

MINUTES

Purpose: Engage Okaloosa County community members in a health improvement process through an open, two-way dialogue to reduce the impact of harmful events such as pedestrian injuries, older adult falls, and substance use and to reduce the housing burden.

Attendees: Emily Pickens, Florida Department of Health in Okaloosa County (DOH-Okaloosa); Amy Cormier, DOH-Okaloosa; JB Whitten, City of Crestview; Robert Bage, Fort Walton Beach Police Department; Greg Cain, Okaloosa County EMS; Jason Fulghum, Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office (OCSO); Autumn McAllister, Lakeview Center, Inc.; Sheila Fitzgerald, Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioners; Ashley Bailey, OCSO; Jennifer Edwards, West Florida AHEC; Tim Gibson, City of Fort Walton Beach; Brian Muhlbach, FDOT; Fauzita Conway, White Wilson Medical Center; Devon Ravine, City of Fort Walton Beach; Tim Szuch, Bridgeway Center, Inc.; Andrew Kindle, Okaloosa County EMS; Jessica Trimboli, OCSO.

Welcome & Introductions – Emily Pickens

- Emily Pickens opened the meeting and welcomed attendees.
- Emily reviewed the meeting's purpose and agenda. Community Engagement Surveys from the previous meeting were positive, citing good collaboration.
- Meeting minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and approved.

Action Plan Updates – JB Whitten & Robert Bage

Pedestrian Safety Month Town Hall/Listening Session

- Mayor JB Whitten opened discussion regarding the development of a Pedestrian Safety Month Town Hall. He shared the purpose would be to solicit feedback from the community regarding traffic, pedestrian safety, and infrastructure priorities.
- After discussion, attendees agreed revisit planning this event in the summer due to other events and demands. The session will be held closer to Pedestrian Safety Month.

Opioid Educational Series

- Mayor Whitten shared the 2023 Drugs in Deceased Persons Annual Report was recently published. He shared key insights and trends showing a reduction of substance use deaths across Florida. Emily will share the report via email.
- Chief Bage provided an overview of the Educational Series purpose. It will be a smaller event than International Overdose Awareness Day and seeks to provide greater detailed data tailored to key decision makers and leaders in the community.
- Sessions will take place Tuesday March 11th and Thursday March 13th, one week prior to National Drugs and Alcohol Facts Week. Emily stated she secured the Crestview Community Center and is waiting to hear back from Crosspoint in Niceville.
- Attendees discussed details for a 90-minute agenda:
 - Testimonial (15 minutes)
 - Narcan training (10 min)
 - Data panel (30 min)
 - Solutions: POST demonstration (25 min)
 - Introduction/Closing (10 minutes)
- Remaining time will go to audience Q&A if applicable.

- An event moderator will be needed. Laura Hussey from WEAR Channel 3 will moderate the panel. Captain Cain, Dr. Olesky, and Chief Bage were suggested as panelists. Andrew Kindle and Tim Szuch will complete the POST demo and Narcan training. Marqwela with Saving Grace Women's Home will be asked to provide a testimonial.
- Emily will develop a social media toolkit for partners to share coordinated messaging including Good Samaritan Laws, One Pill Can Kill, Narcan locations, and local data.

Housing Workgroup Updates

- Emily shared there is a Lunch & Learn Thursday January 16th at Crosspoint.
- Chief Bage shared progress on Community Land Trusts. A one-page document is being developed to share with municipalities to garner support prior to presenting to the Board of County Commissioners in April.
- The group is planning a Housing Summit 2.0 for the summer.
- A Housing Fair will be held at the Construction Junction Event in April.

Action Items – JB Whitten & Robert Bage

- Emily will share the Drugs in Deceased Persons Annual report via email.
- Emily will secure a Niceville speaker and confirm speakers. Jason will ask Laura Hussey from WEAR to moderate the panel.
- Emily will draft an educational media campaign to present at the next meeting. She will also develop an agenda and flyer to market the event.

Closing – Emily Pickens

- Emily shared details for a substance Use training on January 28th at DOH-Okaloosa from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. She will email details for registration.
- The OCHIP Celebration is January 30, 2025. The link to RSVP was sent via email.
- Emily thanked attendees for participating and asked them to complete the community engagement survey to provide feedback.

Next Meeting – Tuesday, February 11th at 10:00 a.m. at DOH-Okaloosa

Action Items	Owners	Deadline	Status
Secure Niceville location for March training	Emily Pickens	February 11 th	In Progress
Ask Laura Hussey to moderate panel at event	Jason Fulghum	February 11 th	Complete
Develop educational media campaign for event	Emily Pickens	February 11 th	In Progress
Develop agenda and event marketing materials	Emily Pickens	February 11 th	In Progress
Share Drugs in Deceased Persons Annual Report via email	Emily Pickens	February 11 th	Complete