THOUGHT-LEADERS ROUNDTABLE: Prevention and the Transition to Heroin: Engaging the Prevention Community

Facilitator: Jackie L. Steele

March 31, 2016, 9:00 am – 10:15 am

What prevention programs do you have with your medical community?

- WV – In response to “ER shopping,” ERs are looking at how easily pills go out. Developing protocols. Monthly meetings.
- WV – Local med schools are educating first-years about pain management.
- WV – Law says that prescriber must have a relationship with the patient … can’t prescribe on 1st visit.
- WV – Recovery coaches in ER.
- WI – Prescribers Work Group: summit every 6 months, workbook, notify physicians of overdoses.
- Northcentral MA – State law: 1st opioid RX is for no more than 7 days. SBIRT (Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment) training required in schools.

Other prevention programs?

- KY + WV – “Give Me A Reason” program: free drug-testing kits to parents in Appalachia HIDTA counties.
- KY – Targeting pregnant women and young mothers for prevention (based on NC Horizons Model).
- “Teen Intervene” training

How are you working with employers?

- Northcentral MA – program through chamber of commerce
- WI – Workplace Prevention Program: 1 hour training within work day, but employers have to pay for them to be there.
- GA – REACT Program. Includes residential treatment. Accountability Court Judge oversees it. Funded externally for two years. Learn more: sgonzales@cjjc.ga.gov
- “Cincinnati Works” by Dave and Liane Phillips. In its fifth year, it has put 6,000 people to work. Job counseling, mental health, etc. Book: “Why Don’t They Just Get A Job?”
- KY – Drug Court educates employers about value of hiring workers who are supervised (drug testing). Ask business owners to recruit other business owners.
- VA – Drug Court helping participants get back their driver’s license.
- KY – Drug Court judge helps participants steer clear of “hot spot” employers … tells them to find a different job.
- Need to educate employers about disease.
- GA - Fulton County Behavioral Health helps them start their own businesses (tattoo artists, etc.).
- GA – “Ban the Box”: applications for state jobs do not have a box for “convicted of a felon.” Someone else said that it can be done by local ordinance. NM passed a state law about this 8 or 10 years ago.
- Also consider revamping restrictions on career licensing (example: in Kentucky, you can’t be licensed to cut hair if you have been convicted of a felony, but you can be a doctor or lawyer).
- Recovery houses: learn from each other, network to find jobs.
- “If you wanted to get high, could you make it happen? Ok. If you want a job, then make it happen.”

Anyone collaborating with trauma centers?

- SC – Traumatic injuries often are related to drugs or alcohol. They offer post-trauma mental health consults (even provide free iPads for telemedicine). Bottom line: look to your trauma centers as partners.
- Outside Baltimore – Overdose Response Fund pays for 7-day detox.

Outside the box: what do you want to see?

- MA – Promoting trauma-sensitive schools. SEE: “Red letter” or “Handle with Care” (WV) programs: law enforcement alert the school that the child was involved in an incident the night before (no details).
- Increasing pro-social opportunities for youth to solve “bored.”
- Predictive analytics (see “Predictive Analytics for Dummies”).
- Judges and prosecutors interact with students in schools (Constitution Day, etc.), field trips to the court and jail.
- http://www.overdose-lifeline.org/rxsummit.html
- Connect kids with their communities (e.g., mentoring programs)
- Drug take backs and drop-off boxes work