**BOYLE COUNTY AGENCY FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY, INC.**

**Monthly Meeting Minutes: October 27, 2023**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Boyle County Agency for Substance Abuse Policy, Inc., was held on Friday, October 27, 2023, at 8:30 AM, at the Boyle County Health Department, 448 S. 3rd Street, Danville, Kentucky. The meeting was called to order by Kevin Caudill, Board Member. Board members present were: Kevin Caudill, Christy Whitsell, Hilary Blevins, and Mary Huston. A quorum of the Board was not present. In addition, there were 27 other members in attendance. All present were welcomed, and introductions made.

**Trends, Updates, & New Program Info:**

A)Ethan Banzon, Centre College student/H. Dept Intern: Asking for general input re: presentation on being a “Recovery Ally”, he is scheduled to present at Centre. Suggestions from attending members included the following: Be hopeful; Speak up for those in recovery who need others to join them in combatting the stigma of SUD; Know where resources are and help connect folks to them; Be mindful that people with SUDs often have # of ACEs and co-occurring mental health disorders; Know that people in recovery may not have adequate natural support systems; Suggest that Centre’s campus hire a Peer Support Specialist; Don’t project what you think recovery should look like – there are many paths to recovery; Focus on strengths, not weaknesses; Language matters. Members asked that Ethan share back in a future meeting responses to his presentation on campus.

B)Discussion and Input for Boyle County ASAP application for Opioid Abatement Funds regarding youth programs: Kathy Miles asked for input from members re: youth needs to be included in Boyle’s request that Brent Blevins and she will be writing for the reopening of requests in January, 2024. School representatives were not able to be present for this meeting – Kathy will be getting their input separately. Possibilities at this point to include in the funding application are: a full-time ASAP Coordinator position and associated expenses for a community Recovery Center, 2 full-time positions for each of the 2 school systems to work with SUD prevention/education/treatment, funding for Casey’s Law associated attorney’s fees being billed to families, and enrichment experiences including retreats for children and youth whose parents are in treatment and incarcerated. Members were all encouraged to consider needs, and submit suggestions to Brent and Kathy.

**Approval of Minutes of September 22, 2023, Meeting, Approval of October 27, 2023, Treasurer’s Report,**  and **Approval of Budgeted Requests for Payment and New Requests:** Due to the lack of a quorum of Board members, no vote was taken. These items will be included on the agenda of the December meeting.

\*Balance on Donated Funds for Treatment, Travel, Sober Living, & other purposes as approved: \_$1384.51

**Program Updates:**

-Detention Center: Chad Holderman reported jail staff are experiencing challenges at the jail related to homelessness in the community. Plans are continuing re: site selection and building a new jail.

-Isaiah House: Ashley Hopper. IH Care Navigator, reported they have some men’s beds open, and women on a waiting list. Her cell # is 859-582-1401.

-Shepherds House: Becky West updated that beds in Lexington program are full. There are open beds in the women’s program.

-New Vista: Erika Burnside updated that they are collaborating with other agencies to provide MOUD. Lori Croley stated that mental health clients in need of outpatient services can walk in to the Danville office on weekdays and be seen.

-New Vista Prevention: Kinsey Swafford reminded members that their Prevention office staff in Lexington can help local school staff members plan and lead a youth tattoo group.

-Syringe Exchange: Amy Anness updated that participant #s for September were lower – down to 98. October has been busy to date. Hilary Blevins is working in Syringe Exchange, as well as administering the Health Department’s grant to serve the homeless. Our county was in the top 12 Kentucky counties in distribution of Narcan recently. Amy thanked Mary Huston for arranging a Narcan training at St. James AME Church recently. Amy continues to be available to do trainings and provide free Narcan.

-EMRMC: Connie Edwards reported a noted change in demographics of those being admitted to Ephraim’s Behavioral Medicine Unit, since professional staff have changed. Admissions now include younger patients with a wide variety of MH diagnoses, compared to past several years. Beds are currently available.

-Recovery Roadhouse: Hilary Blevins reported that the Roadhouse is conducting a Christmas toy drive, and are having a Card Night Fundraiser on Dec. 2. The meeting schedule list is available for member today.

-Addiction Recovery Care: Brandon Wilson updated that ARC is opening a psychiatric hospital in Ashland. The first patients have been admitted.

-Alteri Behavioral Health: Hannah Marquez updated that Alteri is now offering an evening IOP, and working on developing a virtual IOP. Walk-ins may come in on Wednesdays, and a future plan will include Sunday appointments to meet more client needs.

EMS Follow-up Visits: Terry Dunn updated that in September, 58 home visits were conducted, with 14 SUD cases, 9 overdoses. October to date has been slower, with 19 MH cases, 1 suicide fatality.

Law Enforcement Updates: Danville Police: Chief Tony Gray reported that he believes that overdoses are recently down because of recent major federal indictment of a drug dealer. Police continue to find increasing problems with homelessness. He expressed concern that underage drinking has taken a back seat since the opioid crisis worsened. He also expressed police concerns about the danger of fake pills, which are being seen locally. Boyle County Sheriffs were not present, but members praised the Sheriffs for recent arrests of sexual predators. Julie Wagner, Boyle County Judge Executive’s Office, is working on the grant for the Crisis Response Team.

**Old Business:**

- Homelessness Update: Members shared continuing concerns about unmet housing needs in the community. Earl Coffey is planning a community forum to solicit community input on the problems related to homelessness. Members will be sent the details of that meeting, when finalized. Hilary Blevins is administering the Boyle County Health Department homelessness services grant. Her cell # is 859-324-2659.

-1st Responders Thank You Lunch: Nov. 16, 11 to 1 Update was given by Kathy Miles. We will be delivering boxed meals from Health Department conference room. Delivery volunteers and some funding still needed. (Last year, we delivered 266 boxed meals). Primary sponsorship of this event that began in 2016 is shared with Hope Network.

-Centre College Research Methods in Sociology Class Update on Fall Class Focus on Homelessness Update: Amy Anness and Kathy Miles thanked those members who have been interviewed by students in the class, and those who are assisting in the distribution of surveys to be completed by people who are currently homeless, or recently homeless. Results will be presented by the students at the end of the semester in a presentation open to the public – meeting date will be sent to all ASAP members.

- Fair Chance Employment Regional Conference is scheduled for Nov. 3, 8:30 to 1:30, at the Boyle County Extension Office. Thanks to the ASAP members who are going to be speakers. To register, email [harold@developdanville.com](mailto:harold@developdanville.com). Registration, including lunch, is free.

**New Business:**

-National Take Back Drug Day: October 28. Police Department, City Hall, will be open tomorrow (Saturday) for accepting prescription drugs.

-New Vista is looking for volunteers to be trained to answer remotely the 988 Suicide & Crisis Line. Contact Cory Hudnall, at [cory.hudnall@newvista.org](mailto:cory.hudnall@newvista.org), or call 502-542--5387

-Ephraim McDowell’s Behavioral Health Unit has open beds currently

-Fall Health Fair: November 18, 3 to 6, Boyle County Extension. Sponsored by Centro Latino, Anthem Medicaid, Bluegrass Community Health Center. For info, to set up a table, contact Jackeline at 859-237-1144.

-Revive Life House open house: Nov. 2, 6 PM, Nicholasville. Register: [impact@revivetomission.com](mailto:impact@revivetomission.com).

-New Listing of Meetings for Recovery Roadhouse: pick up today

1. **Other Business and Announcements:**

-Stepworks, Elizabethtown, accepts sex & arson offenders in SUD treatment.

-Expungement Clinic: Aspire Center, 90 Airport Road, Monticello, on Nov. 3, 10 to 2. Preregistration is required, by emailing [Samantha.Shepherd@ky.gov](mailto:Samantha.Shepherd@ky.gov).

-Suicide Assessment, Treatment, & Management: 6 Hour Required Continuing Ed for Ky Behav. Health Providers: Nov. 16, online zoom, $125. Contact Geoff Wilson to register, [geoffwilson914@gmail.com](mailto:geoffwilson914@gmail.com).

-Bluegrass Community Action will assist with heating bills beginning 11-8.

-Deaf Sober Gatherings by zoom (ASL only): Every Monday, 6:30 to 7:30 EST. ID81574961747. PW: Sober. For more info, contact: [rondeafcpss@gmail.com](mailto:rondeafcpss@gmail.com).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy L. Miles, Secretary

**\*\*Next Meeting (for Nov/Dec): December 1, 8:30 AM, at Boyle County Health Department.**