

OPIOID ABATEMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION

OFFICIAL PUBLIC MEETING

APPROVED MINUTES

July 17, 2024

The Opioid Abatement Advisory Commission was held at District of Columbia Hospital Association, 1152 15th Street, NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20005 on Wednesday, July 17, 2024. Members of the public were also invited to attend in-person and virtually via WebEx.

ATTENDEES

Present

1. Jean Moise, Ph.D. designee for Barbara Bazron, Ph.D., Director, Department of Behavioral Health
2. Ciana Creighton, Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services
3. Christina Okereke, Representative of the Attorney General of the District of Columbia
4. The Honorable Christina Henderson, Chair, DC Council Committee on Health (virtual)
5. Edwin Chapman, MD, President Designee, Medical Society of the District of Columbia (virtual)
6. Jacqueline Bowens, Chief Executive Officer, District of Columbia Hospital Association
7. Mark LeVota, Executive Director, District of Columbia Behavioral Health Association (virtual)
8. LaVerne Adams, DMin, Chief Executive Coach, Total Life Consultancy LLC (virtual)
9. Demetrius Jones, Certified Peer Recovery Specialist, Wards 7 & 8 DC Prevention Center/DC Recovery Community Alliance
10. J. Chad Jackson, MS, CEO, Ardan Community Living, LLC
11. Nnemdi Elias, MD, MPH, Addiction/Internal Medicine
12. Melisa Byrd, Interim Director, DC Department of Health Care Finance (virtual)
13. Myles Davenport designee for Franciso Diaz, MD, FACP, DC Chief Medical Examiner (virtual)
14. Patricia Quinn, Designated Representative, District of Columbia Primary Care Association

Absent

15. Queen Anunay, MPH, MCHES, Designee, Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice
16. Larry Bing, Certified Peer Recovery Specialist, Leadership Council for Healthy Communities
17. Larry Gourdine, Program Manager, Psychiatric Institute of Washington
18. Beverly Settles-Reaves, PhD, Program Manager, Howard University
19. Juanita Price, M.Ed, Chief Executive Officer, Hillcrest Children and Family Center
20. Senora Simpson, PTMPH, DrPH
21. Ayanna Bennett, MD, MSPH, Director, DC Health

Call to Order

- Chair J. Chad Jackson called the meeting to order at 9:11 a.m.

Quorum Declaration

- Chair Jackson conducted a roll call for quorum declaration.

Approval of Minutes

- Chair Jackson presented the minutes for the May 15, 2024, Commission meeting.
- Patricia Quinn offered a correction to the minutes.
- Jackie Bowens made a motion to approve meeting minutes
- The Commission approved the minutes by unanimous vote.

Welcome and Overview of Agenda

- Chair Jackson presented and discussed the agenda for the meeting.

Presentation: “Drug Take-Back Bin Proposal” by Dr. Oye Owolewa

- **Summary:** Presentation will be attached to the minutes.
- **Key Points:**
 - A similar program currently exists in Arlington, VA.
 - Drug Take-Back Bins will be stationed throughout DC at MPD (Metropolitan Police Department) and FEMS (Fire and Emergency Medical Services) locations for monitoring and security.
 - Take-back bins are priced at \$1,600 annually, covering medication collection, disposal, and routine maintenance.
- **Discussion:**
 - Responsibilities for picking up and managing take-back bins need to be determined.
 - Consideration of alternative locations for bins, such as pharmacies, in addition to MPD and FEMS stations to leverage District-funded locations.

Presentation: “Family Treatment Court Program” by Alice Stevens of OAG

- **Summary:** Presentation will be attached to minutes.
- **Key Points:**
 - Discussion on Family Treatment Court Program that supports parents and legal caretakers with substance use disorders to achieve and maintain sobriety and safely and promptly reunify with their children.
- **Discussion:**
 - Opportunities for Commission support and funding for Family Treatment Court (FTC) programs and services.

Presentation: “OPVEE®: Opioid Overdose Reversal Medication” by Indivior Representative

- **Summary:** Due to proprietary reasons, the presentation was not shared with the Commission. Additional materials were requested.
- **Key Points:**
 - OPVEE® was FDA-approved in May 2023.
 - Over 108 successful reversals have been recorded using OPVEE®, with no precipitated withdrawal symptoms.
 - OPVEE® is particularly effective in reversing fentanyl overdoses compared to other opioids.
- **Discussion:**
 - Challenges in education and advocacy to update regulatory (standing order) changes in the District to utilize OPVEE®.

Presentation: Dr. Tuere Marshall, Recovery High School

- **Summary:** Presentation will be attached to the minutes.
- **Key Points:**
 - The urgent need for a Recovery High School in DC, particularly in Wards 7 and 8.
 - Addressing systemic racism as a barrier to adopting the Recovery High School model.
 - Collaboration with DC Public School teachers, counselors, principals, administrators, rehabilitation centers, treatment facilities, and DC courts as ways to reach students battling addiction.
- **Discussion:**
 - Jackie Bowens made a motion for the Commission to endorse the Recovery High School model, with the understanding that the sub-committee will present recommendations on programs, best practices, and a full proposal to the Commission by next convening. Patricia Quinn seconded the motion.
 - The Commission approved the motion by unanimous vote.

Opioid Abatement Strategic Impact Grant Update

- Dr. Orlando Barker of the Office of Opioid Abatement presented the current budget for the Opioid Abatement Fund and introduced the Opioid Abatement Strategic Impact Grant (SIG). The full report is available.

Public Comment

- Janice Ferebee and Judy Ashburn provided public comments in-person.

Adjournment

- Chair Jackson adjourned the meeting at 11:26 a.m.