

TOWN OF SHARON, VT
Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee (OSAC) Meeting
5114 Route 14, Sharon, VT 05065
Wednesday, April 16, 2025, 5:15 pm
Baxter Memorial Library

MEETING NOTES

- 1. Call meeting to order 5:25 – present: Deb, Eileen, Dee, Shana, Ella**
 - a. We discussed the negative effects of federal funding and staff reductions.
- 2. Accept minutes from 3/12/25 meeting**
- 3. Review allowed uses for the Opioid Settlement Fund and align with current objectives** - from handout sent via email by Deb.
- 4. Review funding changes for community partners and current funding for the OS Fund.** Deb circulated a paper outlining OSAC review of funding received to date and from whom.
 - a. We may receive more money over 14 years. We have received the forecasted funds to date.
 - b. We need to report only if we have mis-spent the money.
 - c. Discussion: We should get \$ into the hands of the people that serve our population through subgrants. Ex: Turning Point, HIV HCV Resource Center, Listen Center, Clara Martin Center, Family Place, Sharon Elementary and TSA.
 - d. Other ideas include some funding for a social worker for food shelf to help clients sign up for 3 Squares, and/or Dena with Sharon Health Initiative – funds for education.
 - e. Ella: Is there an interest in a community needs assessment? What is the status of the community? What are needs, assets and resources? Data can be collected from NRBS, schools, police, and qualitative data with a combination of a survey and focus groups. Community health surveys are run by hospitals every three years. Top 3 need revealed from DHMC survey were food & housing, access to primary care and community connection/belonging.
 - f. Prevention education – what works? Scare tactics like DARE, mock car accidents don't work for prevention. For a presentation with people who have gone through addiction, it may be helpful to people already using, but not for kids. Ella has lots of curricula & resources on prevention for schools. Shana likes the idea of programing for local schools. Deb thought it might be wise to blend prevention into a school curriculum to continue over time.

- g. Dee suggested we could draft an RFP or introductory letter to partners with a range of grant amounts. Can ask: what types of services would you use this funding for? Ella can be a resource to answer questions but can't make a decision on who to award to. Deb suggests awarding \$6,000 with grants of between \$1-2,000. We would send RFPs directly to suggested agencies and providers and also advertise in the Herald and list serves.
 - h. Separately, we could have a harm reduction workshop at the library.
- 5. Next steps**
- a. Ella will forward an RFP template to Deb.
 - b. Ella will bring more Narcan to the town and library.
 - c. A harm reduction presentation has been scheduled at the library Tuesday, September 16th at 6:00pm. Ella will talk about prevention, harm reduction, substance use, with a call to action and resources.
- 6. Schedule the next meeting – Wednesday, May 14th at 5:15**
- 7. Adjourn 7:15**

Contact Person: Deb Jones, Facilitator, at treasurer@sharonvt.net or 802-763-8268 x3