

# UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S ADDICTION ACTION PLAN



North Central West Virginia  
*September 2015*

Prevention

Education

Treatment

Medical

Recovery

News Media

Community  
Corrections

Law  
Enforcement

Business &  
Legislation



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# PREVENTION SUBCOMMITTEE

## CHAIRPERSON

Jo Anne McNemar	Program Coordinator	Harrison County Family Resource Network Harrison County Partnerships for Success
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## SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS

Elizabeth Shahan	Executive Director	Harrison County Family Resource Network
Carol Mangone	Program Coordinator	CAE Solutions Mon Co Partnerships for Success
Renee Verbanic	Community Coach	Lifelong Learning Workshops
Anne Martin	Grant Compliance	Lifelong Learning Workshops

### I. SUBCOMMITTEE GOALS

- a. Increase awareness on issues related to substance abuse/prescription drug misuse and abuse that impact our community through information dissemination, education and community mobilization.
- b. Identify resources pertaining to substance abuse prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery.
- c. Increase capacity and build skills needed for the prevention of prescription drug misuse and abuse.

### II. SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION PLAN

#### Completed Action Steps

- a. Community Education. The Prevention Subcommittee has prioritized community education initiatives, including:
  - Participation in health fairs,
  - Drug trends presentations,
  - “Scare Tactics Don’t Work” presentations,
  - Creation of brochures,
  - Drug tip-line information,
  - Disseminating information on drug resources, and
  - Evidence based program training.
- b. Evidence Based Programming. The Prevention Subcommittee has implemented several evidence based programs, including:
  - Alcohol Literacy Challenge, and
  - Too Good for Drugs.
- c. Community Development. The Prevention Subcommittee has focused on community engagement by developing and working with community groups, including:
  - County Prevention Coalitions, and

- Youth Prevention Coalitions.
- d. Media Relations. The Prevention Subcommittee has collaborated with the News Media Subcommittee to create a public service announcement for the Harrison County Prevention Partnership Community Substance Abuse Prevention Walk.

### **Future Action Steps**

- a. Access to Opioid Antagonists. The Prevention Subcommittee will collaborate with the Law Enforcement Subcommittee to implement a pilot program to increase the availability of opioid antagonist medications, namely Naloxone or Narcan, to law enforcement officers in the region. Specifically, the Prevention Subcommittee will assist the Law Enforcement Subcommittee in identifying appropriate mental health and substance abuse treatment resources in the region. These resources will be available for law enforcement officers to recommend to individuals revived with an opioid antagonist medication. Additionally, the Prevention Subcommittee will assist in tracking and analyzing data associated with the pilot program. Finally, the Prevention Subcommittee will collaborate with the United States Attorney's Office to educate the community with respect to two new pieces of legislation passed in West Virginia, the Access to Opioid Antagonist Act (Narcan Act), and the Alcohol and Drug Overdose Prevention and Clemency Act (Good Samaritan Law).
- b. Community Education. The Prevention Subcommittee will prioritize community education and awareness of substance abuse prevention, including:
- Community educational workshops,
  - Billboards,
  - Public service announcements,
  - Newspaper articles,
  - Radio segments.
- c. Youth Empowerment. The Prevention Subcommittee will collaborate with the News Media Subcommittee to create a series of videos/public service announcements designed and created by local youth. This effort will be led by students from each Harrison County High School which form the Harrison County DREAM Team (Teens Encouraging Advocacy and Motivation). These videos will also be displayed at sporting events and school activities to promote awareness.
- d. Drug-Free Youth Activities. The Prevention Subcommittee will host a variety of safe, drug-free activities for local youth and the community.
- e. Community Engagement. The Prevention Subcommittee will undertake various community mobilization and engagement initiatives, including:
- Continued prevention coalition meetings and initiatives,
  - Collaboration with other community groups, and
  - Collaboration with other subcommittees of the Addiction Action Plan.

- f. Syringe Exchange Program. The Medical Subcommittee will collaborate with the Recovery Subcommittee and the Prevention Subcommittee to establish and implement a syringe exchange program in the region.

# NEWS MEDIA SUBCOMMITTEE

## CHAIRPERSONS

Aaron Williams	News Director	WBOY-TV
John Miller	Executive Editor	The Exponent Telegram

### I. SUBCOMMITTEE GOALS

- a. Increase awareness of the scope of substance abuse and addiction in the area.
- b. Provide access to resources to help individuals struggling with substance abuse to break the cycle of addiction.

### II. SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION PLAN

#### Completed Action Steps

- a. Community Engagement and Education. The News Media Subcommittee has emphasized the awareness of substance abuse by increasing media coverage of this topic, including:
  - WBOY-TV produced and aired a multi-part series on Narcan in West Virginia,
  - WBOY-TV produced a public service announcement for the Harrison County Prevention Partnership Community Substance Abuse Prevention Walk.

#### Future Action Steps

- a. Youth Empowerment. The News Media Subcommittee will collaborate with the Prevention Subcommittee to create a series of videos/public service announcements designed and created by local youth. This effort will be led by students from each Harrison County High School which form the Harrison County DREAM Team (Teens Encouraging Advocacy and Motivation). These videos will also be aired on local TV stations, including WBOY-TV, and displayed at sporting events and school activities to promote awareness.
- b. Collaborative Marketing. The News Media Subcommittee will interface with the other subcommittees which comprise the United States Attorney's Office Addiction Action Plan to promote their initiatives and goals with respect to preventing and reducing substance abuse in the region.

# EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE

## CHAIRPERSON

Dr. Frank Devono	Superintendent	Monongalia County Board of Education
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## SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS

Beth Harvey	Office Manager for the Superintendent	Monongalia County Board of Education
Donna Monahan	Teacher	Monongalia County Board of Education
Alisa Pelaez	Counselor	Monongalia County Board of Education
Adam Henkins	Director of Safe, Supportive Schools and Athletics	Monongalia County Board of Education

### I. SUBCOMMITTEE GOALS

- a. Implement consistent drug education for regional students and parents.
- b. Hire additional elementary school counselors with specific focus and expertise on drug prevention therapy and counseling.
- c. Increase awareness of the impact of prescription drug abuse.
- d. Educate parents and students about the signs of drug addiction and empower them to seek resources for help.

### II. SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION PLAN

#### Completed Action Steps

- a. Focus Groups. The Education Subcommittee held a variety of focus group meetings, including with student mentors, to develop recommendations on types of education program and materials that would be impactful to students, parents, and the general public.

#### Future Action Steps

- a. Availability of Resources. The Education Subcommittee will develop a series of links of the regional board of education websites to resources for substance abuse prevention, education, and treatment.
- b. Youth Empowerment. The Education Subcommittee will collaborate with the Prevention Subcommittee and the News Media Subcommittee to design and produce anti-drug public service announcements. These will be displayed at school functions including athletic events and theatre performances.
- c. Drug Testing. The Education Subcommittee will explore the feasibility of drug testing as a prerequisite to participation in certain school activities, including athletic teams.

# RECOVERY SUBCOMMITTEE

## CHAIRPERSON

Lou Ortenzio	Celebrate Recovery State Representative	Celebrate Recovery Clarksburg Baptist Church
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## SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS

Karen Reese	Celebrate Recovery State Representative, Assimilation Coach	Celebrate Recovery Horizons Church Lost Creek
Marc Jackson	Peer Recovery Coach and Recovering Drug Addict	Harrison County Community Corrections and Day Report Center
Scott Kapp	Parent, Military Standardization Instructor, Volunteer Recovery Support Specialist	Inpatient Drug and Alcohol Treatment Program
Joe Goudz	MS prepared Drug and Alcohol Counselor,	Marion County Community Corrections
Claire M.	Leader and Recovering Alcoholic	RENEW Chestnut Ridge Church
Valerie Biundo	MS prepared Drug and Alcohol Therapist	Private Practice and Medicated Assisted Treatment Program
Heidi O.	Recovering Alcoholic, Trauma and Addictions Therapist	Department of Counseling, Rehabilitation Counseling and Counseling Psychology WVU

## I. SUBCOMMITTEE GOALS

- a. Assist people with addiction and their families to effectively access and utilize existing support groups.
- b. Develop additional support group/recovery resources.
- c. Assist service providers to effectively access and utilize existing support groups in their communities.
- d. Develop standardized protocols and funding for the utilization of Peer Recovery Coaches.
- e. Standardize the process of accessing and utilizing community support groups.

## II. SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION PLAN

### Future Action Steps

- a. Community Education. The Recovery Subcommittee will implement various community education and engagement initiatives, including:
  - Educating the community regarding the available recovery resources in the region, including providing information and standardized training to treatment providers, community corrections professionals, human services agencies, and religious associations,
  - Developing standardized protocols for Peer Recovery Coaches in the region, and
  - Collaborating with the News Media Subcommittee to promote available recovery resources in the region.
- b. Utilization of Recovery Resources. The Recovery Subcommittee will develop recommendations that would require individuals enrolled in treatment to participate in

support group or recovery programs. The Recovery Subcommittee will also develop recommendations that would require any medical provider applying to distribute opioid medications to provide recovery and support group resources.

- c. Syringe Exchange Program. The Recovery Subcommittee will collaborate with the Medical Subcommittee and the Prevention Subcommittee to establish and implement a syringe exchange program in the region.

# BUSINESS & LEGISLATION SUBCOMMITTEE

## CHAIRPERSON

Barbara Evans Fleischauer

Representative

W.Va. House of Delegates

## I. SUBCOMMITTEE GOALS

- a. Educate the community about existing legislation that addresses the issue of substance abuse.
- b. Implement necessary future legislation to addresses the issue of substance abuse.
- c. Improve the availability of treatment resources in the region.
- d. Engage the business community to combat substance abuse in the region.

## II. SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION PLAN

### Completed Action Steps

- a. Narcan Legislation. The Business and Legislation Subcommittee sponsored and supported the *Access to Opioid Antagonist Act*, which limits criminal liability for individuals who carry and administer an opioid antagonist medication, such as Naloxone or Narcan, to an individual who is experiencing and opioid-related overdoses. The goal of this legislation is to prevent deaths in circumstances involving individuals who have overdosed on opiates.
- b. Good Samaritan Legislation. The Business and Legislation Subcommittee sponsored and supported the *Alcohol and Drug Overdose Prevention and Clemency Act*, which limits criminal liability for individuals who report an overdose situation to authorities and emergency medical personnel. The purpose of this legislation is to encourage citizens to intervene in drug and alcohol overdose situations by seeking potentially life-saving emergency medical assistance for others without fear of being subject to certain criminal penalties.

### Future Action Steps

- a. Community Education. The Business and Legislation Subcommittee will partner with the United States Attorney's Office to educate community groups about the practical implications of the Opioid Antagonist Legislation and the Good Samaritan Legislation.
- b. Business Community Engagement. The Business and Legislation Subcommittee will develop programming and initiatives to empower the business community to educate the regional workforce on substance abuse prevention and awareness.

# COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

## CHAIRPERSON

Ted Offutt	Director	Marion County Day Report Center
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## SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS

Brandi Corley	Deputy Director	Marion County Day Report Center
Travis Zimmerman/Camai Mazzula	Probation Officer	Marion County Adult Drug Court
Tom Carpenter	Chief Probation Officer	Marion County Probation
Marcus Weese	Probation Officer	Marion County Probation
Sarah Abel	Director	Monongalia County Day Report Center
Rebecca Moore	Probation Officer	Monongalia County Adult Drug Court
Jared Wharram	Probation Officer	Harrison County Drug Court
Leisa Riedeman	Chief Probation Officer	Monongalia County Probation
Judge Russell Clawges	Judge	Monongalia County Circuit Judge
Judge Michael Aloï	Judge	Marion County Circuit Judge
Judge Lewis Marks	Judge	Harrison County Circuit Judge
Pat Wilson	Head Prosecutor	Marion County Prosecutor
Renee Verbanic	Community Coach	Harrison County Family Resource Network

## I. SUBCOMMITTEE GOALS

- a. Improve access to treatment for all addicted individuals.
- b. Implement mental health treatment as a component of Day Report Centers.

## II. SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION PLAN

### Completed Action Steps

- a. Medication Assisted Treatment. The Community Corrections Subcommittee has initiated efforts to better integrate medication assisted treatment into the community corrections infrastructure with the goal of reducing dependence on opioids.
- b. Mental Health Treatment. The Community Corrections Subcommittee has initiated efforts to increase collaboration between community corrections professionals and mental health resources to ensure that all community corrections participants are evaluated by the appropriate mental health provider, especially when the participant shows signs of co-occurring disorders.

### Future Action Steps

- a. Reentry. The Community Corrections Subcommittee will expand and enhance the resources available to individuals returning to the community after being incarcerated.

- b. Evidence Based Programs. The Community Corrections Subcommittee will expand the availability to evidence based practices with an emphasis on intervention.
- c. Expansion of treatment courts. The Community Corrections Subcommittee will coordinate with the U.S. Attorney's Office to develop treatment courts in the federal court system.

# MEDICAL SUBCOMMITTEE

## CHAIRPERSON

Patrick Ryan, MA	CEO	William R. Sharpe, Jr. Hospital
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## SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dr. James Abel	Medical Director - Psychiatry	Fairmont Regional Medical Center
Dr. Denzil Hawkinberry II	Pain Management Director	Community Care of WV
Dr. Mike Ferrebee	ED Director, FRMC	Owner Black Diamond Healthcare Service
Danielle Chefren, MSW, LICSW	Therapist	Louis Johnson VA Medical Center
Brock Malcolm	Chief Operations Officer	Community Care of WV
Mike Goff	Administrator -Controlled Substance Monitoring Program	WV Board of Pharmacy
Nancy Demming, MSW, LCSW, AADC-S	Director of Addiction Services	Valley Healthcare
Herb Linn, MS	Communications/Outreach Coordinator	West Virginia University
Emily Reel, LPC	Psychiatric Care Unit	United Summit Center
Hatcher, Whitney, MPA	Foundation Director	Fairmont Regional Medical Center

### I. SUBCOMMITTEE GOALS

- a. Promote best practices for physicians prescribing opioid medications through prescriber education efforts.
- b. Promote prescriber active utilization of the controlled substance surveillance site by all prescribers to combat controlled Substance diversion.
- c. Promote access to take home Naloxone programs to combat overdose fatalities.
- d. Promote best practices for physicians prescribing and co-prescribing take home Naloxone through prescriber education efforts
- e. Promote best practices for physicians and providers providing Medication Assisted Treatment and enhance integration of counseling/therapy as an essential component of Medication Assisted Treatment.

### II. SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION PLAN

#### Future Action Steps

- a. Opioid Antagonist Availability. The Medical Subcommittee will collaborate with the Law Enforcement, Community Corrections, and Legislative Subcommittees of the United States Attorney's Addiction Action Plan to increase the availability opioid antagonist medications, such as Narcan or Naloxone, to first responders, Day Report Centers, and individuals struggling with addiction.
- b. Education. The Medical Subcommittee will develop recommendations to improve education for medical professionals regarding the use of opioid medications, including:

- Recommending that the West Virginia Board of Medicine create and issue standardized treatment protocols/best practices for Medication Assisted Treatment,
  - Collaborating with the West Virginia Board of Medicine, West Virginia Board of Pharmacy, and the Business and Legislation Subcommittee of the United States Attorney's Addiction Action Plan to enhance the required controlled substances training for medical providers in West Virginia,
  - Recommending the creation of a mandatory Continuing Medical Education course by the West Virginia Board of Medicine and the West Virginia Board of Pharmacy related to the use of opioid antagonist medications such as Naloxone or Narcan.
- c. Enhanced Reporting. The Medical Subcommittee will develop recommendations for enhanced monitoring and reporting of controlled substance prescriptions in West Virginia, including:
- Requiring prescribers to check the West Virginia Prescription Monitoring Program before prescribing any opioid,
  - Enforcing a registration deadline for prescribers to register with the West Virginia Prescription Monitoring Program, and
  - Requiring prescribers associated with the Veteran's Administration to report controlled substance prescriptions.
- d. Syringe Exchange Program. The Medical Subcommittee will collaborate with the Recovery Subcommittee and the Prevention Subcommittee to establish and implement a syringe exchange program in the region.

# TREATMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

## CHAIRPERSONS

Dr. Carl Rollynn Sullivan	Director • Addiction Programs	WVU School of Medicine
Dr. James Berry	Medical Director • Inpatient Addiction Services	Chestnut Ridge Center WVU Healthcare

### I. SUBCOMMITTEE GOALS

- a. Improve the availability of substance abuse treatment resources in West Virginia.

### II. SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION PLAN

#### Completed Action Steps

- a. Prescriber Education Conference. In June 2015, the Treatment Subcommittee collaborated with the United States Attorney’s Office to design and host the 2015 West Virginia Prescriber Education Conference. The conference featured a keynote address from Michael Botticelli, Director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy. Attendees from the medical, pharmaceutical, substance abuse treatment, and law enforcement industries were presented with a full day of presentations and panel discussions highlighting best practices in treating pain and prescribing and monitoring the use of narcotic medications. The event was well received and the Treatment Subcommittee will collaborate with the United States Attorney’s Office to arrange targeted follow-up initiatives.

#### Future Action Steps

- a. Reentry & Improving Availability of Treatment Resources. The Treatment Subcommittee will undertake an intensive initiative in collaboration with the West Virginia University School of Medicine and the State of West Virginia to analyze the currently available treatment resources within the state and to develop recommendations on improving those resources. Specifically, the Treatment Subcommittee will collaborate with the United States Attorney’s Office to evaluate ways to improve treatment resources for inmates returning to regional communities.

# LAW ENFORCEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

## CHAIRPERSON

Edward Preston	Chief	Morgantown Police Department
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## SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS

Marcia Ashdown	Prosecutor	Monongalia County Prosecutor's Office
Rachel Romano	Prosecutor	Harrison County Prosecutor's Office
Patrick Wilson	Prosecutor	Marion County Prosecutor's Office
Allen "Al" Kisner	Sheriff	Monongalia County Sheriff's Office
Albert Marano	Sheriff	Harrison County Sheriff's Office
Joseph Carpenter	Sheriff	Marion County Sheriff's Office
Bob Roberts	Chief of Police	West Virginia University
Andrew L. Schwartz	Chief of Police	Farmington Police Department
Robbie Hilliard	Chief of Police	Clarksburg Police Department
Douglas Yost	Sergeant	Fairmont Police Department
Jeffery Beatty	Coordinator	Mon Metro Drug Task Force
David Wolford	Detective	Fairmont Police Department
David Marple	Enforcement Agent	West Virginia ABC Commission
Dave Sapp	Enforcement Agent	West Virginia ABC Commission
Jeff Haught	Medical Examiner	Monongalia County Medical Examiner's Office
Mike Wolfe	Director	Monongalia County Homeland Security Emergency Management Agency & 911

## I. SUBCOMMITTEE GOALS

- a. Improve the identification and investigation of overdose related deaths.
- b. More effectively identify and prosecute the sources of opioid drugs leading to deaths in the region.
- c. Provide timely and current training for first-responders on best practices in responding to overdoses, both fatal and non-fatal.

## II. SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION PLAN

### Completed Action Steps

- a. Overdose Response Policy. The Law Enforcement Subcommittee drafted and disseminated an overdose response policy for adoption by regional law enforcement departments.
- b. Medical Reporting Policy. The Law Enforcement Subcommittee drafted a policy encouraging medical providers to report suspected overdose deaths to law enforcement, including a requirement for the Medical Examiner to report fatal drug overdoses to the appropriate drug task force.

- c. Prevention Initiatives. The Law Enforcement Subcommittee has partnered with the Appalachia High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) program to implement a unique prevention initiative known as the “Give Me a Reason” program. Through this program, free drug testing kits are being provided to residents of Harrison County, West Virginia. The goal of the program is to provide local youth with a tool to resist peer pressure to experiment with drug use and to empower parents to open a productive dialogue to discuss substance abuse with their children.

## **Future Action Steps**

- a. Prevention Initiatives. The Law Enforcement Subcommittee will continue to partner with the Appalachia High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) program to implement creative prevention initiatives in the region, including:
  - The “Handle with Care” program will be implemented in the region, and as a result a formal system will be put into place so that school officials will be notified whenever police officers respond to a dangerous or drug-involved situation where a child is present. School officials will know that a child has been involved in a potentially traumatic situation and that he or she needs to be handled with care.
  - The Appalachia HIDTA educational trailer will be coming to Harrison County and other parts of Northern West Virginia in the near future. The trailer is designed to inform students about substance abuse in an interactive manner.
  - A drug prevention competition will take place for the first time in West Virginia and high schools in Harrison County will participate. This competition will involve students designing educational programming that addresses substance abuse prevention. Students will then present their ideas at a regional competition and one school will be declared the champion.
- b. Access to Opioid Antagonists. The Law Enforcement Subcommittee will develop and implement a pilot program to increase the availability of opioid antagonist medications, namely Naloxone or Narcan, to law enforcement officers in the region. This program will include the development of formalized policies governing the possession and administration of the opioid antagonist medication as well as enhanced education on the newly passed legislation providing limited liability for first responders and community members that carry and administer the medication.
- c. Drug Trends Training. The Law Enforcement Subcommittee will facilitate a West Virginia Drug Trends In-Service training on October 7, 2015 at Mon General Hospital.
- d. Overdose Investigations. The Law Enforcement Subcommittee will establish a monthly “Detective Meeting” among local law enforcement to review all overdose cases, including non-fatal overdoses.
- e. Shift Briefing. The Law Enforcement Subcommittee will collaborate with area law enforcement to establish a briefing program to be conducted at the beginning of each law

enforcement shift to update officers on new policies and procedures established as part of the United States Attorney's Addiction Action Plan.

- f. Mental Health Education. The Law Enforcement Subcommittee will collaborate with the Prevention and Treatment Subcommittees to design and implement enhanced training for law enforcement officers and other first responders to more effectively recognize and respond to mental health disorders, including but not limited to post-traumatic stress disorder.
- g. Medical Professional Training. The Law Enforcement Subcommittee will educate medical providers on the exception to HIPPA which allows medical professionals to report all overdoses to law enforcement.
- h. Data Analysis. The Law Enforcement Subcommittee will collaborate with the Department of Vital Records to monitor overdose death data.
- i. Legislative Initiatives. The Law Enforcement Subcommittee will collaborate with the West Virginia legislature to assess current sentencing and abuse prevention laws.