdraw time is not the best time to have a conversation about treatment options. A follow-up system that partners with recovery agencies would be ideal. There are not enough treatment court spots available. And for people releasing from corrections, there are many competing factors/stressors. Probation and parole may have helpful information that can be de-identified. An issue discussed is that MAT may not be accessible depending on their conditions of release and probation/parole officer.

Dave Steece identified that the ROC partners with the local St. Luke's hospital to help coordinate care after an overdose. He does a large amount of naloxone leave behind and talks about his lived experience. It was indicated that St. Lukes has a grant for transportation and phones for treatment participants.

Mark Babson agreed that at response to an emergency, it is a difficult time to facilitate a conversation about support and recovery. It is a helpful time to establish trust, especially for fire and paramedics. There is a referral mechanism for peer support. They have found a higher level of acceptance when law enforcement is not involved.

#### **Discuss and vote on a monthly meeting time:** *by Jessica Harris, Public Health Lead*

The group discussed that 11 AM or later, Wednesday may be best, possibly Thursday were the best options identified for future meetings. Jessica Harris will send out a poll to all invitees to set the next meeting date.

**Motion: Ayes** motioned to electronically identify future meeting time options. Seconded by Jordan Esperilla. No further discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Public Comment** *by Jessica Harris, Public Health Lead*

No public comments were brought before the group.

#### **Adjournment** *by Jessica Harris, Public Health Lead*

The next PHAST meeting time and date will be determined via email. The PHAST meeting adjourned at 11:01 a.m.