

Indiana Commission to Combat Drug Abuse

November 9, 2017

Minutes

The Indiana Commission to Combat Drug Abuse met on November 9, 2017 at 2:00 PM, EST at Hope Academy, 8102 Clearvista Parkway, Indianapolis, IN 46256

Present: Chairman Jim McClelland; Director Mary Beth Bonaventura; Dr. Kristina Box; Superintendent Doug Carter; Commissioner Rob Carter; Mr. Daniel Evans; Director Deborah Frye; Deputy General Counsel Sharon Jackson; Director Larry Landis; State Senator Jim Merritt; Director David Murtaugh; Mr. Chris Naylor (Representing IPAC); Mr. Aaron Negangard (Representing the Attorney General); State Representative Mara Candelaria Reardon; Director Jacob Sipe; Judge Mark Smith; State Senator Greg Taylor; Director Micah Vincent; Dr. Jennifer Walthall; State Representative Cincy Ziemke

Call to Order

Jim McClelland, Chairman

Chairman McClelland called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

The Face of Recovery

**Barbara Elliott, CEO, Hope Academy
Sophi Herrick, Student, Hope Academy**

Ms. Elliott described Hope Academy, a recovery-based high school in Indianapolis. Ms. Herrick, a student at Hope Academy, offered a personal testimonial on her road to recovery. She spoke of the difficulties of teenage drug abuse and the significant role Hope Academy played in her recovery.

ICJI Report

David Murtaugh, Indiana Criminal Justice Institute

Executive Director Murtaugh gave a report on ICJI's initiatives through the LCC's, announced the hiring of a second full-time staff member to focus on LCC operations, and stated that there are 75 evidence based programs being implemented across the state. Executive Director Murtaugh mentioned the ICJI and ISP community resources guide is being updated monthly. Additionally, he explained ICJI's work to utilize two CARA grants for INSPECT with the help of PLA and for Telehealth with the help of DMHA.

Chairman Remarks

Jim McClelland, Chairman

Chairman McClelland called for the approval of the minutes from the August 2017 meeting. The members approved unanimously. Then, he discussed his visit to the Hendricks County Drug Court. Mr. Evans, who accompanied Mr. McClelland to the Drug Court, gave remarks on his experience and commended the program for its work to combat the drug crisis. The Honorable Mark Smith, head of the Hendricks County Drug Court, spoke to the positive outcomes of the Drug Court program, noting that it is making a difference in their community. Chairman McClelland thanked Governor Holcomb for emphasizing the opioid crisis in his 2018 legislative agenda. Finally, McClelland said he is hopeful President Trump's public health emergency will mean increased aid to the State of Indiana and expressed his appreciation for the Final Report delivered by the President's Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis.

Indiana University Grand Challenge

**Thomas McAllister, Chair and Professor
of Psychiatry, IU School of Medicine**

Dr. McAllister provided an overview of Indiana University's Grand Challenge, "Responding to Addictions," an initiative pledging \$50 million around the state. He described their goal is to reduce the incidence of substance use disorder, decrease opioid deaths, and decrease the number of babies born with neonatal abstinence syndrome. The Grand Challenge will have five focus areas:

- 1) Data Sciences and Analysis
- 2) Education, Training and Certification
- 3) Policy Analysis, Economics and Law
- 4) Basic, Applied and Translational Research
- 5) Community and Workforce Development

Dr. McAllister presented three phases of the Grand Challenge. First, over the next six months IU will invest \$13 million in 15 projects. Second, by the end of the 2018 summer they will invest another \$15 million in other projects. Last, the remaining money will be used to sustain and expand successful projects.

Second Year of Cures Act Funding

**Dr. Jennifer Walthall, Family and
Social Services Administration**

Dr. Walthall informed the commission of the direction for next year's 21st Century Cures Act funding. The state will receive an additional \$10.9 million in 2018, part of which will be utilized for prevention programs. This allocated money will be applied to continue programs set into motion in 2017. This includes the expansion of residential treatment availability, neonatal opioid addiction programs, the humanizing campaign, mobile crisis response intervention teams, peer supports in emergency departments, the first steps program, county projects, and the new Open Beds platform. Open Beds in partnership with 211 will provide a platform to allow providers to immediately connect their patients to open inpatient beds.

Indiana State Police, Drug Enforcement Section

**Doug Carter, Indiana State Police
Lt. Mike Bartram, ISP, Drug Enforcement Section**

Superintendent Carter introduced Lieutenant Bartram who presented on the Drug Enforcement Section's (DES) efforts to combat the supply of illicit and prescription drugs. He spoke on his section's partnership with federal enforcement agencies including the DEA, FBI, and HIDTA, and described DES operations. Lt. Bartram said their focus is heroin, fentanyl, other synthetic opiates, and methamphetamine.

Agency Reports

Indiana State Department of Health

Dr. Kristina Box, Commissioner

Dr. Box shared information about the Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome pilot program that provides residential addiction services and follow-up home visits. She reported on the expansion of the Coroner Toxicology pilot program, and gave the details of Naloxone distribution and training across the state.

Department of Correction

Robert Carter, Commissioner

Commissioner Carter addressed the shift in treatment from the end of a sentence to the beginning. He noted the expansion of Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) to released offenders diagnosed with opioid use disorder. Commissioner Carter then said the department is increasing its efforts to inhibit drug trafficking in their facilities.

Family and Social Services Administration

Dr. Jennifer Walthall, Secretary

Dr. Walthall thanked DOC for their continuing partnership. She then noted the Medicaid changes for MAT and reported the progress in developing the 5 new Opioid Treatment Programs around the state.

Professional Licensing Agency

Deborah Frye, Executive Director

Executive Director Frye described the progress of the INSPECT integration initiative, noting expectations that a large pharmacy and two large hospital systems will begin integration soon. She reported the success of the state's prescription drug take-back program on October 28 and stated pharmacy robberies are happening far less than in years prior.

Other Business

Chairman McClelland noted that the commission had been encouraged by the Attorney General and the Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council to take a position opposing the decriminalization of marijuana. He also noted the statement Governor Holcomb made the previous day expressing strong opposition to legalization of marijuana. Dr. Box moved that the Commission oppose the decriminalization of marijuana.

Senator Taylor stated it was not the role of the commission to take such a position. Director Murtaugh said it was the role of the commission to combat drug abuse and that marijuana is within the commission's charge. Senator Taylor said this commission was meant to address opioids; medical marijuana is not abuse and recreational marijuana abuse is different. Mr. Negangard disagreed with Senator Taylor and commended the commission for being willing to take a stand on the issue. Dr. Box explained that marijuana endangers our children and that over 25 percent of the newborn umbilical cords tested turned out positive for marijuana. Representative Reardon said the commission should remain open-minded about medical marijuana. Superintendent Carter voiced an obligation to protect children from drugs. Director Landis noted he would like to learn more before taking a stance. Senator Taylor said minorities are affected most by the illegalization of marijuana and that the commission needs to collaborate with more minority groups.

Chairman McClelland called for a vote. The motion passed with 11 yes votes, 3 no votes and 2 abstentions.

Meeting adjourned at 4:04 p.m.

Next meeting February 9, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.