



City of Nashua  
Division of Public Health and Community Services



## Mayor's Task Force on Substance Misuse Meeting

Tuesday, 12/16/25

9:30 – 11 a.m.

Facilitator: Bobbie Bagley

Location: City Hall Auditorium, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

### Minutes

#### Partner Updates

- Nashua Police Department (PD): Training on how to support individuals experiencing psychosis is available and can be organized in partnership with interested organizations.
- Southern: Identified a need for additional behavioral health (BH) workers.
- Doorway: The respite program is currently closed but is scheduled to reopen on Friday under a new contract. The overall process will remain the same.
- Heartfelt Recovery: Provide Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP) and Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) services, including treatment for methamphetamine use.
- Hearts Peer Support: Received first opioid abatement grant through Granite United Way.
- Process Recovery: Female detox program anticipated to open on February 1. Two locations will offer PHP, IOP, and sober living. A respite program is also starting, with six beds available—primarily for Nashua, with discussions underway to include Manchester and Concord.
- REVIVE: Hosting a Certified Recovery Support Worker (CRSW) training in Manchester in January. Expanding harm reduction services to additional locations in neighboring cities. Some housing options are expected to become available in January and be fully ready by August.
- United Way (UW): Host a weekly radio show featuring nonprofit organizations. Organizations are encouraged to update their information in 211. Over the Edge fundraiser is open for agency participation. United Way is investing in grants; applications are open with a revised process. Interested agencies should connect directly.
- Gate House: Nashua respite services are closing, with all operations ending on the 22nd.

#### Encampment and Warming Station Update

- Encampment Closure: The encampment was closed on December 15, with a small number of arrests. Public Health assisted individuals with connections to housing and recovery services. Individuals will be trespassed from the site.

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|                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Warming Station is open daily and has received a significant number of donations; donations are still being accepted, including through the Amazon wish list. Approximately 40 individuals are served daily, and a code of conduct is in place.</li> <li>• Nashua Resource Center: There is interest from the Board of Aldermen (BOA) in moving forward with the Resource Center. A supplemental appropriation of \$300,000 is being considered. The City is currently seeking a location. Service providers are encouraged to partner with the City, provide on-site staffing, and conduct intakes at the center.</li> <li>• Point-in-Time (PIT) Count Planning: A Zoom meeting was held to plan the PIT count, which will take place on January 28 as a single-day count of individuals experiencing homelessness in the Greater Nashua (GN) region for HUD funding purposes. This count is particularly important given recent encampment closures. There was discussion about hosting a Health Care for the Homeless (HC) event on Elm Street to facilitate counting, with agencies offering services as incentives for participation. The annual HUD funding application process was also discussed, noting significant changes and anticipated funding cuts.</li> </ul> |
| <b>BH Breakfast</b>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Panelists are lined up for the MOTF Legislative Breakfast on January 30<sup>th</sup> at Southern NH Medical Center Conference Room from 7:00 Am to 8:30 AM.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Other Discussions</b> | <p>New Futures (NF) Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Updates from New Futures that impact Public Health (PH) were shared.</li> <li>○ Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) data highlights the percentage of middle and high school students using substances and also provides data on related issues such as homelessness. This data is important for the task force to review and consider.</li> <li>○ New Futures serves as an advocate for Public Health and engages in related lobbying efforts.</li> <li>• Discussion highlighted that some municipalities are resistant to recovery houses, citing restrictions and HUD standards. Sober living environments are subject to extensive rules, and residents must be ready and able to comply.</li> <li>• While many resources exist, referrals can be challenging due to a lack of assisted living options.</li> <li>• There was discussion on whether the current system adequately supports individuals with substance use disorder (SUD). Assisted living facilities often have strict eligibility criteria (e.g., mental health, SUD, or age-related limitations).</li> <li>• It was noted that individuals may become homeless due to inadequate</li> </ul>                                                                                   |

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|                       | <p>screening, inability to pay, or difficulty adhering to program rules. Sober living programs have a responsibility to provide appropriate screening and support to prevent this cycle. Breaking this pattern was identified as a priority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next Steps: An email will be sent to form a workgroup to continue this discussion.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Funding Update</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NH Charitable Foundation (NHCF) awarded \$10,000 to support a podcast focused on New Hampshire mental health (MH) and substance use disorder (SUD) issues. Community guests will participate to help raise awareness, improve understanding, and promote solutions. This is the third year of this initiative. Another \$20,000 was awarded by NHCF to continue ongoing program efforts.</li> <li>• An additional \$12,000 was received from Dartmouth to support housing-related work addressing Mental Health and SUD.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                       |
| <b>November Data</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total overdoses: 7 cases, with 2 deaths (about 29% fatality rate). Total overdoses: 7 cases, with 2 deaths (about 29% fatality rate).</li> <li>• SSANA Program Highlights for November <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Overdose reversals remained elevated (52), following October's high of 70</li> <li>○ Naloxone distribution dipped slightly (82 kits), signaling a need to monitor access or demand</li> <li>○ Fentanyl/Xylazine test kit usage remains steady, reinforcing the demand for drug-checking supplies</li> <li>○ Syringe distribution in November: 17,021 units, with a still-strong return rate of 88%</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

**Next Meeting January 20, 2026**