



**January 27, 2021 Meeting Minutes**  
**Meeting held via Zoom**

The meeting began with a welcome to all by Janice Rush. Jessica Duft was unable to attend. Everyone was asked to please mute their audio until you would like to ask a question or make an announcement at the end of the meeting. There 55 people in attendance.

**Guest Speaker**

Ryan D. Lawyer, DEA provided an extensive presentation on Fentanyl including history, distribution, potency and challenges of law enforcement. Key points:

- Fentanyl use exploded in US in 2017.
- Most Fentanyl is made in China and brought to US by Cartels.
- Transportation of Fentanyl (and other substances) is done through USPS, UPS and FedEx; unknown to the carriers.

The PowerPoint presentation will be available.

**General Business:**

The new website is up and active. Please take a look and send any updates to Karen Tilashalski at [ktilashalski@chestnut.org](mailto:ktilashalski@chestnut.org). Many thanks to everyone who worked on the website workgroup.

Nominations are open for the Executive Committee positions of Recording Secretary and Vice Chair. The elections will be March 2021. If you are interested in serving on the Executive Committee, please contact a current Executive Committee member.

Karen Tilashalski provided an update on overdose deaths in Madison and St. Clair County. Kelly Rogers added information about the cost of opiate related deaths in Madison County for the death investigation. Kelly will share his spreadsheet with Karen for the Partnership.

**Workgroups:**

**Education and Prevention**

- Education and Prevention workgroup is co-chaired by Kristin Grant and LaKendra Moffett. The workgroup is working on an assessment. The February meeting will discuss the assessment and moving forward on the Facebook page updates, continuing the work of the Vaping Subcommittee's toolkit and data collection from parent survey posted on Facebook. If you are interested in the education and prevention work group, please contact Kristin at [kmgrant@chestnut.org](mailto:kmgrant@chestnut.org) and let her know.

**MERC (formerly Recovery and Treatment)**

- The workgroup members are working on finding a chair or co-chairs. The workgroup meets regularly and established a Family Support Line for family and friends who have loved ones with substance use/misuse challenges. Please reach out to Karen if you are interested in this workgroup at [ktilashalski@chestnut.org](mailto:ktilashalski@chestnut.org) or the workgroup email at [treatmentandrecoveryworkgroup@gmail.com](mailto:treatmentandrecoveryworkgroup@gmail.com)

**Law Enforcement**



- **Law Enforcement** workgroup will continue to meet virtually. Chris Singleton, Madison County State's Attorney's Office, will be the chair of the workgroup. The next DEA Take Back Day will be April 24. Any law enforcement organization who is interested in partnering with DEA please contact Brian Hudson at 751-362-7534.

#### **Announcements**

- Chestnut Health Systems has two open positions.
- Rodney Strong, CenterPoint Hospital has a program focused on veterans-Healing for Heroes.
- DEA Take Back Day in April and is looking for law enforcement partners. Please contact Brian Hudson at 571-362-7534.

#### **Reminders**

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 24 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. The meetings will be virtual until further notice.** If there are any additions or corrections, please let me know. Denise Strehlow at [denise.strehlow@bjc.org](mailto:denise.strehlow@bjc.org) or 314-580-3767.