

## Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention

### Safe Disposal Work Group Meeting Minutes

May 10, 2023 – via Zoom

#### **Present:**

Sunny Linnebur, Lynette Myers, Co-chairs

Aminta Bhutani, DEA

Kaleigh Kessel, CDPHE

Stephanie Salkin, BHA

Jack Dwyer, Deterra Systems

Renie Dugwyler, Jefferson County Sheriff's Department

Consortium: Jose Esquibel, Gina Olberding, Hilary Bryant, Kristin Carpenter, Michael Davidson,

Eric Barker, Rosemarie MacDowell

**Absent:** See attached list

Co-Chair Lynette Myers called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

A motion was made to approve the March 2023 meeting minutes. Motion approved.

#### **Medication Take-Back Program Update (Lynette Myers):**

There are now 177 collection sites in Colorado. Collections are increasing, with 280,000 pounds collected since the program began in 2017.

Site visits have been conducted at 82 locations, with 70 of those sites showing some compliance issues, i.e., missing training and certificate of destruction records. Site visits to the remaining 95 locations are in process. Additional kiosks will be placed in areas of need. The DEA website lists all of the collection locations. Location updates are almost immediate.

\$400,000 in funding has been allocated to market the collection program. The campaign will include social media, toolkits, and TV/Radio.

Jose Esquibel suggested outreach to specific targets such as county sheriffs and organizations such as CALPHO. Lynette suggested reach out to schools. Further marketing discussions will include Hilary Bryant and Michael Davidson.

#### **Sharps Collection Program Development:**

Plans are underway to locate additional collection kiosks in areas where discarded sharps are found in communities, particularly parks. Currently, there are 18 sharps collection sites in Colorado. 10 more sites are planned.

Lynette reviewed collection figures. Contamination in some areas remains a problem. Placing garbage collection containers next to kiosks may be helpful.

Mail back prepaid and quart-size containers are being provided to Medicare and Medicaid recipients and to the homebound. 6,458 containers have been distributed over the past two years. Approximately 19 percent have been returned.

Work group members discussed sharps marketing and education plans, placement of kiosks in homeless shelters, and mobile sharps containers. The Canon City Police Department has added sharps containers in their units.

A copy of the presentation is attached to the minutes.

**DEA Update (Aminta Bhutani):**

The latest take-back figures were lower than normal; however, 10,000 pounds of medications were collected. The weather may have been a factor in the collection levels. The largest collections were in Colorado Springs and Douglas County.

**Safe Storage and Disposal Flyer (Hilary Bryant):**

Hilary reviewed a draft of the proposed flyer, which will include a call to action QR code (with a link to product purchase sites), suggested disposal options, and where they can be purchased. The work group will be working with a graphic designer. The AG's office would like to focus on safe medication storage this year. Hilary asked work group members for their comments and suggestions.

**Comments:**

- Consider a larger font for seniors
- List disposal products/options
- Determine whether or not to include specific website addresses, such as Amazon and/or Shopify, or state that products are available for purchase online.
- Possibly list product manufacturers on the Consortium website

The brochure may feature a locking prescription bottle and other locking options or just state "check your local retailer." A disclaimer stating that the Consortium is not promoting particular products will be included.

Other storage issues discussed: access by young children (Jose Esquibel mentioned that there is a group addressing this), storage options for marijuana retail locations, hospice organizations working in homes.

**Other Updates:**

Eric Barker said that Delta County would like to have a disposal drop box for their Hotchkiss and Paonia locations. Lynette will follow up with Lindsey Simbeye.

Michael Davidson will send an email to Lynette regarding a collection setup video put together several years ago by Greg Fabisiak.

Jen Place spoke about the new employer Recovery Friendly Workplace Work Group and the possibility of placing storage and disposal information in workplaces.

Jack Dwyer said that a SAMHSA application for a strategic prevention framework grant is open until June 5<sup>th</sup>. [https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/sp-23-003?utm\\_source=SAMHSA&utm\\_campaign=1fef6c547f-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2023\\_04\\_03\\_04\\_50&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_-1fef6c547f-%5BLIST\\_EMAIL\\_ID%5D](https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/sp-23-003?utm_source=SAMHSA&utm_campaign=1fef6c547f-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2023_04_03_04_50&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-1fef6c547f-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID%5D)

Jose mentioned the recently issued DEA provider training requirement guidance.\*

**Adjournment/Next Meeting:**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:38 a.m. The next work group meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 12, 2023 from 8:30 to 10 a.m.

Attachment: Work group roster, Program presentation

\*Updates to Requirements for Buprenorphine Prescribing. While no longer needing a waiver from the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), clinicians will still be required to register with the DEA to prescribe controlled medications. Beginning on June 27, the DEA registration will require applicants (both new and renewing) to affirm they have completed a new, one-time, eight-hour training. Exceptions for the new training requirement are practitioners who are board certified in addiction medicine or addiction psychiatry, and those who graduated from a medical, dental, physician assistant, or advanced practice nursing school in the U.S. within five years of June 27, 2023.