



Cumberland County Public Health Department

C-FORT Minutes August 19th, 2025

1. Introductions

- **Review minutes and make suggestions**
- **Use chat box/sign in sheet to enter name and agency**

2. Opioid Data & Partner Updates

- **Review of Overdose Data, ED Visits Data, Fentanyl Report, *Louis Leake***
 - ED visits have had a 12% overall decrease in the past year.
 - From May 2025 to June 2025, there were 7 more opioid overdose ED visits.
 - There is a higher rate of overdose ED visits in white males age 25-64.
 - In NC there were 892 overdose visits January- June 2025 compared to 1023 January - June 2024.
 - Cumberland County is trending upwards in more overdose ED visits.
- **Recovery Housing Support, *Lisa Mack***
 - YTD Jan – August financially assisted 25 clients. Out of the 25, 7 clients have been assisted twice. 3 requests are on hold to figure out monthly fees.
 - If the provider asks for second month's assistance, let Lisa know if clients actively receive treatment or are looking for stable employment.
- **Community Paramedic CFV, *Tara Tucker***
 - No updates.
- **CTC Opioid Settlement, *Louis Leake***
 - 128 individuals assisted with transportation, 90 assisted with temporary housing, 29 unhoused individuals assisted with tents and other provisions and supplies.
 - 21 individuals have been assisted with utilities.
 - 176 individuals have been assisted food and groceries or connected to resources.
 - 60 individuals have been assisted with prescription fees or other medical supplies/costs.
 - 83 individuals have been connected to phone services and 5 individuals have received funding for classes at FTCC.
 - 679 individuals have received assistance with job readiness.

- **CCJS Opioid Settlement, *Courtney McCollum***
 - Re-entry is having a local re-entry council meeting with strategic partners on August 26th at DSS from 11am-12pm.
 - NC Works has partnered with them to have Re-entry Expo and resource fair at FTCC Tony Rand Student Center on September 4th, 10am – 2pm. A flyer will be disseminated.
 - Currently in the process of hiring a Family Opioid Treatment Coordinator and hope to have on board mid-September.
- **Healing from Within, *Heather Sroka***
 - 13 active participants in MAT working with Wellpath medical team.
 - Increased referrals to adult drug court and work court.
- **Mid-Carolina Regional Council, *Barbara White – Regina Smith***
 - Partnering with Alliance to bring mental health first aid to youth and adults.
 - Partnering with The Group Theory and will have a support group for grandparents that bring kids to that organization.
 - Partnering with heal holistic to do 6-month session for kinship caregivers that will provide tools for self-care.
 - Youth Mental Health First Aid Training: 8/20/25 at Westover Rec Center.
 - NC Certified Peer Support Specialist (CPSS) Training: August 25th – 30th at Mid Carolina.
 - 31 individuals have been CPSS trained so far, 12 are working in caregiving.
 - Another CPSS training will be on October 25th- 30th.
- **Myrover Reese Opioid Settlement, *Ivan Pride***
 - Currently serving 6 men & 2 women. 26 overall.
 - Looking for alternative places to send clients:
 - Ron Barnes Center for Recovery and Bridge to Tomorrow.
 - MOUD update meeting scheduled with life net services, so it can be a one stop shop for clients.
 - 1st Annual Charity Golf Tournament- October 18th at Gates Four Golf and Country Club.
 - All proceeds go to help the recover community at Myrover Reese Fellowship Homes.
 - Myrover Reese 64th Annual Celebration - October 25th.
- **NCHRC Opioid Settlement/ SIM Taskforce, *Charlton Roberson***
 - There is no opioid settlement grant data to report.
 - From May – July outreach workers had 1,040 encounters with individuals in the community.

- Partnered with Village Pharmacy to do SSP outreach in Grays Creek,
- SIM: 56 referrals for housing, support, transportation, etc.
- Those qualified for SIM must have criminal justice and substance abuse nexus and must participate in SIM taskforce.

- **Recovery Resource Center, *Regina Williams***
 - There have been 267 participants since the last CFORT meeting:
 - 11 participants in smart recovery.
 - 27 participants in women for wellness.
 - 2 bus passes were distributed.
 - 8 participants in Recovery Dharma.
 - 4 uber transportation rides scheduled.
 - 3 naloxone training participants.
 - Marius Maximus Social and Emotional Learning case management: 2 participants
 - Leona, peer support specialist, met with 6 clients.
 - 2 needed rental/housing assistance and were referred to Connected Care and SW.
 - 1 client needed linkage service and was connected to the Day Resource Center.
 - Wound care kit making – over 100 kits were made.
 - The Recovery Resource Center Partner meeting was July 25th.
 - Leona will be doing Smart Recovery for Adults at 12pm every Wednesday.
 - Celebrating Recovery Awareness Month on September 5th, 11th and 16th: there will be events from 11-2

- **RI, *Naomi Marshall***
 - No update.

- **FSU Xylazine Research, *Dr. Luo***
 - The surveys were distributed at the end of June.
 - 360 surveys collected.
 - Drug samples are slower. Applied for a no-cost one-year extension to continue research.
 - Greg is individually collecting drug samples.
 - Don't publicly post survey link/qr code. Those who complete the survey will receive e-gift cards.
 - Greg has tablets to be used in the field for those to complete surveys on the spot.
 - 30 samples have been collected so far. New presence, medetomidine, has been seen in samples.
 - Withdrawal effects are similar to Xanax.

- Information is public facing on UNC Street Drug Lab website.
- **CCDPH, New Settlement Funds, Dr. Green**
 - A new round of opioid settlement funds will be presented at the commissioners' meeting on August 25th.
 - The current settlement funding ends September 30th.
 - Working on Option B strategies which are: CIT coordinator and Opioid Prevention Education in Schools.

3. Overdose Awareness Update, *Jessie Garner*

- **Naloxone Saturation Phase One (Complete)**
 - August 4th: Narcan was distributed to 63 individuals and 34 businesses on Bragg Blvd.
 - August 11th: Narcan was distributed to 20 businesses and 60 individuals on Cedar Creek Rd.
 - August 18th: Numbers have not been finalized.
 - Phase Two: Hope Mills, Spring Lake and Grays Creek focus.
- **Awareness Activities Planned (RRC, Ft Bragg, LEEM, FSU, MU)**
 - Recovery Resource Center Overdose Trainings on Mondays at 10am and Thursdays at 1pm.
 - Naloxone Training on August 27th, 10am -12pm at LEEM Center in Spring Lake.
- **Memorial Wall: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DKY376Z>**
 - Collecting photos to create a memorial wall at Recovery Resource Center for individuals who lost their lives to overdose.
 - Memorials may also be used for awareness campaigns.

4. Collective Impact, *Dr. Green*

- **Review shared vision statement**
 - It was suggested to change to “CFORT is committed to identifying **and implementing innovative strategies** that will impact the opioid issue...”
 - Specific budget numbers will be added.

5. Next Steps & Announcements

- Camp Rockfish <https://www.wunc.org/term/news/2025-08-05/summer-camp-heal-kids-mental-health-substance-use> – Recognized by NPR and UNC. Casey is no longer with us in Camp Rockfish.

- CFORT App facilitates naloxone requests, training registration, events, etc. at this link: cfort.cumberlandcountync.gov/login
- Overdose Awareness Day Planning Committee August 20th, at 1pm, virtual, email tblount@cumberlandcountync.gov
- Perinatal Taskforce meeting scheduled for August 26th at 2pm (hybrid)
- SIM Taskforce meeting scheduled for September 8th at 3pm (virtual)
- Trauma informed response within CJS, September 30th 8:30 AM to 1PM
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SKKSX8>
- Any announcements?
 - Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) Conference: Sept 4th will be all-day conference at UNC
 - Recover out Loud September 6th at Fuller Rec Center
 - OCS Behavioral Health Summit planned for Spring 2026. An interest survey will be sent out to see what topics would like to see addressed at the summit.
 - Ethics and Motivational Interview Training on 8/22/25 from 11-2
 - <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1533795747369?aff=oddtcreator>
 - Heal Holistic Support Group is a free support group every Wednesday at 7pm: Auricular Acupuncture and Reiki, Kambo, Drumming for Wellness, Meditation
 - Every Thursday at 1:30pm at Recovery Resource Center is Recovery Dharma
 - Balm In Gilead Family Ministries: Useful for various resources