A Multidisciplinary Approach to Reduce Prescription Drug Abuse in Florida through Collaboration with Other Agencies

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Objectives

- Discuss successes on balanced approach of supply control and demand reduction, both reinforced through integrated state, county and community efforts
Statewide Drug Policy Advisory Council was created in Section 397.333, Florida Statutes to:

– Conduct a comprehensive analysis of the substance abuse problem in Florida
– Make recommendations to the Governor and Legislature for development and implementation of a state drug control strategy
– Coordinate with the public and private sectors to incorporate recommendations from a broad spectrum
2015 Agency Reports

- Department of Children & Families
- Department of Health
- Florida Attorney General’s Office
- Florida Department of Law Enforcement
- Drug Prevention Programs
- Drug Treatment/Management Programs
- Florida Drug Courts
- High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas
Recommendations - Reduce Supply

- Passing new synthetic drug control legislation (2016)
- Creating a voluntary statewide controlled substance agreement document for use by all prescribing Florida health care practitioners that identifies proper indications, alternatives, risks and benefits of prescribed controlled substances. (2013)
- Maintaining or expanding the Florida Highway Patrol Criminal Interdiction Unit staffing levels. (2013, 2014)
Recommendations- Cont’d

- Increasing surveillance and apprehension of importers and distributors of synthetic drugs. (2014)
- Adopting statewide methamphetamine cleanup protocols, to include a standard process for assessing responsibility for cleanup costs as well as promulgating environmental remediation standards. (2014)
- Increasing utilization and registration of Florida’s Prescription Drug Monitoring Program by active health care professionals by 50 percent. (2014, 2015)
Recommendations - Reduce Demand

- Working to reduce the number of Florida middle and high school students who have tried any illicit drug by 3 percent. (2013, 2014)
- Implementing the sober home certification program. (2014)
- Working to reduce NAS in Florida by at least 10 percent from the baseline number of 1,630 estimated in CY 2012. (2014)
- Expanding programs and initiatives that reduce the incidence of heroin overdose-related fatalities. (2014)
Recommendations- Broaden Prevention Efforts

- Expanding public health surveillance and reporting specific trends such as hepatitis C and injection drug use to the public and policy makers. (2015)
- Creating a pilot syringe access program to prevent the spread of infectious disease and link individuals to addiction treatment. (2015)
- Expanding local services through public-private partnerships. (2015)
Recommendations- Expand Treatment

- Providing residential substance abuse treatment services to offenders on felony supervision who have been court-ordered to residential treatment. (2013)
- Expanding access to naloxone by modifying section 381.887, Florida Statutes, to explicitly authorize standing orders for naloxone distribution and permit laypersons to distribute naloxone pursuant to standing orders. (2015)
- Improving access to medication assisted treatment (2015)
Establishing a coordinated access process for acute care services. (2015)

Developing strategies to strengthen linkages between emergency departments and treatment providers, federally qualified health centers, and primary care providers. (2015)

Expanding treatment availability and capacity. (2015)
Summary of 2016 Council Activities

- Develop a compendium on best practices to determine successful programs
- Evaluate evidenced-based systems and results based on accountability for state drug controlled policy with clearly articulated goals
Future Activities

- Identify public health capabilities
- Identify public safety capabilities
- Link public health and public safety communities
- Florida Emerging Threats Initiative
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