



**Erie County**  
**Opiate Epidemic**  
***Task Force***

**Quarterly Meeting**

**November 12, 2019**  
**Treatment Workgroup**

**Chair:**

**Michael Ranney, LMHC**  
Commissioner of Mental Health

**Co-Chair:**

**Julie Gutowski, LMHC**  
VP of Clinical Operations & Services,  
Spectrum Health & Human services





## Treatment Provider Workgroup

- The work group continues to meet monthly with representation of treatment and prevention providers, family members, peers, hospitals, treatment court representation, managed care representation, Erie County staff as well as representation from NYS OASAS.
- Meetings are face to face and/or conference calls.
- Access to treatment has been priority, specifically to MAT's



# Medication Assisted Treatment in Erie County Standard of care for OUD

- **Methadone**
  - 5 clinic sites
  - Sister's in northern EC
  - BestSelf in southern EC
    - Created 199 new slots and minimized waitlists
  - Within the city
    - Alba de Vida
    - Pathways
    - DART
- **Buprenorphine slot capacity:**
  - 2017-710
  - 2018-3,210
  - 2019- 4,395 [6 fold increase]
  - Sublocade use
- Challenge is available providers to prescribe
- Despite this, larger agencies have 800-950 buprenorphine patients
- Endeavor-MAT for Adolescent/young adults to age 25
- Vivitrol is used on a limited basis in the EC Holding Center



## **Criminal Justice Collaboratives**

- ❑ Crisis Intervention Team grant-training for law enforcement that includes substance use disorder education & targets services for veterans. Further enhances existing CIT work done with Crisis Services & local law enforcement.**
- ❑ Endeavor has a licensed Behavioral Health/SUD professional is partnering with Town of Cheektowaga & Cheektowaga Police CIT & the Response After OD Pilot.**
- ❑ MISSION CJ grant to enhance and expand care management services to the Opioid Intervention Court.**
- ❑ Jail Substance Use Disorder services-specifically targets sentenced inmates at the Correctional Facility with psych-ed., CBI, & Motivational Interviewing to identify, educate and link to treatment. Provided by BestSelf & ECDMH.**
- ❑ Service Link Stop-resource center to assist inmates with behavioral health needs leaving custody reintegrate into the community. Embedded in county offices at Forensic MH Service. Soft opening Nov/Dec 2019. Second Chance Act grant awarded.**



## **Justice-Involved Collaboratives**

- **Save the Michael's of the World continues to assist drug court participants to access treatment & provides transportation to outpatient & inpatient care.**
- **BestSelf/NYS DOCCS Collaboration Fall 2019**
  - **Outpatient treatment services to inmates on temporary & post release.**
- **Family Treatment Drug Court- brings care management provided by BestSelf and wraps services around the entire family with the goal to keep the family together.**



# **Increasing Integration of Behavioral Health and Primary Care**

- **Spectrum Health & Human Services/Gilead Science initiative.**
- **• OUD hub and spoke with Horizon & community primary care providers. Partnering with 6 PCP offices to offer MAT options.**
- **Collaboration with Buffalo Matters to provide MAT at outpatient clinics**
- **OASAS funded Early Intervention Services with Evergreen**
  - **HIV rapid testing @ 32 SUD treatment sites**
  - **Hep C testing**
  - **Referral to treatment if testing is positive**
  - **Could include telemedicine such as the service available with Dr. Talal's project**
- **EC Treatment providers have over 90 MD's, PA's, and NP's focusing on physical health and 100 + RN's & LPN's.**
- **Many are conducting onsite blood draws as part of screening for communicable diseases. Assess & monitor health conditions & screen for communicable diseases; Hep C, HIV. Referred to medical treatment as needed.**



# **Increasing Integration of Behavioral Health and Primary Care**

- **Spectrum's Holistic Health Project**
  - Focuses on physical health needs of individuals in the community with BH needs that are not linked &/or engaged with PCP.
- **BestSelf & FQHC Collaboration to Expand MAT in the Community**
  - Collaboration with Neighborhood Health Center (NHC)
  - Increases the number of MAT prescribers in Primary Care
  - Provides support to NHC prescribers and patients
  - Utilizes peer services to engage patients in primary and behavioral health care
- **Value Network**
  - Uber Health Transportation-transportation to 1<sup>st</sup> BH appt. after hospital release
  - Maternal Health Project-enhanced services to address BH needs & support pregnant women or those who recently gave birth
  - PCP Collaboration Project-use of technology to better coordinate care between BH & PCP.



## Other Initiatives & Opportunities

- ❑ **Critical Time Intervention Supported Housing-BestSelf for those leaving intensive residential treatment. Facilitates community transition and supports independence in the community.**
- ❑ **BestSelf Clubwest-Provides after hours support for any 18 & above, 7 days a week & holidays. Available to all clients in Value Network Beginning September 2019. Offering: group fitness, music therapy, arts & crafts, meditation**
  - ❑ **Clients can also get a short-term medication refill**
  - ❑ **Talk with a supportive person**
  - ❑ **Have a safe, quiet place**
- ❑ **Prosocial Peer Group for Youth & Young Adults-Spectrum**
  - ❑ **Community integration via youth peer facilitated activities**
- ❑ **Mobile Clinic Services by Spectrum in rural areas of Erie County**
  - ❑ **SUD care; to include MAT**
  - ❑ **Peer services**
  - ❑ **Telepsychiatry**





**ERIE COUNTY ADDICTION HOTLINE  
831-7007**

**Operated by Crisis Services 24/7**

- Provides information, referral, linkage to treatment and support.
- Education on MATs & Motivational Interviewing is woven into phone counselor script to facilitate referrals for callers.
- Integrate into Substance Use Disorder Treatment system
- Call volume since implementation 8/2016: 6691
- Call volume 2019: 1214



Thank you for  
your support  
& dedication

