

SUPP Coalition Meeting May 16, 2023

Attendance: Chief Warlick, Sally Farrell, Rudi Bottse, Erin Gray, Tory Gamage, Laura Pratt, Jason Warlick, Peter Bruun, Mya Krawic, Drew Himmelstein, Michaela Schoeffler, Liz Kennedy, Tristian Rowe, Amy Bedard, Larissa Hanna, Will Matteson

HLC Updates:

- Larissa Hannan selected as new Director of Healthy Lincoln County! "If you, or your organization, want to connect, SUPP related or not, I'd love to have that conversation – I'm always thinking of ways to strengthen our community partners so reach out with anything!"
- Looking for potential partners for a venue for OUT Maine – holding an ally training in Lincoln County sometime in the fall – half day and full day trainings – any ideas or thoughts please reach out to Will – would also like to do specific provider trainings with Lincoln Health
- Currently working with the Lincoln theater to present *Our American Life* – About a Philadelphia family dealing with substance use and how it affects them in different ways – looking to bring to the county for a showing.

716 Candles update: is an initiative contracted by HLC for a series of events for Overdose Awareness Day – challenges stigma, embraces compassion, and brings awareness around substance use and the Opioid Epidemic.

- Just launched "Lights of Lincoln County" photo and story project to illuminate all the various ways people are affected by substance use.
 - [Lights of Lincoln County Nomination Form](#)
 - [For additional information](#)
- The planning process for *716 Candles* is being transitioned to site specific teams – Waldoboro, Wiscasset, Boothbay, Boothbay harbor.
- 4 different meetings – people only need to attend one – great opportunity to jump in or anyone you know interested in jumping in the meeting will have overview of project and what is needed for each site teams. Meeting Dates and Times:

Wednesday, 5/17, at 6 P.M.

Thursday, 5/18, at 4 P.M.

Friday, 5/19, at 12 P.M.

Saturday, 5/20, at 9 A.M.

Presentation by Laura Pratt of Better Life Partners –

You can reach me at Laura.Pratt@betterlifepartners.com or 617-312-4326

Our website is www.betterlifepartners.com

- Better Life Partners was originated in NH- just started about a 1 ½ years ago in Maine and has been growing rapidly due to need for services.
- Cannot do any life emergency issues or pain management.
- We partner w/all organizations, not restricted to recovery – shelters, food banks, businesses- provide the resources to collaborate with non-recovery orientated organizations.
- Unfortunately, currently we do not work with youth under 18.

- What is offered:

- Harm reduction low-barrier treatment organization.
- Same day treatment (which is unheard of) – for substance use disorder.
- Just started doing mental health but primary focus is SUD w/MH as secondary.
- Partners with existing organizations and offer support where they can.
- Help with getting services quickly and rapidly to folks looking for substance use treatment.
- Offer MAT (Medical Assisted Treatment)– tool that works for some but not for all – same day access available from Better Life Partners.
- Care coordination – like case management, can provide resources, and cover the entire state of Maine
- Designed for the Rural Counties – Mainly telehealth
- Also offer virtual responsive care – mimics primary care services – member with substance use disorder and they need an antidepressant, or antibiotic - can give it to them that day if unable to see a doctor.
- Opened 7 days a week.
- Take all insurances – including MaineCare – if the person doesn't have funds please still refer and will help with accessing financial assistance.

Coalition Summer Planning:

No coalition meeting July – but there will be *716 Candles* planning meetings if interested.

Meeting for August/September – looking to hold meeting at a different location – is anyone interested in hosting a meeting, or any ideas of where to hold a meeting?

Suggestion: Mohegan Island - one of the most remote islands in the coast and is a part of Lincoln County – could be a way to try and make some connections within that community – feel free to reach out to Will if you are interested in helping to plan this and get representation from the island.

Please be thinking about the summer and possible structured activities for the kids that we can collaborate on!

Other Business/Upcoming Events:

Hep C/HIV Screening and Harm Reduction event in partnership with Maine General, Maine OPTIONS, and CLC YMCA– at the CLC YMCA June 22nd from 11:30am – 3:30pm

Next Meeting: Will or Amy will send out an updated meeting invite for June.

