



Mayor's Task Force on Substance Misuse Meeting

Tuesday, 02/17/2026

9:30 – 11 a.m.

Facilitator: Savitri Horrigan, Behavioral Health Specialist

Location: City Hall Auditorium, 3rd Floor

Minutes

Partner Updates

DPHCS:

- The Epidemiologist is no longer working in the Epidemiology position, which is currently open.
- **Police Department (PD):**
A Senate bill regulating kratom was discussed, and PD spoke in support of it. The bill would require significant restrictions on manufacturers and distributors, including regulations on who can sell kratom and limiting sales to individuals over the age of 21. Discussion also referenced nitrites in relation to regulation.

Hearts Peer Support:

- The ACORN Center is offering outpatient services.

Doorway:

- Funding for the overdose response program was not approved due to the high request amount. A revised application is being developed in partnership with REVIVE. Supply of Narcan available for partners.

Gate House:

- The MAT clinic is now in-network with MassHealth and is in the process of contracting with them.

BHU at Southern:

- The Behavioral Health Unit at Southern is now fully staffed.

Harbor Care (HC):

- There are five openings available in the Merit Program for individuals with past or present substance use. The program assists with housing and supportive services. Participants can earn gift cards, bus passes, and taxi rides through a point-based incentive system.

United Way (UW):

- Nashua Prevention Coalition is working on the Opioid Abatement Program grant, which is due tomorrow. UW has also applied for additional digital literacy funding. A Digital Equity flyer was distributed. They are seeking donations of cell phones and laptops. A new digital skill-building series has launched, focusing on topics such as online scams. These sessions are open to the public.

REVIVE:

- Hosting CRSW training in Nashua in May, with scholarships available. A St.

	Patrick’s Day celebration will be held on March 17 and will be promoted on social media. A rally is being organized for September 19, and committees are currently being formed.
Warming Station Update	• The facility is open daily from 7:00 PM to 7:00 AM through April 15th and serves over 40 guests each night. There are some extended hours during extreme weather.
BH Update	• 65 attendees with a positive feedback at the BH Legislative Breakfast. • Twenty students and teachers attended the Getting to Y Training, and two Adult Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) trainings were held at the Nashua Public Library and virtually, with a total of 19 attendees. • The May PHAC Conference will be held on Wednesday, May 27th, with the theme “Communication & Health Promotion,” and the planning committee is seeking members.
AMR Data for 2025	• In 2025, there were 155 opioid overdoses and 23 suspected opioid overdose deaths, representing the third lowest annual number of suspected opioid overdose deaths.
SSANA Report	• There were 34 overdoses reversed—more than double January 2025’s count of 14—with 135 unique clients served and 265 total transactions, including 265 street outreach interactions; 223 two-dose nasal naloxone kits distributed; 14,450 short-tip syringes distributed with a 92% return rate; 508 safer injection kits; 73 fentanyl test kits; 74 xylazine test kits; 91 wound care kits; and 529 safer smoking kits distributed in total.

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