

Luzerne/Wyoming Counties Drug and Alcohol Program
Single County Authority (SCA)
Executive Commission Meeting
August 24, 2022

The Luzerne/Wyoming Counties Drug and Alcohol Executive Commission Meeting took place on Wednesday, August 24, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

Participants: Ryan Hogan, Pamela Covelski, Jill Sprau, Marie Baratta SCA
Commissioner Henry, Commissioner King, John Alunni,
Ian Urbanski, Eric Bieski, Jessy Miller, John McCarthy Executive Commission

Welcome and Review of Minutes: Mr. Hogan hosted the meeting, and relayed that Dr. Blewitt has been feeling under the weather and was unable to attend, and we all wish him well. Mr. Gagliardi, Mr. Wilson, and Ms. Wydra were also unable to attend. A motion to accept the June minutes was made by Mr. McCarthy, 2nd by Mr. Bieski. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Administrator Report: Our SCA is program funding the Community-Based Warm Hand-Off Services utilizing CRS's through Children's Service Center-Robinson Counseling Center. So far the CB WHO has been a success. It has added more contact points in the community and faster, more streamlined services through our CM Unit.

Mr. Hogan confirmed that our FY 22/23 Budget will be similar to FY 21/22. He confirmed that the Opioid dollars will be released in a Promissory Note in September 2023 to both Luzerne and Wyoming Counties.

FY 22/23 Program Funding with Children's Service Center and Robinson Center will be available to hire two CRS Staff to assist and guide clients. Referrals and activities are going very well. Mr. Hogan, Mr. Miller, and Mr. Pollick will be meeting with Wyoming County to offer this Program funding as well.

FY 22/23 Johnson & Johnson Opioid Settlement – Commission Henry noted that he will be sending completed forms for the CCAP Association including W-9, and Routing # for the Opioid Settlement Account. Both Luzerne and Wyoming Counties will receive a large Settlement. Mr. Hogan noted that he and Secretary Smith discussed that the sooner the request is made, the sooner our D & A Program can receive the funding to assist our Communities.

MAT Program-Wyoming County – Commissioner Henry noted that he is very pleased that the MAT Program Initiative will be rolled out in Wyoming County in the near future. Mr. Alunni agreed this will be very effective and streamlined to assist those in need.

Mr. Hogan reviewed our SCA "Opioid Campaign" with WBRE: Helping Communities in Crisis." There will be continued commercials and on-line ads airing. There have been four PA Live segments and 2 more are scheduled for next week focused on Stigma and Recovery Month in September. The Opioid Campaign also includes regularly aired commercials on how to contact our Department for services.

Law Enforcement Treatment Initiatives Last Wednesday we had a LETI Kick-Off with the PA Attorney General, Josh Shapiro, and Wyoming County District Attorney, Joe Peters. LETI is a law enforcement initiative diversion program aimed at low-risk criminal offenders with substance use disorders. The goal is to link and refer to treatment with the hopes of dropping charges if the individual complies with treatment.

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Recovery House Application Workshop: Mr. Hogan noted that he, and Mr. Gagliardi attended the Recovery House Application Workshop on 5-12-22. No Recovery Houses in Luzerne or Wyoming County have applied for licensure with DDAP as of today.

Other Initiatives: Narcan and Prescription Drug Safe Lock Boxes have been purchased, and requests for distribution are ongoing.

Case Management Report: Ms. Sprau reviewed

A motion was made to accept the Report by Mr. Wilson, 2nd motion by Commissioner Henry.

Prevention Planning and Phase G: Mr. Gagliardi completed the Prevention Planning, that has been approved by DDAP to offer assistance in our School districts. Mr. Gagliardi discussed Phase G. noting that DDAP Staff Grace Kindt, and Vanessa Wilder are very helpful to clarify any questions. Mr. Gagliardi noted that Ms. Anderson is very helpful in the Wyoming County Schools, and offers great Session and Evidence Based questions/answers. A motion was made to accept the Report by Mr. Bieski, 2nd motion by Mr. Urbanski.

Executive Commission Member Discussion: Mr. Urbanski confirmed that Crystal Meth and 2 lbs. of Fentanyl was recently searched out in a Police Officer's Home. He reviewed that stimulants are being made with cheap Mexican Meth, as well as prescription Adderall.

Next Meeting: The next Executive Commission Meeting will take place on August 24 from 3-4:00pm. The Executive Commission meeting adjourned at 4:05pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Marie Baratta, Administrative Assistant
Reviewed and approved by: Ryan Hogan, Administrator