

**Substance Abuse Committee Meeting**  
**Monday, January 23, 2017**

Attendees: Jenette O’Keefe - Co-chair, Shawn Buckner, Suzanne Somerville, Wes Sanchez, Tom Walker and Steve Pottmyer (guests – John Maloney and CFSD representative)

Absent: Shauna Alonge - Chair, Craig Dabney, Chris Bennett, Len Fisher, Jay Ternent, Keith Whyte, Lonnie Ford

Meeting was held at Sequoia 3, Room 112. It was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

I. Introductions: There were two guests and a guest speaker. No new members.

II. Corporal Bane of the Arlington Police Department gave a presentation on substance abuse in Arlington from the police perspective. He discussed the opiate epidemic and shared some staggering statistics.

**2016 end of year stats**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Incidents (Total)</b>	<b>Overdoses</b>	<b>Non-Fatal Overdoses</b>	<b>Fatal Overdoses</b>
2014	No Record	10	6	4
2015	73	10	6	4
2016	121	44	33	11
<b>Percent increase Between 2015 &amp; 2016</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>340%</b>	<b>450%</b>	<b>175%</b>

\*In 2016, heroin arrests, for the 1<sup>st</sup> time, have surpassed cocaine arrests in Arlington County.

\*Across the country, heroin/opioid deaths have passed MVA and gun deaths.

\*The national fatal overdose rate is approximately 129 deaths per day. Virginia ranks 20<sup>th</sup>.

\*91 of the 121 heroin incidents involved non-Arlington residents.

\*24 of the 44 heroin overdose incidents involved Arlington residents.

\*9 of the 11 fatal heroin overdoses were Arlington residents.

This led to a discussion about a joint project between SA and the police. A stakeholder’s group is being developed. The first meeting will be held on Thursday, January 26, at Sequoia 1. A number of key stakeholders have been invited to come together to address the opiate epidemic. Thus far over 30 people have indicated they will attend to include the police Deputy Chief and several other officers, the Sheriff and several staff, five representatives from VHC, all three probation offices, the SA vendors, several DHS divisions will be represented including child and family, public health and BHD. It is the hope that this group will be able to develop clear initiative to address the opiate epidemic.

III. Chair Report: Jenette stated that as of now, SA does not have any priorities identified for the larger committee. She suggested that Suzanne write up an explanation of the ongoing program evaluation and how that will result in developing priorities.

IV. Acting Bureau Chief update – Suzanne discussed the status of the program evaluation. The staff surveys have been completed with a response of 255 from across the Department of Human Services. Client surveys will be administered in groups by Suzanne. She has begun this. Structured interviews will be conducted with over 30 Stakeholders. These are being scheduled at this time.

V. Old Business – reviewed schedule. It was decided that we will have the joint meeting with the Mental Health committee on March 27, at 6 p.m. At this time, the plan is to postpone the meeting with Child and Family Services' committee.

Meeting ended at 8:50 p.m.

Next meeting is February 27 at 7:00 p.m. at Sequoia 3 – Room 115. This will be a Business Meeting/Community Outreach Discussion.