



# Southern Kenai Peninsula Opioid Task Force

## Opioid Task Force Monthly Meeting

**Wednesday, May 27, 11:00am-12:30pm**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/120396610>

Meeting ID: 120 396 610

One tap mobile 1-346-248-7799

*Our vision: A community free of opioid and substance misuse*

*Our mission: Fostering a connected community by empowering and engaging all individuals to create local solutions for opioid and substance misuse*

## Attendees

Colleen Ackerman, SVT Health & Wellness  
Sarah Spencer, Ninilchik Clinic & The Exchange  
Jay Bechtol, South Peninsula Behavioral Health  
Mary Darbonne, Homer Public Health  
Abby Struffert, Ladies First & Help Me Grow Alaska  
Casey Brewer, NineStar Educational  
Elana Habib, State of Alaska Office of Substance Misuse & Addiction Prevention  
Michael Raymond, Set Free Alaska  
Eliza Eller, Ionia  
Nate Brisbois, Chris Kyle Patriot Hospital & Arctic Recovery  
Bonita Banks, South Peninsula Hospital  
Paul Seaton, Community Member  
Stephanie Stillwell, Facilitator

## Agenda

1. Quick Intro to Zoom, Introductions & Check Ins
2. Updates from around the Room

Eliza: Ionia, updates to peer support increased during COVID. Things have shifted to online and have done exceptionally well. Would like to offer WRAP & WHAM classes to communities. Combination of in person or online. Peer support certification perhaps will be happening potentially July 1<sup>st</sup>. Would like to offer full support training. [eliza@ionia.org](mailto:eliza@ionia.org) 252-2314. Online perhaps 1 or 2 evenings per week. Great for those in recovery but also for WHAM is more wellness support group. Jay is sitting on state board for peer support. Timeline is October to get policy handbook and the aim is January.

Jay, South Peninsula Behavioral Health: All services moved to telemed, but in phase 1 for in person services. Goal for June to offer full services in person. Peer support program for mental health, peer support specialist offering variety of services. Only mental health peer support for now but plans to move forward into the future.

Sarah: Ninilchik starting to see in person, offering telemed and tele-behavioral health still offered. Peer support offered anywhere from Ninilchik to Homer. Clinic received emergency COVID funding- added subscription to programs to offer Directly Observed Therapy services, BRIDGE devices for opioid withdrawal management. Still

seeing patients 1 day per week in Homer on Tuesday, and counseling one day per week as well, and will have additional case management time on Fridays.

The Exchange, completing all services outdoors currently. More engagement since this transition, 10-12 people coming in to exchange at each of the openings. More than 1000 syringes being returned each opening. Currently incentivizing returns. Collecting very little information collected at the exchange, not currently asking about their path to addiction. Stephanie to talk with Annette further about this (for information for the Prevention Work Group assessing locally folks' path to addiction).

Colleen: SVT Health & Wellness Temporary position open for door greeter, contact SVT for information. Currently seeing patients 1:1 in person. Zoom Groups are not going to continue to much longer. Currently encouraging patients to come to get care with wellness exams. Colleen starting in person with Seldovia and AP starting next month again. Connecting Eliza with Seldovia Health Chatter, Colleen will connect Eliza with Laurel Hilts.

Bonita: SPH announced new Acute Care Director Stephanie Swain, has a strong psychiatric background. Increased training on acute care. Husband will be working at Homer Medical as a provider.

Mary: Public Health, busy with COVID but business as usual. Contact tracing, notified of positive case by epi then PHN does the tracing, identifying contacts that were closer than 6 feet for longer than 10 minutes. Still doing immunizations and referrals to medical homes for care. Community education & outreach and working with systems levels access to testing. Looking at where people fell off from access to care. How to reach those folks now and not wait until later at the after-action report.

Nate: Chris Kyle Patriot Hospital & Arctic Recovery: Arctic Recovery is now a 2-week program specifically for substance abuse only. Level 3.4 Has fallen off the state ASAP list. 18 +

Michael Raymond: Set Free Alaska Business as usual at outpatient  
Residential = Moving Forward with residential facility, all permits are in place, July 15<sup>th</sup> open and currently hiring a lot of people. Will allow bridge device.

Elana: Shared new state reports (Stephanie will get these and send out to the group)

3. Social Media Campaign Update: Social Media presence continues to increase, still working with consultant to help provide support with messaging and posts.
4. Work Group Updates:
  - a. Prevention Work Group
    - i. Opioid Partial Fill
      1. Questionnaires to Pharmacies
      2. Questionnaires to Medical Providers
      3. Research into Insurance, Medicaid & Medicare
    - ii. Alternative Pain Management: Work group to connect with Statewide pathway and create local alternative pain management pathway resource for local providers

- iii. Non Opioid Advanced Directive – hospital does have this, HMC does, but does anyone else have this information (dentists, pediatricians ..etc)? Bonita added that Homer Medical does have the advanced directive, but unsure how much this is used or provider education about this document
  - iv. Updates to Treatment during COVID
  - v. Road to Recovery Pathway & Website: Stephanie reviewed the website with the group, primarily focusing on the Road to Recovery Pathway piece—Elana suggested that we look at the state’s new website [www.treatmentconnection.com](http://www.treatmentconnection.com) and use the treatment work group to increase local providers knowledge about this site and get their information listed.
- b. Community Outreach Work Group: Did not convene
  - c. Policy Work Group: Did not convene
5. **Other Important Dates:**  
 Next City Council Presentation: June 22  
 Volunteer to provide updates? Thoughts?
6. Closing thoughts and next steps

#### **Next Meeting Dates:**

Opioid Task Force Meeting Wednesday, June 24<sup>th</sup> 11-12:30pm

#### **Work Group Meetings:**

##### **Treatment Work Group: Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 10am-11:30am**

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/842363956>

Meeting ID: 842 363 956 One tap mobile: +1-346-248-7799

##### **Prevention Work Group: Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 11:30am-1:00pm**

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/110238305>

Meeting ID: 110 238 305 One tap mobile: +1-669-900-9128

##### **Community Outreach Work Group: Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 11:00-12:00pm**

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/814453871>

Meeting ID: 814 453 871 One tap mobile: +1-669-900-9128