

**Mission:**

Eliminate substance abuse in Florida by coordinating statewide efforts to protect individuals, families, and communities from substance abuse and to treat those with addiction.

**Vision:** A future without substance abuse in Florida



**Rick Scott**  
Governor

**Celeste Philip, MD, MPH**  
Surgeon General and Secretary

## Statewide Drug Policy Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

**Betty Easley Conference Center**  
**4075 Esplanade Way**  
**Room 182**  
**Tallahassee, FL 32399**  
[Health@FLHealth.gov](mailto:Health@FLHealth.gov)  
**January 12, 2017**  
**9:00AM to 4:00PM**

**Teleconference Information**

Conference Dial In: (888) 670-3525  
Participant Code: 164 869 6226

**Go To Meeting**

<https://www.gotomeeting.com/join/992944813>  
Meeting ID: 992-944-813

Welcome, Introductions and Roll Call- Dr. Jennifer Bencie, Manatee DOH, Chair

Meeting called to order at 9:00 AM by Dr. Jennifer Bencie. The following Members attended:

1. Dr. Jennifer Bencie (Chair, State Surgeon General Designee)
2. Walter Liebrich for Mary Beth Vickers (Office of Planning and Budget Designee)
3. Andy Benard, LTC Ret. (Attorney General Bondi Designee)
4. Robert "Dusty" Arnold (FDLE Commissioner Designee)
5. Jeff Cece (Department of Children and Families Secretary Designee)
6. Patrick Mahoney (Department of Corrections Secretary Designee)
7. Dr. Gayla Sumner (Department of Juvenile Justice Secretary Designee)
8. Angelia Rivers (Commissioner of Education Designee)
9. Colonel Gene Spaulding (Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles Executive Director Designee)
10. Honorable Representative Pigman- unable to attend due to Committee meetings.
11. Jennifer Grandal (Judiciary Member Representative)
12. Mark Fontaine (Governor Appointee with expertise in substance abuse treatment)
13. Colonel John Pelleriti (Adjutant General Designee)
14. Dottie Groover-Skipper (Governor Appointee with experience in faith based services)
15. Doug Leonardo (Governor Appointee with expertise in substance abuse programs and services)
16. Peggy Sapp (Governor Appointee with expertise in substance abuse prevention)
17. Kimberly Spence (Governor Appointee with experience in drug enforcement)
18. Roaya Tyson (Governor Appointee with expertise in substance abuse services)
19. Dr. John VanDelinder (Governor Appointee with expertise in faith based services)

**Staff:**

Rebecca Poston  
Lynne Drawdy

## Business

1. **Review and Approve August 25, 2016 Meeting Minutes-** Motion by VanDelinder, second by Benard to approve the August 25, 2016 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

**Review and Approve October 28, 2016 Meeting Minutes-** Motion by Benard, second by VanDelinder to approve the October 28, 2016 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

2. **Drug Policy Advisory Council 2016 Annual Report- Jennifer Bencie, MD** was pleased to provide the 2016 Statewide Drug Policy Advisory Council Annual Report on behalf of Dr. Celeste Philip, State Surgeon General and Secretary reflecting the hard work and commitment of the Council to develop and implement a state drug control strategy. The 2016 Annual Report outlines the extent of the substance abuse problem as it exists today and highlights the accomplishments of existing state programs regarding substance abuse, prevention, treatment, supply reduction and market disruption. Further, the report provides recommendations to reduce the supply and demand for drugs, to broaden prevention efforts and to expand treatment. The digital format of the report is available at <http://www.floridahealth.gov/provider-and-partner-resources/dpac/reports-and-publications.html>

3. **Presentation #1: National Threat Initiative- John Eadie Public Health and Prescription Drug Monitoring Project (PDMP) Project Coordinator, National Emergency Threats Initiative (NETI), National HIDTA Program** provided an update on the activities of the National Emergency Threat Initiative (NETI) Program at HIDTA. Mr. Eadie discussed PDMP best practices, improving PDMP effectiveness, and developing national emerging threats. PDMP data may be considered a disease registry for substance use disorder. Eighteen states have enacted mandates on all prescribers to review PDMP under certain conditions. Exceptions to the mandatory use include short duration prescriptions, patients who terminally ill, patients in a hospital or long-term care facility, and if the PDMP is inaccessible. Mr. Eadie reviewed the findings from the University of Kentucky's impact study report to determine the general impact of House Bill 1 requiring mandatory use of the PDMP prior to prescribing controlled substances. The executive summary may be found at <http://www.chfs.ky.gov/NR/rdonlyres/842D66B1-612C-4A26-9FE2-C526329D0BEE/0/KentuckyHB1ImpactStudyExecutiveSummary03262015.pdf>. Like Kentucky, New York has seen similar results with an increase in prescriber requests, a decrease in doctor shopping and decrease in high-risk prescribing. Mr. Eadie provided examples of other data sources, when used in conjunction with the PDMP data, may identify areas of high-risk for opioid overdoses and deaths, including heroin.

**Discussion:** HIDTA and NETI are establishing data sets and are interested in exchanging information and ideas with Florida. The Council looks forward to further discussion and opportunity to collaborate. Mr. Fontaine recommended all prescribers use the PDMP prior to prescribing controlled substances. The Council discussed the need for a comprehensive integrated approach that includes a statewide coordinating strategy.

4. **Presentation #2: New Jersey Drug Monitoring Initiative (DMI)- Captain Juan Colon, New Jersey Highway Patrol** provided an update on New Jersey's Drug Monitoring Initiative. The New Jersey Regional Operations Intelligence Center (NJ ROIC) monitors New Jersey's drug environment through the Drug Monitoring Initiative (DMI), providing an understanding of the presence and prevalence of drugs in regions throughout the state.

**Discussion:** The DMI is a drug intelligence capability developed to assist law enforcement and health partners in understanding New Jersey's drug environment," said Lt. Colon, adding New Jersey is the first with such a policy and is recognized throughout the country. The state collects information from health entities, in a manner that does not identify the patient individually. This way, law enforcement can determine trends and patterns involving narcotics occurring within the state. "We receive the data not from the police departments, but the forensics labs, and then the labs present the information to us within 24 hours," Lt. Colon said. "So we know in real time what drugs are out there in the environment and if there's a dangerous batch out there." Using this data, officers can track dangerous batches, places and common factors seen in cases of overdoses, perform analysis, and can get this information to the law enforcement and health communities, Lt. Colon explained. It also permits officers to conduct

proactive investigations to identify the source of certain drugs. The Council discussed ways the agencies could collaborate and exchange information collected from public safety and public health partners. Agencies should explore opportunities to collaborate and share law enforcement data along with information collected from health entities.

**5. Presentation #3: Safe Rx- Milton Cohen, President & CEO**, provided an update on container locking prescription vial security standards.

**Discussion:** According to Mr. Cohen, the Federal Food and Drug Administration has identified container security as a top solution to address the prescription opioid epidemic that is an evidence based approach. Regulatory action is occurring in Maryland, Ohio, Missouri and Colorado. Funds for states to study the impact on locking prescription vials may be available to states through CARA.

**6. Opioid Overdose Map and Data for Duval County- Mark Fontaine**, invited Council members to participate in a press conference January 25, 2017 to raise awareness of the opioid epidemic that is plaguing the state.

In addition, Mr. Fontaine reviewed 9-1-1 responses to overdose calls by the Jacksonville Fire and Rescue for the month of September 2016. Mr. Fontaine reported there has been a 74 percent increase in the number of Narcan doses given, January 2015 to September 2016 from 72 to 277. There has also been a 70.1 percent increase in calls received as overdose from January 2015 to September 2016, from 102 to 349. The number of calls treated as overdoses increased 55 percent from 123 to 273 during the same period of which 134 were males and 83 were females between the ages of 30 to 39 year old.

**Discussion:**

There needs to be a coordinated comprehensive approach. The next council meeting should focus on heroin/fentanyl.

**7. Southwest Florida Free Pain Clinic- Alan Gruning, DO** provided an overview of the Southwest Florida Pain Clinic established in October 2010 by the Fort Myers First Church of the Nazarene. The mission of the organization is to provide free, comprehensive, compassionate care to those with acute or chronic pain. Dr. Gruning is a volunteer healthcare provider and established the only free pain clinic providing a holistic approach to treating the whole person, not just an isolated set of symptoms. Controlled substances are not prescribed. The clinic provides additional services such as chiropractic care, physical therapy, exercise therapy, ultrasound, traction, massage therapy, lifestyle education, counseling, food and clothing pantry and referral for specialty care. He is hopeful he can create a template to be used in other communities.

**8. Implementation of SB 1604- Rebecca Poston** provided an update on the implementation of Senate Bill 1604.

**Discussion:** Ms. Poston reported Section 893.30, Florida Statutes created the Victoria Siegel Controlled Substance Safety Education and Awareness Act, in memory of Victoria Siegel who lost her life to a prescription drug overdose. The Department created a written pamphlet relating to controlled substances that includes specific education information. The Office of Communication posted the pamphlet and resources on the DPAC website available at <http://www.floridahealth.gov/provider-and-partner-resources/dpac/reports-and-publications.html>.

**9. Partnership for Success Update- Amanda Muller, Overdose Prevention Coordinator, Department of Children & Families** provided an update on the Partnerships for Success grant.

**Discussion:** Mr. Cece reviewed the various Partnerships for Success grant milestones and activities achieved during the last quarter. There has been ongoing distribution and training associated with naloxone. Funded counties include Broward, Palm Beach, Manatee, Duval, Washington and Jackson. DCF expects the lead epidemiologist to start at the end of January. Due to a change in the database vendor, there is a delay in the PDMP enhancements to year 3 of the grant.

**10. Miami-Dade Infectious Disease Elimination Act Pilot Program- Hansel Tookes III, MD, MPH.,** provided an update on the implementation of Senate Bill 242, Miami-Dade Infectious Disease Elimination Act (IDEA) signed into law by the Governor on March 23, 2016, creating the first sterile syringe exchange pilot in the state run by the University of Miami (UM). There are three full-time funded staff members to oversee the project and is restrict to Miami-Dade County.

CDC HIV surveillance numbers reported Miami has 1400 new infections, 3<sup>rd</sup> highest AIDS diagnosis in the nation. Dr. Tookes reported the following:

#### Needle Exchange Program

- 114 clients enrolled
- Clients present an identification card and are given a sharps container, swabs, etc.
- 319 client exchanges occurred
- 4921 needles have been received
- 3865 needles have been distributed
- 3 clients have been referred to drug treatment
- 11 clients referred to HIV treatment
- 14 clients reported HIV positive
- 100 unknown
- 59 HIV tests were administered with zero positive, 12.3 percent is currently living with HIV. No new HIV positive results

#### Hepatitis C

- 62 clients have taken the test
- 2 clients reported positive
- 36 tests were provided; 19 clients reported positive.

#### Program Data

- The mean age is 39 years old
- 75% are men
- 25% are women
- 54% non-Hispanic
- 46% percent Hispanic
- 59% are white
- 3% are black
- 27% are multi-racial

The launching of the mobile unit will substantially increase the number of clients reached in the community. UM is in the process of producing a comprehensive report characterizing the needs of the community through evidence-based results.

**11. Policy Initiatives in New York and Massachusetts Addressing Public Health Crisis- Mark Fontaine.** Discussion postponed until next meeting.

**12. Effectiveness of Mass Media Campaigns- Peggy Sapp** reviewed the importance of media campaigns and examples of *Lock Your Meds* messaging adopted by North Carolina, Idaho, and New York. Please see attached handouts.

Mr. Cece recommended the Council review the CDC Guides to Community Services health promotion messages. The *Naloxone Kit Component, Lock your Meds, Drug Deactivation Bags, Locking Bags* are effective campaigns used in prevention messaging.

**Recommendation(s):** Ms. Sapp suggested staff invite the University of South Florida social marketing group to come and speak to the Council regarding effective media campaigns.

### **13. Review of Action Plan- Lynne Drawdy**

**Discussion:** Ms. Drawdy reviewed the action plan and reminded the Council of its responsibility to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the substance abuse problem in Florida and develop a compendium of best practices in drug abuse strategies. To move along the discussion, she suggested the Council identify a specific champion for each of the action plan objectives. The champion could then report out accomplishments on a quarterly basis to reach the overall goal: Creation, implementation, and evaluation of a statewide drug control strategy that provides a coordinated, integrated, multidisciplinary response to address the substance abuse crisis in Florida.

**Recommendation(s):** There was a motion by Cece and second by Van Delinder for staff to draft letters to the Senate Health Policy and House Health and Human Services Committees requesting DPAC's appearance to provide an update on the opioid epidemic in the state. Motion passed. After reconsideration, Mr. Cece withdrew his motion.

### **14. Public Comment / Open Discussion**

**Matt Dunagan, Deputy Executive Director of Operations** provided an update on the Florida Sheriffs' Association (FSA) legislative priority for 2017.

**Discussion:** The Florida Sheriffs' Association requests support for legislation to the drug trafficking statute to include adding synthetic drugs and Fentanyl, to the drug trafficking statute; and create a manslaughter statute for any drug dealer's sale of heroin and/or fentanyl that leads to the death of an individual.

**Recommendation(s):** The Council supports the FSA legislative priority for 2017.

### **15. Next Steps**

The next meeting should focus on heroin/fentanyl. Identify treatment, intervention, and prevention resources. DCF will provide a briefing at the next meeting.

### **16. Meeting Adjourned at 3:45 PM.**