

Access to Services Action Team
 Virtual Meeting
 Natick, MA
 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM
 Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2023



Attendees (8):

Name	Organization	Sector Represented
Lizzy Chalfin	Natick 180 / Natick Health Dept.	Local Government
Jessica Cliff	Natick Health Dept.	Local Government
Astrid Dretler	Natick 180 / Natick Health Dept.	Local Government
Scott Francis	MOAR	Other organization involved in reducing substance abuse
Angi MacDonnell	SPAN Needham	Other organization involved in reducing substance abuse
Ashley Scionti	Natick Police Dept. / JDP	Law Enforcement
Katie Sugarman	Natick 180 / Natick Health Dept.	Local Government
Annette Ziegler	Natick Public Schools	Schools

Powerpoint available here: [SLIDES](#)

Meeting Minutes:

Agenda Item	Discussion
1. Citizens' Concerns	None.
2. Approve meeting minutes	Minutes from the Nov. 2022 meeting were presented. The minutes were accepted "as is" without changes, and they will be posted to the Town website.

3. Updates and announcements

a. Reports from community partners & resource sharing:

-Needham SPAN: On Apr. 13 David Jernegan will be speaking in Needham on Alcohol Health & Safety in MA. This BUSPH professor recently published a paper on this topic. N180 will cross-promote this event.

-MOAR: please reach out to Scotty if anyone wants to join this member organization.

-The Wellness Fair at NHS will be held on 5/17 from 8:30-11 am. Contact Annette for more information.

b. Advocates Community Behavioral Health Centers (opening in Framingham and Waltham) An open house will be held next week on 2/15 from 3-4 pm. RSVPs are welcome. Tours will be offered and detailed information on what services are available will be provided, including mental health and substance use treatment navigation all under one roof. The state is still figuring out how to best support an individual in crisis (typically they are often sent to the emergency department but can be diverted if deemed not a crisis). Please promote this event and this new resource. The site is up and running and clinicians are already working.

c. Opioid settlement monies

Natick's Town Administrator has stated that N180 will take the lead on coordinating how our town's opioid settlement monies will be dispersed. Natick has already received approx. \$153,000 - this money is in the town's bank account and will roll over year to year. N180 can use funding for staffing. Other ideas put forth include establishing a local drop-in center. Strategic planning will need to occur - we can utilize strategies and ideas set forth in our recent strategic planning sessions. Two of our strategic planning focus areas are pertinent: Harms From Opioid and Other Illicit Drug Use & Support for People Seeking or Maintaining Recovery. The finalized report will be available in March 2023. N180 should be able to start using settlement monies in the coming weeks. We will continue this discussion with ATS members as we move forward.

d. Post Overdose Support Team (POST) - Since the start of 2023, there have been 4 calls for overdoses, which shows an upward trend as compared to this time last year. One was fatal; the 3 others were non-fatal and occurred at a local hotel. Reported substances include opioids, rx drugs, cannabis, and one unknown. NPD & NHD met with the

	<p>hotel staff and shared their concerns around the lack of health and safety strategies. The hotel is supposed to reach out for Narcan and Narcan training. There is currently no consistent monitoring of the property, including lack of security cameras or patrols. One person who overdosed was found unconscious outside of a room. N180 would like JRI to provide support on-site but that has not always been a welcome idea. The next POST meeting will be set up for a couple of weeks from now. Natick has not heard of any substances laced with fentanyl recently (which has been recently reported in Medway and Millis).</p>
<p>4. Discussion</p>	<p>Increasing access to recovery supports for Natick Housing Authority residents (*tabled due to the guest representative from Natick Housing Authority not being able to join this meeting).</p> <p>National Recovery Month (Sept 2023) - MOAR is not planning for this yet. But they are involved in planning for the Boston Policy Forum which will be held in either late Mar or early Apr.</p> <p>N180 could aim to hold a 5K or a walk celebrating recovery (a walk is preferable to a run, so as to keep the potential participant audience larger). The Natick Town Common is easy to reserve for such an event. We do not want to overlap with the National Suicide Prevention Walk in early Oct.</p> <p>Family Promise provides resources for helping people at risk for homelessness and provides many support services. They have expanded their offerings for people who are struggling for housing or who are experiencing homelessness. Other local organizations we may like to invite to future ATS meetings include Family Promise, NSC, Natick Rotary, and A Place to Turn. Natick is lucky to have so many organizations addressing challenging social issues within our area.</p>
<p>5. Set next meeting date/time & adjourn</p>	<p>March 22, 2023 from 1:30-3 pm (<i>Later moved to March 29th, 1:30-3:00 PM due to scheduling conflict.</i>)</p>