

Pharmaceutical Waste Working Group Meeting Minutes

June 8, 2017 • 10 a.m. – Noon
Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection
2811 Agriculture Drive • Room 266 • Madison

On the phone:

- Jon Reisenbuechler, Manitowoc County
- Roxanne Wienkes, Veteran's Hospital, Madison
- Chris Miller, Outagamie County
- Danielle Long, WI Dept. of Justice

Present:

- Jennifer Semrau, DNR
- Jane Larson, DATCP
- Amber Meyer Smith, Clean Wisconsin
- Barb Bickford, DNR
- Josh Shere, Rock County Public Health
- Sharon Ehrhardt, Jefferson County

1. Introductions

- a. Josh Shere is representing Rick Wietersen who is on vacation.

2. Background of PWWG:

- a. Because Roxanne and Josh are new to the PWWG so we reviewed the history of the group.

3. Take Back Your Meds Milwaukee – Amber Meyer Smith

- a. TBYMM is a coalition to increase drug take back in Milwaukee especially with pharmacy collection boxes
- b. Website is takebackyourmedsmilwaukee.org
- c. Amber handed out a one page fact sheet that has take back locations listed. It is also available on the website.
- d. Milwaukee city and county have created an opioid task force which supports the goals of the coalition
- e. The coalition has received a grant for another year and they are applying for another grant to support outreach and an advertising campaign.
- f. One project TBYMM has is that CVS is offering free mail back envelopes which customers fill with unwanted drugs then mail them to the Milwaukee police department. Drugs are held then disposed through DOJ/Covanta.
- g. So far low participation numbers in Milwaukee but coalition is still new and an advertising campaign should help

- h. The Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District is also connected to the project as is Wisconsin Dept. of Justice.
 - i. Danielle requested the takeback locations so she can post on Dose of Reality website.
 - j. Sharon asked if the group could get their information to the community groups who are fighting violence in Milwaukee. Must violence is drug related.
4. Review of Representative Nygren's legislation
- a. Rep. John Nygren proposed 11 bills under the HOPE Agenda (Heroin, Opiate, Prevention, and Education). Nine bills have passed both houses and are waiting for Governor's signature. The remaining may be taken up by the legislative committees next week.
 - b. Some of the bills: protecting people who administer Narcan; counties to get funding to help fight addiction; a new charter school for high school students fighting addiction; grants to hire additional physicians who specialize in addiction; new treatment programs for opioid and meth addiction; more doctor training in addiction; DOJ to get more agents for drug trafficking efforts; training for teachers on mental health.
 - c. The PWWG has been watching the legislation in case something related to drug take back was proposed. There was some language in one proposed bill but it was removed.
5. April Drug Take Back – Danielle Long
- a. Very successful and Wisconsin broke the record for collection amounts
 - b. 66,830 pounds were collected (still behind Texas and California but it is impressive that our much smaller state is right behind two large states.)
 - c. 267 law enforcement agencies were involved which is the most participation in the country, representing 69 (out of 72) counties
 - d. Danielle recorded 150 take back events across the state
 - e. There are 335 permanent drug boxes listed on the Dose of Reality website.
 - f. October 28 is the next Take Back event which is set by the federal Drug Enforcement Administration.
 - g. Danielle and the DOJ have been working with the Wisconsin Pharmacy Society. Did pharmacy robbery training. The training is available to Pharmacy Society members through the secure portion of their website. DOJ gave the pharmacies different options to increase security from low cost to higher cost. (Wisconsin is number 2 in the country for pharmacy robberies.)
 - h. Barb asked how many law enforcement agencies we have in Wisconsin. Danielle didn't have the number readily available but Jennifer looked on her computer and found a number of 529 law enforcement agencies.
 - i. Fuchs Trucking in Sauk City donated trucks and drivers to ship the collected drugs to Convanta. Schneider Trucking has donated trucks in past and Fuchs is the back up. It's a logistical challenge because the trucking company has to have

trucks and drivers available and sometimes the trucks have to be kept in a secure location until drivers can be obtained.

6. Iowa's Drug Redistribution Program

- a. There was a question about Iowa's program that redistributes unused drugs from nursing homes. Danielle wondered how this can be done under DEA regulations. Barb said that Iowa passed a state law to do this in 2007. It's estimated that Iowa has redistributed \$15 million in medication. Barb said that Wisconsin has a similar law but it is not funded. New York, Oklahoma and Wyoming have programs similar to Iowa's.

7. DNR Guidance for Drug Collections – Barb Bickford

- a. It will be available (hopefully) next month. It's part of a group of documents going through review and approval.

8. DNR Registry for Drug Take Back and Sharps Collections

- a. DNR had a registry form posted on their website but it wasn't secure so it was removed. It's an IT project and it's backlogged. DNR and DOJ will need to also coordinate so the lists work together. For now, DOJ is registering sites (including take back events and pharmacies) on their Dose of Reality page.

9. Best Practices for Drug Take Backs – Jane Larson

- a. Danielle said that DOJ developed a document for law enforcement that she'll send. It is available to LE on the WILENET service (Wisconsin Law Enforcement Network.)

10. Other News

- a. Sharon Ehrhardt was invited to speak to some heroin-related groups about drug take back in Jefferson County. She provided 300 flyers that went into resource packets for families. Sharon talked about one presentation/program called Stairway to Heroin that features one family's struggle with their son's heroin addiction and his ultimate sobriety.
- b. Product Stewardship Institute held a webinar on Drug Take Back programs in Rural Areas. A recording of the webinar is available on the PSI website and should be free to view. <https://productstewardship.site-ym.com/store/ViewProduct.aspx?id=9103677>
- c. Clean Sweep took in 43,625 pounds of unwanted prescription drugs in 2016. Down from 2015. Could be due to four communities who did not claim their funds and therefore did not report collection totals. The collection totals are also captured in the DOJ collection numbers. There were 24 drug grants in 2016, for 2017, there are 33. More communities have applied for funds to purchase drop boxes.

11. Future of PWWG

- a. We'll continue the group even though we do not have a designated leader or chairperson. Jane will continue to handle the meeting organization. Still is value in sharing and being aware of efforts throughout the state and at the national level.
- b. We'll meet again in late October (Oct. 23-26) or early November (Nov. 6-7) before Barb retires. Jane will send a Doodle Poll.

Notes taken and contributed by Jane Larson and Sharon Ehrhardt