

**SCA ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**MARCH 22, 2021**  
**CONFERENCE CALL VIA LIFESIZE**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Ken Ralph  
Ken Marzinko  
Brian Frey  
Commissioner Craig Lehman

**GUEST:**

Eric Kennel

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Rick Kastner  
Ashley Reese

**A. Welcome and Introductions**

Rick welcomed the participants.

**B. Minutes**

The minutes of the January 11, 2021 SCA Advisory Board meeting were reviewed. Rick announced that the year at the top of the minutes must change from 2020 to 2021. With this one correction, the minutes were approved.

**C. Office Functions**

Rick informed the Board that the Drug and Alcohol Commission Office is still functioning like it was in January. The eleven employees are broken up into three different pods. Each employee works three days remotely and two days in the office. Rick and CC are in the office every day. If an employee comes out of their office space, employees must wear masks. The office had two people test positive for COVID in the past year. The two people did not spread it in office and both cases were months apart. Once every employee has a chance to get the COVID vaccination, then staff will be able to come back to the office. Fiscal will work remotely from home two days a week and work three days in the office.

**D. HealthChoices Update**

Rick informed the Board that the HealthChoices Project is going well. Lancaster County has 98,000 citizens covered by Medicaid for health insurance. Medicaid covers Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol treatment services. The project that the D&A Office is involved with is HealthChoice CAP 5, which provides over two hundred million dollars' worth of services each year. CAP 5 had a profit of thirteen million dollars that ended December 31<sup>st</sup>. They will be taking that profit and creating new programs for mental health/drug and alcohol treatment in

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Lancaster, Lebanon, Perry, Cumberland, and Dauphin County. These are reinvestment projects. Past reinvestment projects include the RASE Project being formed, eight recovery houses through Gate House were formed, and Manos's residential rehab for adolescent male received a new roof with reinvestment dollars.

**E. Priorities for DDAP Plan**

Rick informed the Board that the D&A Commission Office is creating a plan that will be sent to the state. The plan includes priorities that the D&A Office will focus on. The priorities are addressing the overdose deaths, increasing drug and alcohol case management services in the field and reentry services for clients coming out of the county and state prison. If the Board has any other ideas to consider, email Rick with the ideas. These three priorities are supported by the Lancaster SCA advisory board.

**F. ASAM Training**

Rick informed the Board that the D&A Office is providing additional ASAM Training to the D&A field. ASAM is the level of care placement tool that is used. Even though providers have gone through the two-day training, the office feels that there is a deeper training that needs to be provided. Through the help of Compass Mark, additional trainings are being scheduled.

**G. Joining Forces**

Rick reviewed the handout and informed the Board that he is a member of Joining Forces. There were 117 deaths in 2016 due to overdoses in Lancaster County. There were 168 deaths in 2017, 108 deaths in 2018, 104 deaths in 2019, and 146 overdose deaths in 2020. The Joining Forces handout gives data regarding drug related deaths in the county, over the past several years.

**H. Other Business**

Rick asked the Board if there were any other topics the board would like to talk about. No other topics indicated.

**I. Compass Mark**

Eric Kennel, from Compass Mark, joined the meeting to talk about what Compass Mark has

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changed during the pandemic. Eric reviewed the Annual Report handout and informed the Board members that the Addiction Resource Center is one of the main places for one-on-one support to callers who are looking to access treatment programs or recovery supports in the community. The Addiction Resource Center also provides Community Education and sharing of resources. From July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, 480,266 people received services in Lancaster County. Eric continued that Compass Mark has school-based programs for students in grades K-12 to help prevent addiction. One of the evidence-based/ evidence-formed curriculum is LionQuest. LionQuest is an education program designed to help student k-6 develop positive commitments to families, schools, and communities. From July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 822 students received services through LionQuest. Eric continued to state that Compass Mark has community-based prevention programs that are designed to strengthen individual resiliency and create a strong, healthy community. One program is the Community Prevention Mobilization which provides technical assistance and education in prevention practices for grassroots coalition groups throughout Lancaster County. 2,379 people received services from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. Eric continued that Compass Mark also offers Student Assistance Programs, also known as SAP program. SAP is designed to assist school personnel in identifying substance abuse and mental health issues. During July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 73 people received SAP Trainings and 46 people received SAP Maintenances. In the handout there is also additional organizational highlights and a Financial Summary by the programs offered between July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>. Brian Frey asked if Compass Mark is looking into more education of substances like marijuana especially if marijuana becomes legalized. Eric stated that Compass Mark does not really focus on individual substances but does education on peer pressuring, decision making, and general life skills. With marijuana, Compass Mark is looking forward to more of a research approach, like here are the statistics of how marijuana affects the brain at an early use.

**J. Adjournment**

With no other business presented by the members, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ashley Reese, Administrative Assistant

**THE NEXT SCA ADVISORY BOARD MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY,  
April 26, 2021 AT 6:00 PM.**