

**CONNECT Public Safety, Health, and Human Resources**  
**Working Group meeting**  
Thursday | July 16, 2020 | 1:00pm  
Via Zoom



**Municipal Attendees:** Laura Drogowski, Pittsburgh; John Stinner, Jefferson Hills; Amanda Settlemaier, Turtle Creek Valley COG; Samantha Mason, Turtle Creek Valley COG; Jack Betkowski, Ross; Cdr. Tim Komoroski, Millvale; Steve Beuter, Carnegie; JR Henry, West View; Tim McLaughlin, Aspinwall; Patty DeMarco, Forest Hills; Chief Harry Fruecht, Wilkins; Shawn Alfonso-Wells, Swissvale; Tom Theilacker, Forest Hills; Lt. Matt Holland, West View; Andrew Flynn, Mt. Lebanon; Timothy Rodman, Etna Police; Randy McAllister, Ross Police

**Other Attendees:** Janet Ector, LEAD Support Bureau; Brendan Cox, LEAD Support Bureau; Kat Sutherland, ACHD; Caroline Hamilton, ACHD; Aaron Lauer, Institute of Politics; Rebecca Lerman, Institute of Politics; Ross A. Watson, ACHD; Lucas Musewe, Star Consultant LLC; Eric Hulse, Vital Strategies; Andi Thieman, ACDHS; Jenn Batterton, ACDHS; Ed Mulvey, Pitt's Center for Race and Social Problems + School of Medicine

**CONNECT:** JoEllen Marsh, Lydia Morin, Tess De Jong, Kelley Kelley, Sarah Downing, Ally Walker, Kaleigh Dryden

### **Overview of Agenda**

#### **ACHD Opioid Subgrants, Kat Sutherland**

- [Katherine.sutherland@alleghenycounty.us](mailto:Katherine.sutherland@alleghenycounty.us); [caroline.hamilton@alleghenycounty.us](mailto:caroline.hamilton@alleghenycounty.us)
- Overview of the subgrant funding opportunity, \$400,000 a year for the next 2 years
- The goal is to prevent overdose by using existing data to inform public health approaches, treatment for substance use, or to address/fund programmatic needs, especially with COVID-19.
- Discussion around the early application deadline and not having enough time to make a proposal regional, collaborative, and equitable: the deadline was August 5<sup>th</sup> but is now August 31<sup>st</sup>!
- [See the PowerPoint here.](#)
- [Allegheny County Fatal Overdose interactive data and maps](#)

**Breakout Rooms for 20 minutes regarding this funding opportunity:** What are ideas for proposals? What are the main questions we should send to the health department? How can CONNECT support these proposals?

#### **Quick large group debrief of breakout rooms**

We will have a follow up discussion for those who want to apply together on [Tuesday, July 28<sup>th</sup>, 10:30-11:30 am.](#)

## **LEAD Update**

- The opioid discussion leads well into LEAD work, which is just one part of that discussion.
- Present today are Brendan Cox and Janet Ector from the LEAD National Support Bureau. They are excited to work with Allegheny County because of this meeting right here – people want to reach across boundaries and work together
- Discussion around the differences in existing social services in different communities to tap into. The key is having a consistent and close relationship with the person – LEAD also taps into an individual and gives an individual access to another human being.
- Could CONNECT identify and pool LEAD assistance resources?
- Explored what it could look like to have the LEAD model, but instead of a police officer being the first responder, it would be a social worker (mobile unit). This would need to be a pilot as we don't have nearly enough capacity now.
- Connections with this model type and the county 911 system, and with [CONNECT Community Paramedics](#)
- Discussed the mechanics of collaborative partnerships and resourcing the right people. It's extremely complicated and you almost need a guide – how often do you call, can you show up at a shelter, what ID do you need, for example.
- DHS has similar initiatives and they are happy to join another call to share what they are doing.
- We didn't have time to review the [draft LEAD resolution](#), please read and suggest edits.
- You are invited to the Pitt Diversity Forum where CONNECT's LEAD team and partners are hosting a workshop called "Responding to Root Causes: Shifts Toward a New Public Health & Public Safety Paradigm." [Learn more.](#)

## **Volunteer Fire, other working group items, and municipal budgets discussion**

- We are tabling an in-depth volunteer fire conversation. Please read this [draft resolution](#) and suggest edits.
- What other items have people been thinking about? 911 triage has come up a couple of times now, how do we filter and dispatch the most important calls? Mental health triage. Public safety joint contracts – we have seen it be very successful with other municipal services
- Would people be interested in advising student groups if GSPIA students wanted to check this out? (some nods)

## **Next PSH meeting**

Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, at 1pm (But we will have LEAD, fire, EMS, and overdose prevention subgrant meetings in the meantime!)