

TCADC
Data collection subcommittee
Meeting notes
November 21, 2011
Noon

Attendees: Natalie Bollon, ADAMHS Board; Fran Gerbig, Personal and Family Counseling Services; Jeff Neidig, Medi-Wise Pharmacy; Dave Schaffer, ADAMHS Board; Debra Wilden, Trinity Twin City Hospital; Walt Wilson, Tuscarawas County Sheriff.

D. Schaffer provided background information on the Coalition, needs assessment and goal of the sub-committee to new members J. Neidig and D. Wilden. Information requests of subcommittee members were made in advance of the meeting for the purpose of on-going review by the Coalition and for development of strategies to reduce prescription drug abuse. The request covered the first quarter (July thru September) and were as follows:

Sheriff's Department- Amount and type of seized prescription narcotics and illicit drugs; Number of investigations currently underway regarding the abuse of prescription drugs/illicit drugs; Number of individuals incarcerated for prescription drug abuse/illicit drug abuse and any detail on the charges (false scripts, manufacturing, trafficking, etc); Anything else of interest to our community.

Union Hospital/Trinity Twin City- Number of individuals exhibiting drug seeking behavior in the ER; Number of overdoses attributable to prescription drugs/illicit drugs (i.e. by gender and age); Number of individuals under the influence of alcohol and other drugs visiting the ER. Anything else of interest to our community.

ADAMHS Board/Treatment system- Number of individuals admitted to treatment by drug of choice and demographic; Number of children that received school-based drug abuse prevention services by district and districts scheduled to receive services during the 2011-12 year; Number of individuals that successfully completed treatment; Number of individuals that obtained employment during treatment; Anything else of interest to our community.

Court/Community Corrections personnel- Number of adjudicated felony and misdemeanor cases involving prescription narcotics/illicit drugs; probation revocations involving prescription/illicit drugs; Anything else of interest to our community.

F. Gerbig reported on the projected number of 4th thru 6th graders that will be receiving the "Takin' It To The Schools" drug prevention education program in Carroll and Tuscarawas Counties (Tuscarawas County- 824; Carroll County-221)

D. Wilder shared information about persons characterized as drug seeking and their presenting medical complaints for 9/11 and 10/11. The information was categorized by gender, age, avg. age and drug. A total of 49 individuals were identified. W. Wilson shared quarterly information on the Sheriff Departments' drug seizures, undercover investigations concerning drug abuse, persons

incarcerated on drug charges and Drug Task Force investigations since 1/11 (28). D. Schaffer reported on admissions to local treatment programs by drug of choice and a variety of other demographics for the previous fiscal year and first quarter. 24 individuals have been admitted for opiate/heroin addiction.

J. Neidig reported on his use of the Ohio Automated Rx Drug Reporting System (OARRS) in monitoring prescribed narcotics. He is a strong advocate of the system and believes that use of OARRS by both prescribers and dispensers could be improved. J. Neidig also reported on recent changes in law concerning the use of OARRS by healthcare professionals. These changes will be included in public relations materials.

Members discussed obstacles which are faced in making a referral to the treatment system when an addicted individual is encountered. D. Schaffer updated members on the status of Suboxone (a medication assisted treatment intervention) medication within Tuscarawas County via Community Mental Healthcare in Dover. It was agreed that an assessment and set of procedures will need to be available for making referrals to this new service which should be available in December. Local emergency departments and healthcare professionals will need to be made aware of this service and procedures.

Members agreed that improving use of OARRS by physicians/designated office personnel as well as awareness of the services within the general public should ultimately reduce the prevalence of prescription drug abuse. It was generally felt that procedures will need to be established by agencies in order to ensure that the system is being used to its full potential. Members also discussed public awareness strategies including the following: signs in pharmacies; the coalition newsletter; community-wide training. D. Schaffer will contact state about organizing a local training on the system for healthcare professionals.