

INDIANA COMMISSION TO COMBAT SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER

August 4, 2022

MINUTES

The Indiana Commission to Combat Substance Use Disorder met on August 4th, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. EDT at the Indiana State Library, History Reference Room 211.

Present: Chairman Douglas Huntsinger (Executive Director for Drug Prevention, Treatment and Enforcement); Mr. Douglas Carter (Superintendent of Indiana State Police); Ms. Bernice Corley (Executive Director of Indiana Public Defender Council); Ms. Betsy Denardi (representing the Attorney General); Ms. Amy Eickmeier (representing the Commissioner of Indiana Department of Correction); Mr. Dan Evans; Ms. Deborah Frye (Executive Director of Indiana Professional Licensing Agency); Mr. Cris Johnston (Director of Office of Management and Budget); Mr. Chris Naylor (Executive Director of Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council); Mr. Michael Ross (representing the Executive Director of Indiana Criminal Justice Institute); Mr. Jacob Sipe (Executive Director of Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority); Mark Smith (Judge, Hendricks County Superior Court); Mr. Dan Rusyniak (Secretary of Indiana Family and Social Services Administration); Ms. Lindsay Weaver (representing the Commissioner of Indiana Department of Health)

Call to Order & Consideration of Minutes

Chairman Douglas Huntsinger

Chairman Huntsinger calls the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Chairman Huntsinger asks for a motion to approve the minutes for the May 6, 2022, meeting. Mr. Dan Evans moves to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Cris Johnston seconds. Minutes are approved unanimously. Chairman Huntsinger introduces the recovery speaker, Mr. John Cunningham.

Recovery Speaker

**John Cunningham, Founder,
Recover Out Loud**

Mr. Cunningham shares his experience as a person in long term recovery. He says he first experimented with marijuana after the loss of his father in 1995 and eventually became addicted to opioids. He says he started supporting his habit by committing burglary and was caught in 2008. By 2012, Mr. Cunningham says he was busted for two more burglaries while on probation and was sentenced to 14 years with seven suspended. During his incarceration, Mr. Cunningham says he decided he would change and do all that he could to help the community.

Mr. Cunningham was released in 2014 and started attending Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous, but realized these groups were not aligned with his recovery journey.

Mr. Cunningham founded Recover Out Loud in 2018 as an environment inclusive to all paths of recovery. Recover Out Loud is a recovery active community, using connection and motion to recover from addiction. Based out of Columbus, Indiana, Recover Out Loud serves six counties.

The Addict's Wake

**Mrs. Lisa Hall, Executive Producer,
Glory Girl Productions**

Chairman Huntsinger introduces Ms. Lisa Hall, executive producer of Glory Girl Production, to speak about the film, "The Addict's Wake."

Ms. Hall says "The Addict's Wake" became a story of community. The film was born from her experience working with incarcerated women. She says the film humanizes the issue of addiction.

The film premiered in October 2021 and has been viewed at events across the United States and is now showing in Indiana communities through a partnership with Anthem. Ms. Hall says the production crew is currently filming a shorter version of the feature-length film for educational purposes as well as a version for law enforcement. Ms. Hall plays the film trailer. A link to view the full film will be emailed to Commissioners following today's meeting.

Mr. Douglas Carter asks Ms. Hall to categorize where Indiana is now versus in 2012 with regards to opioid addiction. Ms. Hall responds she was not as aware of the issue in 2012 as she is today and that she has had to familiarize and educate herself. She recalls talking to individuals who lost loved ones to overdose in 2012 and says Indiana is ahead of the game in terms of awareness, resources, and treatment centers. She encourages strengthening preventative measures and hopes the educational edit of the film will assist in these efforts.

Mr. Carter asks if Do Something, a Brown County-based advocacy group, is awareness. Ms. Hall says Do Something is awareness and Recover Out Loud is doing a great job of awareness. She says when she first met Mr. Cunningham, he had just applied for Recover Out Loud's 501C3 status. Since Recover Out Loud's inception, she says Bartholomew County has done great work to bring awareness to the issue of substance use disorder.

Mr. Mark Smith asks how to overcome opposition toward recovery and transitional housing. Ms. Hall says people oppose what they don't know and understand. She says the film brings humanity to people who are trapped in addiction, recognizing that "those kinds of people" are our people. She says we must push forward the idea of hope, health, and recovery for individuals with substance use disorder.

Chairman Huntsinger thanks Ms. Hall. Commissioners will have one week to view the film via the link provided by Ms. Hall.

State Opioid Response Grant

**Ms. Rebecca Buhner,
Deputy Director of Addiction and Forensic Treatment,
Division of Mental Health and Addiction**

Chairman Huntsinger introduces Ms. Rebecca Buhner, deputy director of addiction and forensic treatment at the Division of Mental Health and Addiction, to present an update on the State Opioid Response Grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

Ms. Buhner presents an overview of the main goals of the State Opioid Response Grant. She says the grant addresses the opioid overdose crisis by increasing access to FDA approved medications

for the treatment of opioid use disorder (MOUD); supporting the continuum of care for Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) and Stimulant Use Disorder (StUD) through prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery supports; and reducing unmet treatment needs and opioid-related overdose deaths across America.

Ms. Buhner notes that StUD was a recent addition to the second round of the grant funding and is continued to be funded during the current round. She says harm reduction was an additional section that was added during the third round of grant funding.

Ms. Buhner says that through the SOR grant, Indiana intends to increase access to evidence-based treatment and recovery resources to all individuals with OUD and StUD. She says Indiana will also decrease the total number of drug overdose deaths in the state by 10% by the end of the project period and will increase the number of addiction professionals within the state providing treatment and recovery services for OUD and StUD.

Ms. Buhner says the total budget for the SOR grant is \$29,141,538. She says the grant is broken down into seven high-level categories. These categories are Stigma Reduction (\$2,100,000), Infrastructure (2,000,000), Treatment (\$13,844,024), Recovery (\$3,127,813), Education/Training (\$1,589,736), Naloxone and Harm Reduction (\$5,000,000), and Administrative Costs (<5% of the budget). The stigma reduction campaign will be continued through the Know the Facts initiative. Infrastructure will be expanded through fidelity monitoring and infrastructure development with Indiana University. In addition to infrastructure development, the grant will provide a procurement opportunity for universities to expand their education and training forum, that will ultimately end in certification. This education will be offered to recovery community organization leadership and recovery housing leadership.

Ms. Buhner highlights the Mobile Integrated Response Systems (MIRS) program. There are 11 MIRS teams in the state of Indiana that cover 30 counties. The goal of MIRS teams is to meet the individual at their location of need. That may be in a jail, emergency department, or homeless shelter. The program connects individuals with at least one licensed clinician and one certified peer recovery coach. Ms. Buhner says there is an option to add a prescriber, paramedic, law enforcement, or first responder. Those who partner with the MIRS team are required to have a certain level of cooperation, including a memorandum of understanding or a different contract with a local emergency department that has the capacity to induct buprenorphine. This requires a data waiver to be present. Ms. Buhner says the individual also needs to have a connection with a follow-up service provider. She adds that the grant will allow for a study to be conducted to assess the impact that the program has on communities as a whole and the individuals they are serving. Ms. Buhner says that since January of 2018, just under 8,000 individuals have been serviced using the MIRS program.

Ms. Buhner says her team at the Division of Mental Health and Addiction has collected and analyzed Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) data. They are using the data to create reports to distribute to the communities within range of a MIRS team. The data team reports their findings back onto a quarterly basis. Ms. Buhner shares that, overall, the work the MIRS teams are doing is moving Indiana in the right direction. The total number of individuals who were reviewed and reflected in the data outcome is 580. The data includes those who practice abstinence, access

to housing stability, and any type of employment or education. The individuals who reported access to housing stability or any type of employment or education also reported lower numbers of not using alcohol or illegal drugs within six months post-treatment intake.

Ms. Buhner says as it relates to recovery, the Division of Mental Health and Addiction will continue to support regional recovery hubs. There are a total of 20 regional recovery hubs actively operating. The regional recovery hubs are part of an ongoing partnership with the Indiana Recovery Network, an affiliate of Mental Health America of Indiana. Ms. Buhner says each hub is a community recovery organization that manages peer recovery services and affiliated peer supports. As organizations, they also offer peer support services to help individuals struggling with OUD or StUD. These hubs can be accessed 24/7 and are available statewide. Ms. Buhner notes that in the month of June, the recovery hubs provided over 12,000 services to individuals in the Indiana.

Ms. Buhner says the Division of Mental Health and Addiction will continue to partner with the Community Health Network Foundation and the Behavioral Health Academy. The goal is to better align educational curriculum and practicum experience for behavioral health workers and students. She says students will now be able to apply for coursework and direct service experience at local Community Mental Health Centers (CMHC). Stipends are available to the students at the successful completion at the end of the first and second semester. Ms. Buhner says the goal is to invest more in students during their education to allow for an easier transition to employment at organizations after graduation. 63 students have successfully completed the program and the goal for next year is to have an additional 55 students. She says a significant goal of the Behavioral Health Academy is to expand relationships with more universities to increase participation and foster stronger ties between academic institutions and providers in Indiana. Additional trainings like evidence-based practices, cognitive behavioral therapy, and contingency management will be provided.

Ms. Buhner says the OUD ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes), the extension for community healthcare outcomes, will continue. This initiative was originally developed at the University of New Mexico. She says the hub is led by an expert team who conducts clinics and learning sessions for community providers. The Indiana Opioid Use Disorder ECHO was implemented in 2018 by the Indiana School of Medicine's Department of Psychiatry. Since then, 318 sessions have been offered and over 6,000 people have participated. Ms. Buhner says there are nine total tracks: dispensers/prescribers, peer recovery coaches, therapists/behavioral health, early home visitors, first responders and opioids, jail-based treatment, emergency dept/EMS, medical comorbidities, and adolescent SUD/ODU prevention. Buhner notes a significant part of OUD ECHO is that it provides an infrastructure for other additional ECHO sessions to be implemented. These are all funded through other external entities.

Ms. Buhner ends with an update on naloxone implementation. She says Indiana's naloxone distribution efforts are rival to none based on her interaction with other states through national conferences and calls. She attributes Indiana's success to the infrastructure built in partnership with Overdose Lifeline, Inc. She shows pictures on the PowerPoint of two different sized naloxone vending machines. Naloxone vending machines have been placed in jails, hospitals, and

communities. Also shown are two pictures of NaloxBoxes, an initiative launched in March 2020. Ms. Buhner says Indiana has invested nearly \$9,000,000 in naloxone distribution since March 2020, and another \$5,000,000 will be committed to naloxone. She reports that in the past two years, just under 190,000 doses of naloxone have been distributed throughout the state of Indiana and around 300 NaloxBoxes and 19 vending machines have been placed.

Chairman Huntsinger calls for questions.

Mr. Dan Evans reminds the Commission that the idea for ECHO and naloxone distribution was discussed at the very first Commission meeting. He thanks Ms. Buhner for the successful results of the partnership with ECHO and the distribution of naloxone. He asks Ms. Buhner to expand on the recovery certificate certification process regarding potentially introducing it as new curriculum at universities. Ms. Buhner says one way Indiana is expanding support for its recovery community organizations is by adding a procurement opportunity for local universities to be able to develop their own certificate program. She compares the potential program to running and operating a nonprofit organization. She says the skills needed to build and sustain a successful nonprofit are similar to running a recovery community organization. She shares a story of an individual who was incarcerated and is now running their own recovery community organization. The goal for adding a certificate program is to equip these individuals with the necessary skills to care and provide for their recovery community organization.

Chairman Huntsinger says there are several providers and groups that aspire to be vendors that require that extra support, and providing these individuals with this certification will not only build their confidence but expand the number of contractors available to fund.

Chairman Huntsinger thanks Ms. Buhner.

Opioid Settlement

**Ms. Betsy Denardi
Co-Chief Counsel for Complex Litigation,
Office of the Attorney General**

Chairman Huntsinger introduces Ms. Betsy Denardi, co-chief counsel for the Complex Litigation Division of the Office of the Attorney General to present an update on the national opioid settlement with distributors McKesson, Cardinal Health and AmerisourceBergen and manufacturer Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc. and its parent company Johnson & Johnson and additional ongoing settlements and bankruptcy matters.

Ms. Denardi says Indiana achieved its goal of obtaining all subdivisions to join the settlement. The state will receive the full amount of the settlement, approximately \$507 million. The first payment has already been received from the distributor and is in a state account. She says a second and third payment from the distributors will arrive later this year. The plan is to distribute all of the funds at one time rather than individual payments piecemeal.

Ms. Denardi says that because the state was able to receive all the subdivisions' signatures within the appropriate time predetermined by the settlement, accelerated payments will be received from the Janssen settlement. The state will receive the first five years' worth of payments from

the Janssen settlement this year due to the accelerated timetable. This also means the payments following 2023 will be significantly less than the ones received this year. As a result, Ms. Denardi says there will be no payments received in 2025 from the Janssen settlement. The next payment to be received from Janssen will not be until 2026, Year 6 of the settlement.

Ms. Denardi says information on the Attorney General's website outlines the estimated payments amount for the full length of the settlement. The distributor settlement is payments over a period of 18 years, and Indiana is currently in year two. The Janssen settlement is over a period of 11 years.

Ms. Denardi says communication either by letter or e-mail has been distributed to each of the cities, counties, and towns in Indiana expected to receive payments. Enclosed in the e-mails or letters are the details about the estimated payments for both 2022 and 2023 for budgeting purposes. This prevents projects from being planned without the proper funds to cover for the future. She says communities are encouraged to collaborate in their project planning. The amount of money allocated to every community is different, and it would benefit the smaller communities to collaborate with larger communities.

Ms. Denardi says the settlement money is split into unrestricted and restricted amounts. The unrestricted amount may be used however the community deems necessary, while the bulk of funds are restricted and must be used for treatment, education, and prevention programs within that community. Ms. Denardi encourages communities use all the money allocated to them for treatment, education, and prevention programs. She says questions can be answered at the Attorney General's website.

Ms. Denardi addresses the Purdue Pharma lawsuit. She says a lawsuit has been filed and the company went into bankruptcy. The bankruptcy is still being considered on appeal in the Second Circuit Court. Oral arguments have been heard and a ruling is to come. Ms. Denardi says the hope is that a ruling will be received by the end of the year. If a ruling is received by the end of the year, there are two viable options on how to move forward, the first being a petition filed that will go to the United States Supreme Court, or the case will be sent back to the bankruptcy court where hearings will resume. She says at this time there is no time estimate on when any money will be received from Purdue Pharma.

Ms. Denardi says both Teva Pharmaceuticals and Allergan have tentative agreements in principle to settle with the states. Those agreements will be finalized by the end of the calendar year. She says the agreements are in principle on the monetary terms and are still yet to be resolved through injunctive terms. Ms. Denardi says the goal is to ensure the companies manufacturing opioids are following all the appropriate safeguards. Ms. Denardi says Teva Pharmaceuticals and Allergan have announced the settlement in total is \$9,000,000,000. This includes states that have already settled. The money that will be allocated to the states that have not settled still must be calculated before a projection is confirmed.

Ms. Denardi calls for questions.

Mr. Dan Evans congratulates Ms. Denardi on a job well done. He urges Ms. Denardi to make sure the language is clear in the documents her office is working on to ensure there are no misunderstandings in the future about the priorities of the settlement funding. Ms. Denardi says that statute requires 70% of the funds received to be used for opioid treatment, education, and prevention programs. She says there is a 12-page document that specifically lists the approved uses for the settlement funding. The range of approved programs ranges from medication assisted treatment programs to jail-based recovery initiatives. The goal was to make the approved list specific enough to ensure the money is used for opioid treatment, education, and prevention programs but also to allow for some flexibility in the future.

Ms. Bernice Corley asks Ms. Denardi if the settlement money could be used to reroute an individual headed for the justice system to a hospital or recovery treatment center.

Ms. Denardi says the funds can be used to build a recovery or transitional house. There are no restrictions on funding projects like that as long as the building is used as an opioid use disorder-related program. She says the money can also be used for services for co-occurring mental health disorders.

Chairman Huntsinger says the funds can be used to support the infrastructure to help provide any necessary collaborations that need to take place. He says the Attorney General's website and the Next Level Recovery website both have the 12-page approved list of programs.

Chairman Huntsinger asks Ms. Denardi if there have been additional conversations about reporting requirements from the settlement administrators.

Ms. Denardi says specific reporting requirements have not been addressed yet. She says some states have already created their own reports that they are planning to use for the reporting requirements. She says she is happy to send those along to anyone who is interested.

Ms. Denardi says it is her understanding that the distributors and Johnson & Johnson want to ensure the money is ultimately used for opioid treatment programs, however they are not going to go through the reports and identify whether a state is using the settlement funds for one specific part of an opioid treatment program. She says the distributors also want to make sure states are not spending an excessive amount of the money for non-opioid programs. The unrestricted part of the settlement is considered by the companies as money to be used to repay the states and communities for past expenses for opioid use disorder treatment and education programs.

Chairman Huntsinger thanks Ms. Denardi and Mr. Cory Voight for their expertise on the settlement matters.

Agency Updates

**Mr. Michael Ross,
Director of Behavioral Health Division
Indiana Criminal Justice Institute**

Chairman Huntsinger introduces Mr. Michael Ross from the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute to provide an update on behalf of the agency.

Mr. Ross defines local coordinating councils (LCCs) as citizen-led and directed groups within counties that focus on mitigating substance use-related issues in relation to prevention, education, treatment, intervention, justice services, and supports. He says LCCs are funded with county dollars, and they have an obligation to co-equally dedicate 25% of the funds across designated categories. The funds they do receive are small and vary by county size. A financial dashboard located on the ICJI website demonstrates how LCCs are using the funds.

Mr. Ross says two years ago ICJI began overhauling the entire system to make way for a more standardized process. He says that to date, there are 90 functional LCCs, and there is an expectation that by the end of the year the process of restarting the last two remaining LCCs in Pulaski and Union counties will begin. He says the reporting is currently at 85% with the remaining 15% typically due to technical-related issues in the reporting system. He says that within five days there is 100% of submissions occurring for the local LCCs. Mr. Ross says the end-of-year report will be available on ICJI's website and in dashboard form. The report will show the functionality of LCCs. The councils are evaluated on their satisfactory, evidence-based interventions, appropriate use of funds, and room for improvement. This allows LCCs to benefit from enhancing their internal infrastructure and rethink the partners that are coming to the table as well as expanding the narrative within their community.

Mr. Ross says they have moved on from the stabilization phase and have started working on enhancing the efforts of the LCCs. He says earlier this year an advisory council was created and comprises of 16 LCCs of various capacities. Mr. Ross says the LCCs will help deconstruct the typical concepts of evidence-based programs and place mental health at the forefront. He says mental health first aid will be the gold standard for prevention education. Mental health first aid is a program that provides psychoeducation to members in the community and administers a form of triage, paving the way for connection to resources.

Chairman Huntsinger calls for questions.

Chairman's Comments

Chairman Douglas Huntsinger

Chairman Huntsinger thanks the Commission for their time and attendance. The Indiana Commission to Combat Substance Use Disorder will meet Thursday, November 3rd, 2022, at 10 a.m. EDT at the Indiana State Library, History Reference Room 211.

The meeting adjourns at 11:08 A.M.