

**Governor's Advisory Commission on Opioids and Addiction  
Meeting Minutes**

Friday, March 15, 2019  
Patrick Henry Building, West Reading Room  
Richmond, VA

**Co-Chairs Present:**

**The Honorable Daniel Carey, MD**, Secretary of Health and Human Resources  
**The Honorable Brian Moran**, Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security

**Members Present:**

**Omar Abubaker, DMD**, Professor and Chair, Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, VCU Health  
**Brittany Anderson**, Director of Legislative and Constituent Affairs, Office of the Attorney General  
**Michael Barbuti**, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, Drug Enforcement Agency  
**Christina Barille**, Executive Director, Virginia Pharmacists Association  
**The Honorable George Barker**, Member, Senate of Virginia  
**Lauren Bates-Rowe**, Assistant Vice President of Health Policy, Medical Society of Virginia  
**Rita Bishop, EdD**, Superintendent of Schools, Roanoke City Public Schools  
**E. Sue Cantrell, MD, PharmD**, District Director, Lenowisco Health District, Virginia Department of Health  
**Jeffrey Coster, DPM**, Inova Alexandria Hospital  
**Mary Crozier, EdD**, Chair, Community Coalitions of Virginia  
**Lauren Cummings**, Executive Director, Northern Shenandoah Valley Substance Abuse Coalition  
**Mike Doucette**, Executive Director, Virginia Association of Commonwealth's Attorneys  
**Jennifer Faison**, Executive Director, Virginia Association of Community Services Boards  
**Lauren Grawert, MD**, Treatment Provider, Kaiser Permanente  
**Kevin Hall**, Sheriff, Alleghany County  
**David Hartman, MD**, Treatment Provider, Carilion Clinic  
**Gopi Jadhav, MD**, Internal Medicine Specialist, Virginia Commonwealth University  
**John Jones**, Executive Director, Virginia Sheriffs' Association  
**Tim Jones**, Chief of Police, Roanoke City  
**Keith Martin**, Executive Vice President, Virginia Chamber  
**Anna Powers**, Drug Court Coordinator, Supreme Court of Virginia  
**Marcy Rosenbaum, LCSW**, Behavioral Health Director, Southwest Virginia Community Health Systems  
**Dana Schrad**, Executive Director, Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police  
**Mishka Terplan, MD**, Medical Director, Motivate Clinic, VCU Health  
**Allen Yee, MD**, Operational Medical Director, Chesterfield County Fire & EMS  
**Catherine Zagurskie**, Attorney, Indigent Defense Commission

## **Staff Present:**

**Jae K Davenport, JD**, Deputy Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security

**Kathleen Jabs, MFA**, Deputy Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs

**Jonathan Kiser**, Assistant State Planning Coordinator, Office of Emergency Preparedness, Virginia Department of Health

**Jodi Manz, MSW**, Staff Director, Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Resources

**Laura Z. Rothrock**, Executive Assistant and Operations Manager, Virginia Department of Health Professions

## **Welcome and Introductions**

Secretary Carey called the meeting to order and thanked members of the Advisory Commission, state agency staff, and members of the public for attending. On March 8, Secretary Carey and Deputy Secretary Davenport visited the Northern Shenandoah Valley Substance Abuse Coalition CVS Health recently announced the Aetna Foundation's \$1 million grant to the Coalition.

Secretary Carey shared that the Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) is today announcing a significant policy change that will increase access to lifesaving treatment for Medicaid members with opioid addiction. Under the new policy, providers are no longer required to obtain prior authorization from DMAS or its Medicaid health plans before prescribing the newest and safest form of buprenorphine, a medication used to treat opioid use disorder. The removal of the prior authorization requirement is limited to Suboxone films, a form of buprenorphine and naloxone that is applied to the tongue.

On March 14, Governor Ralph Northam and the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) announced that all 40 Community Services Boards (CSBs) in the Commonwealth have Same Day Access (SDA) available to Virginians seeking mental health services in their communities. A person in need of a mental health evaluation can now access walk-in hours at any CSB throughout Virginia without an appointment, instead of waiting days or even weeks to receive an assessment. SDA marks a dramatic shift from addressing mental health needs only when a crisis occurs to utilizing preventive care to help avoid emergencies and hospital admissions.

## **Presentation: Legislative Updates**

Deputy Secretary Davenport delivered a presentation on legislative and budget updates from the 2019 General Assembly session.

HB1878, HB2158, and HB2318 all expand access to naloxone. Secretary Carey stated that these naloxone access bills are a good example of bipartisan collaboration that all Virginians should be proud of.

Deputy Secretary Davenport reviewed recently passed legislation on treatment and recovery, including HB2558/SB1167 regarding payment for Medicaid recipients for treatment involving

opioids or opioid replacements. Additionally, HB2045 will allow the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to establish a certification program for recovery residences.

Mike Doucette provided an update on recently passed criminal justice legislation. HB2528 eliminates the time and place requirement for a felony murder charge. SB1349 removes the requirement to substantially cooperate with law enforcement in any investigation of any criminal offense reasonably related to an overdose in order to qualify for an affirmative defense from prosecution for the unlawful purchase, possession, or consumption of alcohol, possession of a controlled substance, possession of marijuana, intoxication in public, or possession of controlled paraphernalia.

Deputy Secretary Davenport also reviewed key budget items that will support the Department of Forensic Science, Department of Corrections, and Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services with opioid addiction response efforts.

### **Presentation: Use of ODMAP to Understand Data**

Secretary Moran introduced Fauquier County Sheriff Bob Mosier as the next speaker.

ODMAP was developed by the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) and the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA). There are currently no mandatory reporting requirements for ODMAP in Virginia. There was a recent incident of someone hospitalized in Fauquier who was found with drug paraphernalia. This affects all of the community and no one is spared from the epidemic. All Fauquier County sheriff's deputies now carrying injectable naloxone provided by a grant through the Department of Criminal Justice Services. Contemporaneous investigations of overdoses are critical. Law enforcement in Fauquier is now responding to some medical calls to verify no drug activity at the scene. There is a desire for law enforcement to be aware of fatal overdoses before the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) provides a report. It is extremely important for law enforcement to work with public health. Sheriff Mosier thanked the Department of Forensic Science for a recent notice regarding controlled substances submissions. Statewide implementation of ODMAP began in Maryland in April 2018. A bill requiring implementation in West Virginia is awaiting the Governor's signature.

Aliese Alter, ODMAP Program Manager with the Washington/Baltimore HIDTA, shared that ODMAP is available to any government entity. Law enforcement, EMS, medical examiners, and hospitals are some of the system's users. We lack a consistent methodology to track overdoses, both fatal and non-fatal, in real time across jurisdictions, which is necessary to mobilize a cohesive and collaborative response capable of addressing these issues within our communities. ODMAP provides near real-time suspected overdose surveillance data across jurisdictions to support public safety and public health efforts to mobilize an immediate response to a sudden increase, or spike in overdose events. It links first responders and relevant record management systems to a mapping tool to track overdoses to stimulate real-time response and strategic analysis across jurisdictions. Each agency wishing to participate, signs a data sharing agreement which is designed to protect the data within the system. Once signed, they can begin uploading data in real time through a variety of methodologies as a Level I user. They can also access to the ODMAP dashboard, which allows users to view nationwide data and receive custom reports as a Level II user. This tool is

only available to government (state, local, federal, or tribal) agencies serving the interests of public safety and health. Numerous states require or are in the process of requiring reporting through ODMAP. The CDC's Overdose Data to Action funding opportunity allows for ODMAP implementation.

### **Presentation: Drug Courts in Virginia**

Secretary Moran introduced The Honorable Jack S. Hurley Jr., Circuit Court Judge for the 29th Judicial Circuit of Virginia. Judge Hurley also serves as the Vice Chair of the Drug Treatment Court Advisory Committee and runs the Tazewell County Adult Drug Treatment Court. Judge Hurley is working on expanding drug courts that are accountable and evidence-based across the state.

The recidivism rate of drug court graduates is significantly less than the re-arrest rates of non-drug court graduates. The Virginia drug treatment court program saved nearly \$20,000 per participant for total costs against the similar comparison group who were in a "business as usual" model.

There are challenges in Virginia, including stigma around medication-assisted treatment (MAT) and the disease of addiction itself. It is important for our actions to match the statement that addiction is a disease. There are currently 35 adult drug treatment courts, two DUI treatment courts, three family drug treatment courts, and seven juvenile drug treatment courts in Virginia.

The target population for drug courts are those who are high risk/high need, non-violent offenders struggling with substance use disorder. There are very few programs at capacity but there are numerous limitations to enrollment, including prior convictions for barrier crimes such as malicious wounding and breaking and entering. Judges have the ability to decide if they will allow MAT in their drug court or not. Judges also have ability to decide who can provide services for drug court participants. Education is still needed around MAT. It is important for people to stop replacing their personal opinions on MAT with science.

The Advisory Committee is in the process of proposing a new sustainability formula for drug courts. Judge Hurley challenged everyone in attendance at the meeting to attend a drug court graduation ceremony in the future if they have not done so.

Jennifer Faison thanked Judge Hurley and stated that there are many components to a successful drug court and they don't happen without a devoted judge.

Dr. Mary Crozier stated that she would like to work with community coalitions to expand drug courts to areas that do not currently have one.

Dr. David Hartman shared that he has concerns over some drug courts which require women to stop MAT after her baby is delivered. Judge Hurley offered to reach out directly to the drug court to discuss this.

Dr. Rita Bishop shared that seeing a child come into school and speak about how their parent graduated from drug court is very powerful.

## **Presentation: Winchester Data Demonstration**

Lauren Cummings opened the presentation on the opioid data sharing platform currently being used by the Northern Shenandoah Valley Substance Abuse Coalition. The Coalition is serving as the pilot for this new data-sharing platform. The platform has observed recent shifts from opioids to stimulants as well as violent crimes associated with this. The platform is able to send alerts which can be used to help tailor education and outreach.

Qlarion CEO Jake Bittner shared that his company is a government analytics firm headquartered in Reston, VA. Qlarion is working on many analytics projects in partnership with the Commonwealth of Virginia. Mr. Bittner thanked the Department of Criminal Justice Services and the Commonwealth's Chief Data Officer for their support for this project. Qlarion has worked to develop, configure, and implement an easy to use data sharing system for the Coalition that can perform advanced data analysis including predictive analytics that involve the creation of risk profiles.

Qlarion Chief Technology Officer Adam Roy provided a live demonstration of the system. The system captures law enforcement and healthcare data at the local level and is also able to pull data from different state agencies. The system is designed to show a more complete picture of a community.

## **Open Discussion**

Dr. Hartman asked about the differences between ODMAP and the Qlarion system.

Sheriff Mosier responded that first responders have immediate access to the ODMAP app at no cost which helps with the ability to immediately initiate a law enforcement investigation, including notification of other law enforcement agencies as necessary.

Senator Barker shared that the General Assembly is looking at how it can be ahead of the curve vs. more reactive around the disease of addiction. Data systems are critical and a challenge has been linking data sets from various organizations. A longer-term treatment system is necessary for the state. Data helps show where we need to step in and make a more effective long-term difference and how to best target prevention efforts.

Lauren Cummings stated that the new Aetna Foundation grant her coalition received will help fuel the Coalition's new Law Enforcement Overdose Intervention Program. The three-year grant will fund a multi-disciplinary team including a law enforcement officer, peer recovery support specialist and a case manager. The team will respond to hospitals or other overdose locations and will work to divert individuals, as appropriate, from the criminal justice system to treatment.

Catherine Zagurskie asked if the new safe overdose reporting bill would provide the person actually experiencing the overdose with an affirmative defense, in addition to the person calling for help.

Mike Doucette responded that he does not believe so with the current wording of the legislation. Senator Barker shared that there has been different versions of this legislation introduced over the years. Compromise was reached to advance the current bill but this issue will continue to be looked at.

Dr. Allen Yee stated that Chesterfield County Fire & EMS is currently reviewing all naloxone administrations the next day and a Fire/EMS representative and a peer recovery specialist follow-up with patients. Dr. Yee would like to continue engaging other systems as different patients prefer to speak with providers with different backgrounds.

A guest attendee who is a treatment provider in Norfolk shared that there is no central way in the state to find treatment and other resources for patients, especially when she sees patients from outside of her area. She would like the state to create an office, website or similar resource that could help with this issue.

Lauren Bates-Rowe shared that the Medical Society of Virginia is concerned with this issue as well and is working to find solutions.

A guest attendee asked what the state is doing regarding cannabis addiction and cannabinoid psychosis. He also stated that many young people are going to rehab and would like to know what the state is doing to help with reentry into education. There is a need for more addiction counselors in public schools and state institutions of higher education do not have recovery support programs that work. He would like to not have to send his child out of state for supportive education. He also would like to know what the state is doing in general.

Secretary Moran stated that there is a strategic plan and he would ensure that additional information is posted on the Administration's website.

Dr. Terplan thanked the gentleman for his questions. VCU has a collegiate recovery program called Rams in Recovery. He would like to connect the gentleman with Tom Bannard.

Assistant Secretary Manz stated that she recognizes there is a need to continue engaging higher education institutions. VCU has a program that can help other institutions.

Michael Zohab responded that the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services is using grant funding to expand the VCU program to other institutions and make standardized resources available.

Dana Schrad shared that campus police chiefs have voiced concerns about children using prescription medication. It is important to get these individuals connected immediately with someone on campus to connect with local resources. These individuals are experiencing additional stress as they move to a new area, etc. Campus communities are very concerned with this issue and are working to identify solutions.

Senator Barker described recent work that has improved support for school counselors.

Dr. Bishop stated that she is thankful for the recent support for school counselors and is very supportive of also involving social workers in schools. Dr. Bishop also shared that she sees a need for best practices in the use of data, which is actionable and not just a bunch of numbers.

Secretary Carey stated that it is often the decision of local schools to allow community services board staff in the school. There is a need to provide guidance to this community.

### **Closing**

Secretary Moran provided closing remarks and thanked today's presenters. Secretary Moran and Secretary Carey recently met with Chief Justice Donald Lemons. Chief Justice Lemons wanted to attend today's meeting but was not able due to a scheduling conflict.

Secretary Carey provided closing remarks. Secretary Carey would like the group to begin thinking of legislative and budget proposals for the next General Assembly session. This will be further discussed at the next meeting in May.

The next meeting will be held on May 17, 2019 from 10:00 AM to noon. Assistant Secretary Manz will provide additional information on the meeting.