

## **Chittenden County Opioid Alliance Vision Statement (9.19.16)**

The CCOA will move from a fragmented prevention, treatment and recovery substance abuse system to one which is moving in the same congruous direction, has one common agenda, shared measurements, is integrated, collaborative and community-centered.

### **Brainstorming Notes from 9.6.16 Steering Committee Meeting**

#### **Create Meaning**

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- Children and adults have opportunities to find meaning in their lives.
- Develop more opportunities for meaningful engagement for youth in community.
- Neighborhoods come together to create events, ceremonies(?), activities that celebrate life.

#### **Early Childhood Teaching & Messaging**

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- All youth are protected from society messages that encourage substance use as a coping mechanism for living with adversity.
- Early messaging to kids as they enter education system about: health, self-worth, place in community, mentors / allies, etc.
- Teaching, learning, applying emotion regulation skills to children, teenagers, and adults.

#### **Outcomes**

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- A resilient individual / family / community based on strength, based on wellness
- All residents live in a built environment that supports healthy coping mechanisms for living with adversity.
- Children experience less adverse events in their lives.
- Employers would be willing to hire and accommodate people in recovery / with felony convictions so these people can find "community" and belonging, and meaning / purpose in a work environment.
- Families are supported and nurtured in our communities to decrease isolation, fear, and desperation.
- Fewer child removals by the DCF.
- No resident of Chittenden County is addicted to opioids.
- Opioid addiction of our residents approaches 0%.
- Treatment success manifested by: health, wellbeing (family / individual), economic security.
- Decrease in public safety measures/indicators
- Improvement in health and well-being

#### **Prevention System**

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- A comprehensive prevention system: interconnected, adequately resources, multi-aged, accountable.
- Re-engineer our system to be more responsive and effective with individuals and families today, while anticipating enhancement for the future.
- The system of care is designed recovery / treatment(?) substance abuse in a way that makes it possible for the state to achieve the outcomes it intends for Chittenden County.
- We develop a very robust system of prevention and intervention.

#### **Supports to Families**

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- Addressing stigma, especially for families so they can find support.
- Community includes variety of supports to enable people to make safe choices.
- Families are connected to other families in a way that allow them to naturally rely on each other's strengths / can mentor each other.
- Look at the root cause of a behavior for better outcomes: self-esteem, fulfilling a basic need, etc.

- Navigator(s) to assist people seeking treatment to right level of care, and taking care of [...] requisites, such as having insurance.

### **Treatment**

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- A treatment system characterized by: no wrong-door welcoming, treatment on demand, robust connection to social services, education and corrections.
- All residents who are in danger of opioid addiction receive services on demand.
- Intervention and treatment system is accessible, timely, and varied to meet all needs.
- People have treatment when they need it.
- Streamlined process for assessing and connecting people to treatment.
- To create a resilient, welcoming system of care that is responsive to the needs of our community. This system's purpose is to help save lives by promoting prevention and recovery from substance (opiate) use disorders.
- Treatment on demand for Chittenden County's opiate-dependents.
- Treatment on demand.
- When an individual / family needs treatment for an addict, the space / system of treatment is immediately available and easy to navigate.

### **Whole System**

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- A platform that embraces diverse perspectives towards reducing the harm of opiate use.
- Integrated multi-systems (i.e. social services, law enforcement and criminal justice, business, healthcare, etc.) that are welcoming and responsive to individual needs, circumstances and cultures, and that are accessible, available, and sufficient to meet the identified needs.
- The law enforcement system has the tools and resources available to arrest and prosecute "the bad guys", however that is defined. Stopping the supply.
- To listen to the voices of those who have lived through addiction as we create a new system of care and community.

## **Key areas of improvement**

- Create Meaning
- Early Childhood Teaching & Messaging
- Supports to Families
- Prevention System
- Treatment System of care (To create a resilient, welcoming system of care that is responsive to the needs of our community. This system's purpose is to help save lives by promoting prevention and recovery from substance (opiate) use disorders.)
- Recovery System of care
- Whole System
- In order to achieve the integrated system, we need to not only to integrate, but also recognize we might need to change, by those involved, commitments and their internal systems as well.

### ***Heidi's thoughts:***

#### **2 Main Goals of the CCOA:**

##### **1. Integrated System**

Principles of system – welcoming, easy navigation with support, ...

Objectives– finance and infrastructure investments in the right places

##### **2. Cultural change and prevention**

Principles – wellness, skills for managing “pain”, ...

Objectives – *see clustering exercise results*