



NASEMSO Opioid & SUD Ad Hoc Committee

MEETING RECORD

August 4, 2022
2:00 – 3:30 PM EST

Attending – Stephanie Busch (Vice Chair), Joe Ferrell (biospatial), Josh Walters (biospatial), Paul Westlake (DE), Tim Hulings (CDC Foundation), Dr. Michael Levy (AK), Dr. Ken Williams (RI), Anna Civitarese (RI), Carolina Roberts-Santana (RI), Anthony Pantaleo (MI), Duane Spencer (PA), Rita Massiello (NJ), Eva Nelson (NJ), Ridgely Ficks (MA), Peter Giessert (OR), Dr. Dan Wolfson (VT), Maureen Ward (MT), Steven Jones (MS), Nour Yousry, Arnold Alier (SC). For NASEMSO: Mary Hedges, Lynn Dommel, Adrienne Wilson, Dia Gainor, Andy Gienapp

Call to Order & Welcome – Stephanie Busch, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:04 PM EST.

Self - Introductions – Attendees introduced themselves.

Review and Approve May 4th Meeting Record (attached) – The May meeting record was approved.

Co-Responder Consortium Update – Dia Gainor reported that the consortium has been working on awareness training with federal partners. The consortium held a meeting with the director of the 988 program at SAMSHA to emphasize the role of EMS providers. The expectation is that mobile crisis response teams will grow dramatically and it is likely they will utilize EMS providers. The next step will be to meet with the Secretary of DHHS.

[National Co-Responder Consortium](#)

Opioid & SUD Workshop Discussion / Evaluation – Stephanie asked for input from those who attended the opioid workshop at the NASEMSO Annual meeting in Charleston, SC. She was impressed to hear what the different states were doing. Several members commented that they would like to have attended all the breakouts. Stephanie heard side conversations from other states about how they could adapt the programs for their own states. Josh Walters, moderator for the data panel, commented that he was impressed with

the speakers and that they highlighted how the data has been used to address the opioid crisis.

COSSAP Webinar (July 28) – Mary explained that Arnold Alier and Christina Galardi presented to about 100 webinar participants on innovative EMS approaches to the opioid epidemic. Arnold reported that they had multiple questions about how they brought the players together to share data. He reported that Christina did a great job explaining how the data was tied together. The recorded webinar is available at <https://www.cossapresources.org/Media/Webinar/107a3462-bfaa-4825-9e76-5a1d7f01eaf4>

Mini-Presentation: Delaware Rapid Substance Testing Initiative – Tim Hulings, CDC Foundation <https://nasemso.org/wp-content/uploads/Delaware-Rapid-Substance-Testing-Initiative-HULINGS-.pdf>

Tim retired after 33 years as a Delaware State Trooper. He was so impressed with public health that he obtained a position with the CDC Foundation working from the Delaware Department of Public Health. He was involved with the development of the Delaware Drug Monitoring Initiative (DMI) which was formed in 2016 to combat the opioid epidemic. They were concerned with the growth of illicit fentanyl. They engaged the civil support team (CST) to develop the rapid substance testing initiative. They also partnered with AMTRAK, as their headquarters are in Delaware, and the Delaware Department of Justice. The initiative has been operational for a few years and they have utilized it about a half dozen times. They try to use it for the critical incidents.

Stephanie asked for volunteers or suggested topics for next month's meeting.

Member Comments

Carolina and Rita inquired about what states are transporting to non-hospital treatment centers. Paul Westlake said that while EMS must still transport to Emergency Departments, Delaware's Overdose System of Care is developing pathways to identify where patients can receive buprenorphine. As of November 1, medics will begin training on buprenorphine administration and they expect it to go live January 1st. They are modeling this after Philadelphia's program. Paul Westlake agreed to present Delaware's Overdose System of Care at the September meeting.

Arnold Alier spoke of the overreaction to first responders' exposure to fentanyl that he has been experiencing lately in South Carolina.

Arnold emphasized the value of data. They have a weekly meeting with the Governor's overdose task force and share that data. The analytics done by biospatial has been important and impressive in presenting the problems.

On another matter, Arnold said that South Carolina medics were just approved to administer the vaccine for monkey pox.

Adjourn -The meeting adjourned at 3:20 PM EST.

Next Meeting – September 1, 2022

The meeting record was respectfully prepared by NASEMSO Program Manager Mary Hedges.