

Luzerne/Wyoming Counties Drug and Alcohol Program
Single County Authority (SCA)
Executive Commission Meeting
September 28, 2022

The Luzerne/Wyoming Counties Drug and Alcohol Executive Commission Meeting took place on Wednesday, September 28, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

Participants:

Ryan Hogan
Michael Gagliardi
Pamela Coveleski
Jill Sprau
Marie Baratta
Dr. Charles Blewitt
Commissioner Thomas Henry
John Alunni
Jessy Miller
Nicholas Wilson

Welcome and Review of Minutes: Mr. Hogan asked that the August Executive Commission Meeting Minutes be reviewed. All meeting participants welcomed Dr. Blewitt back. Dr. Blewitt thanked Commissioner Henry for being part of our Executive Commission again and thanked Mr. Wilson and Mr. Miller for their helpful information. *A motion to accept the August minutes was made by Dr. Blewitt, 2nd by Mr. Wilson. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.*

Administrator Report:

Mr. Hogan welcomed all of the Executive Commission Members and thanked them for attending the meeting today.

--Mr. Hogan reviewed the Opioid Settlement in Luzerne County and provided updates and potential plans to draw the settlement monies down year by year. Mr. Hogan and the Luzerne County Office of Human Services are proposing an Opioid Settlement Commission made up of 5-7 Members. They are also proposing an Annual Grant Application/Funding Application Process to be review by the Opioid Settlement Commission. Mr. Hogan met with Luzerne County District Attorney Sam Sanguedolce, Chief of Judicial Services Joan Hoggarth, and LCCF Prison Warden Mark Rockovich about potential Funding Proposals to benefit Luzerne County and their individual Divisions.

Luzerne County received its First Year Opioid Settlement Payment for \$1,042,340.75 on September 1, 2022. The Second Year Payment of \$1,828,792.74 will come in December 2022. My Hogan shared that his priorities for the Opioid Settlement monies would focus on the following:

- Prison Medication-Assisted Treatment Program with Re-Entry Services.
- Enhancement of the Hospital-Based Warm Hand-Off Program.
- Additional Evidence-Based and Evidence-Informed Prevention Services.

Mr. Hogan shared Handouts/Attachments on the PA Opioid Settlement for additional references for the Executive Commission Members.

--Mr. Hogan discussed his plans for the proposed Drug & Alcohol Department Staff Employee "Retention" MOU Increases. The formal report is known as the "Proposal for Equitable Increases for Drug & Alcohol Department Staff." Mr. Hogan asked for the Executive Commission Members' support as he moves forward with the request to county leadership. Mr. Miller voiced his support and explained the important of providing livable and competitive wages that are appropriate for the changes in our economy. Mr. Miller shared his experiences and issues as provider with staff retention and staff shortages and how both directly affects client services and the quality client care.

--Mr. Hogan discussed the ongoing collaboration with WBRE and Luzerne/Wyoming Co. Drug & Alcohol Program on the "Opioids: Helping Communities in Crisis" campaign. Monthly PA Live segments have been airing since May 2022. WBRE is airing regularly scheduled commercials and on-line ads approved by Mr. Hogan. Below is a website link to WBRE's Regional Opioid Special.

<https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.pahomepage.com%2Fopioid-crisis%2Fwatch-opioids-crisis-the-journey-of-hope-continues%2F&data=05%7C01%7CMMance%40pahomepage.com%7C9a4bfd18096d448aa26c08da9fe85784%7C9e5488e2e83844f6886cc7608242767e%7C0%7C0%7C637998117489986888%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6IklhaWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=bRsrRx18b%2BJhBNNGAiksitmWTihm7pyizRomTlbgfxg%3D&reserved=0>

--Mr. Hogan addressed the Law Enforcement Treatment Initiatives (LETI) in Luzerne County & Wyoming County. The LETI Program kicked-off for Wyoming County in August 2022. Mr. Hogan, Mr. Gagliardi, and Mrs. Sprau attended a LETI Training and Law Enforcement Engagement Event on September 12, 2022 with Wyoming County's District Attorney and the PA Office of the Attorney General. Referrals from Wyoming County LETI Program have begun and the Luzerne County Case Management Unit have responded accordingly. Luzerne County's LETI Program is at a standstill with no movement from the Luzerne Co. District Attorney's Office at this time.

Mr. Hogan briefly reviewed other initiatives being addressed by the Drug & Alcohol Department including Narcan Purchases, Prescription Drug Safe Lock Boxes Purchases, Bridge MAT Services, and updates coming to the Drug & Alcohol Department's Website. *Dr. Blewitt made the 1st Motion to accept the Administrator Report, 2nd Motion made by Commissioner Henry. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.*

Case Management Report:

--Ms. Sprau reviewed that in August 72 assessments were scheduled, and 51 were assessed, with 37 emergency/helpline placements and 25 WHO follow ups.

--Ms. Sprau confirmed that Firetree and Acadia attended our CM Staff Meeting. Ms. Sprau is completing Chart Reviews and SOR II GPRA follow up due notifications to the providers, and is updating forms. CPR-Web provider training with Huntington Creek and The Sanctuary House has taken place. Ms. Sprau attended C & Y Case reviews, LETI Training, and Recovery Day-Harrisburg. The August WHO Survey has also been submitted.

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

Fiscal Report:

--Ms. Coveleski confirmed that Contracts have all been sent out, and will process them as they are returned. Ms. Coveleski confirmed that the 22/23 DDAP Budget Report will be completed by August 3, 2022. She confirmed that money will be returned for FY 21/22 for Pregnant Women/Women with Children.

A motion was made to accept the Report by Mr. Wilson, 2nd motion by Dr. Blewitt.

Prevention Report:

--Michael Gagliardi has been leading the way in completing Prevention Needs Assessment: Phase G. In a recent meeting, DDAP recognized Mr. Gagliardi for his efforts and work towards completing Phase G in a diligent and timely manner. Mr. Gagliardi and Mr. Hogan noted that the completed product resulting from the Prevention Needs Assessment will be easy to read and easy to comprehend for all reviewers. It will be a helpful tool when networking out to schools, the community, organizations, businesses, and families.

--September is Fetal Alcohol Awareness Month. Providers have been working diligently to continue to increase awareness in the community.

--The SOR III prevention proposal has been submitted to DDAP on 8/31/22. Approximately \$50,000 was requested for the two-year period ending 9/30/2024. The SCA is still awaiting approval at this time.

--In addition to SOR III funds, unspent SOR II prevention funds can be spent through 6/29/23 through the granting of a No-Cost Extension.

--Our Luzerne/Wyoming Co., Drug & Alcohol Department worked with the Berks County Council on Chemical Abuse to receive training and materials for their homegrown DDAP approved education prevention program: "Teens and Technology." This program covers social media awareness, gaming/gambling, the science behind addictive gaming and wellness alternatives for grades 5-9.

A motion was made to accept the Report by Mr. Wilson, 2nd motion by Dr. Blewitt.

Executive Commission Member Nominating Committee:

Dr. Blewitt discussed if Mr. Hogan agrees that we may ask Mr. Wilson to be a Vice-Chair on our Executive Commission. We have a Secretary position as well. *A motion was made to accept the Report by Mr. Wilson, 2nd motion by Dr. Blewitt.*

Next Meeting:

The next Executive Commission Meeting will take place on October 26, 2022 from 3:00-4:00pm.

The Executive Commission meeting adjourned at 4:05pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Marie Baratta, Administrative Assistant

Reviewed and approved by: Ryan Hogan, Administrator