

OPEN MEETING MINUTES
Waukesha County Health and Human Services
Substance Use Advisory Committee (SUAC) Meeting
October 17, 2023

Present SUAC Committee: Addiction Resource Council (Lindsay Just, Chair), AODA Volunteers of Waukesha County (Tom Graves, Vice Chair), Department of Corrections (Karen Sharp), Lutheran Social Services (Tina Ettinger), Rogers Memorial (Jim Hishmeh), WI Community Services (Jamie Soteropoulos)

Absent SUAC Committee: Bethany Christian Centers (Deb Adamus), WisHope (Peter Brunzelle)

Absent HHS Board Liaison: Dr. Mike Goldstone

Present HHS Staff Liaisons: John Kettler

Guests: Joel Gaughan, Brea Lopez, Janelle McClain, Cindy Tomazevic, Stella Koehler

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Graves called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m. Attendees introduced themselves.

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion: Hishmeh moved, second by Ettinger, to approve the joint Mental Health and Substance Use Advisory Committees' minutes of September 19, 2023. Motion passed without a negative vote.

Just arrived at 3:17 p.m. and assumed Chair duties.

3. Committee Business

a. Discuss Possible Educational Presentations for 2024 Meetings

- Overdose Fatality Review and Medical Examiner's Project – September joint meeting with MHAC
- Homeless Resources (i.e. Hebron House, Hope House, Salvation Army, Food Pantry)
- Grandparents Raising Grandchildren
- Parents Place
- Healing Hearts
- OWI and Drug Treatment Courts
- IPID Committee
- Youth Prevention and Available Resources
- Peer Support
- Harm Reduction
- Emerging Drug Trends
- Housing Action Coalition – 2024 Priorities
- Parents of Adult Children / Three Party Petition
- Crisis Stabilization Facility
- Housing in general (Housing Action Coalition, Recovery Housing, Emergency Shelter)

4. Delta 8 Overview

Kettler and Just shared information that they took away from a recent conference regarding Delta 8. Some of the information includes:

- Delta 8 is not an illegal substance
- Delta 8 is being offered in forms such as gummies and other candies
- Delta 8 causes psychosis

- Delta 8 is sold everywhere – including local vape shops and vending machines
- There is no FDA control once the Delta 8 is sent to the manufacturer
- State drug testing labs do not report Delta 8
- Delta 8 is being marketed heavily in northern Wisconsin as “legal marijuana”

5. 2024 Community Prioritized Needs Presentation to HHS Board

Attendees began to discuss possible topics for the 2024 Community Prioritized Needs presentation. Possible topics include:

- Delta 8 Information/Education

6. Committee and Organizational Updates

a. HHS Board Liaison

Gaughan stated that the HHS Board reviewed the SUAC Chair/Vice Chair/Membership appointments, had a presentation on the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC), and watch a recruitment video for the Mental Health Center (MHC).

b. HHS Staff Liaison

Kettler reported that HHS has awarded four community agencies \$50,000 each to continue their prevention efforts into 2024. The funding is provided from an annual allocation from the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant. The grant dictates that 20% of the funding is required to be spent on prevention. With the help of additional grants to offset costs, Waukesha County has been able to allocate approximately 80% of the grant funds to prevention efforts.

The Waukesha County Overdose Prevention website has a new dashboard with interactive data. <https://www.waukeshacounty.gov/overdoseprevention/>

The Medical Examiner’s office has released updated statistics. While 2022 still has 10 cases pending, the statistics show that drug-related deaths have decreased from previous years.

Kettler shared about a free food service that occurs every Thursday with a pick up time of 2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. at Whitestone Community Church in Oconomowoc. There is no residency requirement. Weekly registration is required. Contact Cindie Remshek at cremshek@waukeshacounty.gov.

7. Agency Updates / Announcements

Koehler is the newest Addiction Resource Center trainer. Just hopes to hire a fourth trainer in 2024.

8. Discuss Items for Next Meeting’s Agenda

- Community Needs Presentation Discussion

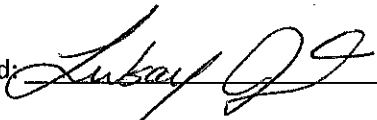
9. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

10. Adjourn

Motion: Hishmeh moved, second by Ettinger, to adjourn the meeting at 4:28 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Janelle McClain.

Minutes Were Approved:  _____

Date: 11/14/23