

## **Board of Health Report – April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Substance Abuse and Prevention Division, Lowell Health Department

Substance Abuse Coordinator, Division Manager  
*Lainnie Emond, LMHC*

### ***Lowell Mayor's Opioid Task Force:***

- Lainnie continues to work with the Co-Chairs of the Mayor's Opioid Epidemic Crisis Task Force. Upcoming Meetings: April 26<sup>th</sup> and May 24<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-6:30pm.

### **Virtual Reoccurring Meeting Information**

Link: <https://lowellma.zoom.us/j/88561406588?pwd=TWNNM2U1VGp6ejBzSWJPK3ZocExyQT09>

Meeting ID: 885 6140 6588

Password: 803020

- Lainnie continues to lead the Data Subcommittee of the Mayor's Opioid Task Force. Meetings continue to be held virtually on a monthly basis. The Subcommittee is continuing to work on their next "Opioid Trends in Lowell, MA" report, which will highlight 10 years of opioid-related data specific to Lowell.

### ***Lowell CO-OP and Affiliated Grant Efforts:***

- Lainnie continues to be involved in administrative planning for the Lowell CO-OP, including co-facilitating Lowell CO-OP Supervisors Meetings and working with team and grant partners to ensure effectiveness of the team. Meetings continue to be virtual.
- Lainnie worked with Lowell CO-OP Supervisor, Youth Outreach Specialist (YOS), and Community Health Coordinator to create a double-sided information post-card and social media image to advertise YOS services. Lainnie also continues to work with Lowell CO-OP Supervisor, YOS, and grant partners at the Lowell Police Department and UMass Lowell to create processes and documentation for the YOS.
- Lainnie is in the process of finalizing the following materials for the Lowell CO-OP: brochure, double-sided postcard, and quarterly reports template.
- Lainnie is working with the Lowell CO-OP Supervisory team to create a non-legal memorandum of agreement that outlines the responsibilities that each of the five Lowell CO-OP agencies have agreed to. This document is anticipated to be finalized at the end of March.

### ***Additional Substance Abuse Coordinator Activities:***

- Lainnie continues to manage daily activities of the Substance Abuse and Prevention Division.
- Lainnie is a member of the planning committee for the 2021 Merrimack Valley Substance Use Disorder Symposium.
- Lainnie continues to be involved on the Lowell HEALing Community Study.

Massachusetts Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative (MOAPC)

*\*\* Lainnie Emond is overseeing the MOAPC Coalition and grant efforts in the interim\*\**

**Drug Free Greater Lowell Website**

- [www.DrugFreeGreaterLowell.org](http://www.DrugFreeGreaterLowell.org) continues to be maintained via the MOAPC grant. Website content, news, and events are updated frequently. Community partners and residents are encouraged to reach out to Lainnie ([LEmond@lowellma.gov](mailto:LEmond@lowellma.gov)) with upcoming events and suggestions for additional/missing content).
- The top pages viewed in February were Community Resources and Information on Substance Use Disorder (178 total views), Youth Vaping (95 total views), and Syringe Services Programs (44 total views).

**2021 Drug Free Greater Lowell Website Analytics**

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Total Page Views	721	575	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Unique Page Views	589	622	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

**Other Updates**

- The next Prevention Professionals of Northern Middlesex (rebranded last year from Greater Lowell MOAPC/Tewksbury SAPC) monthly coalition meetings are scheduled virtually for March 16<sup>th</sup> and April 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Data collection is continuing for each Greater Lowell MOAPC community to identify sustainable events, programs, positions, policies, and initiatives that have been established since the start of the grant. These data points will be turned into an infographic timeline to show how our cluster evolved over time to address the opioid epidemic. Communities are also encouraged to share stories about the work that their community has engaged in for the final grant report; this way, communities will have a chance to present themselves in addition to the data that they've shared over the years.
- QR code labels that scan to the Narcan training video created by Gianna Sandelli of Lowell House were printed and distributed to Trinity EMS, Lowell CO-OP, and the Frontline Initiative to place on the Narcan kits that they distribute to community members. Labels were offered to additional programs in other communities, as well, and copies are still available.





Lowell Community Opioid Outreach Program (CO-OP) – **Overview**  
*Maricia Verma, Lowell CO-OP Supervisor*

**Lowell CO-OP Data: 2020 and 2021 Comparison**

--	Feb 2020	Feb 2021	2020 Total	2021 Total
<b>Total Encounters</b>	45	170	1,387	374
<b>Unique Encounters</b>	35	62	640	150
<b>Initial Interaction</b>	5	16	151	45
<b>OD Follow-Up</b>	2	7	104	29
<b>Section 35</b>	1	6	10	6
<b>Clinical Clients</b>	2	33	175	71
<b>Disseminate Narcan</b>	3	31	198	143
<b>SUD Treatment</b>	7	11	188	21
<b>Medical Treatment</b>	0	8	106	10
<b>Other Services</b>	3	5	99	8
<b>Misc. Outreach</b>	20	76	684	213

**Outreach and Educational Events**

Date	Event Type	Location	Topic	Attendance
3-5-2021	Virtual Presentation	Robinson Middle School – 2 classes	Mental Health and Homelessness	55
3-22-2021	Virtual Presentation	Robinson Middle School – 2 classes	Mental Health and Homelessness	55

**Additional**

- Due to staff changes at Lowell House Addiction Treatment and Recovery, Gianna Sandelli, the Lowell CO-OP’s outreach specialist, has temporarily reduced her Lowell CO-OP hours to step into the role of interim Director of Outreach and Recovery while a new staff person is hired. Gianna is expected to resume her regular Lowell CO-OP duties in April.

Lowell Community Opioid Outreach Program (CO-OP) – **Clinical Services**  
*Joseph Aniello, Clinical Recovery Specialist*

\*Please note that Clinical Staff on the Lowell CO-OP are Joseph Aniello, Maricia Verma (CO-OP Supervisor), and Gianna Sandelli (Assistance Director of Outreach from Lowell House Addiction Treatment and Recovery).\*

**Lowell CO-OP Clinical Data: 2020 and 2021 Comparison**

--	Jan 2021	Jan 2020	Total 2020	Total 2021
<b>Clinical Sessions</b>	123	--	<b>756</b>	<b>258</b>
<b>Clinical Clients</b>	33	--	<b>208</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>Initial Interaction</b>	4	--	<b>54</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Medical Treatment</b>	46	--	<b>141</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>Transportation</b>	2	--	<b>39</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Housing</b>	62	--	<b>125</b>	<b>123</b>
<b>Financial</b>	68	--	<b>261</b>	<b>125</b>
<b>DCF</b>	2	--	<b>63</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Other</b>	142	--	<b>96</b>	<b>285</b>

**Brief Client Case Example**

*This section will be used to share success stories of clients working with Lowell CO-OP's clinical staff. Success stories help to frame the work of the Lowell CO-OP, and adds context to the various needs and levels of support that Lowell CO-OP clients face as they work towards recovery.*

In late 2019, the Lowell CO-OP established a relationship with homeless woman who was pregnant. The clinical staff of the Lowell CO-OP assisted the client with accessing the Lowell Transitional Living Center, Department of Children and Families, obtaining parenting classes, and mental health support. As social distancing requirements from the pandemic lead to virtual or telephonic only interactions with Joseph, which for this client expedited the client's navigation of financial services, health insurance, and housing options. In late 2020, the client was able to obtain a two bedroom apartment with a Section 8 voucher through Community Teamwork Inc. The Lowell CO-OP clinical staff further assisted the client with referrals for furniture and household goods donations for her apartment, and client was physically reunited with her child. The client is thriving and is engaging in maintenance work on mental health issues. The client regularly checks in with Joseph and other Lowell CO-OP staff.

**Additional Information**

Joseph has established a collaborative relationship with Kate Sout-Sorm, Cash Program Supervisor of Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA), to develop plan to station DTA representatives at all Lowell shelters and day programs once to twice a week to assist our homeless and substance using population with enrollment and other DTA issues.

Lowell Community Opioid Outreach Program (CO-OP) – **Youth Services**  
*Devin Gilmore, Youth Outreach Specialist*

**Outreach/Educational and Community Partner Events**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event Type</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
2-24-2021	Collaboration Meeting (Virtual)	Department of Mental Health	Youth Services	2
2-26-2021	Team Presentation	Straight Ahead Ministries, Inc.	Substance Use Education	20
3-4-2021	Collaboration Meeting (Virtual)	Bournewood Hospital	Youth Services	4
3-8-2021	Team Presentation (Virtual)	Robinson Middle School	Substance Use Education	20

**Youth Services Data**

--	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>	<b>Total</b>
Youth Services Sessions	--	17	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	17
Youth Services Clients	--	6	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	6
Mental Health Coordination	--	7	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	7
Medical Coordination	--	7	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	7
Housing Coordination	--	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	4
Youth Connected to Services within 48 Hours	--	7	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	7
Care Coordination Meetings with Parents/Collaterals	--	9	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	9

**Definitions of Data Categories**

Youth Services Sessions	Total number of encounters between youth services clients and the Youth Outreach Specialist for case management purposes.
Youth Services Clients	Total number of unduplicated clients that were engaged in at least one youth services session within the specified month.
Mental Health Coordination	Total number of engagements with collaterals resulting in an additional mental health service for the client.
Medical Coordination	Total number of engagements with collaterals resulting in an additional medical service for the client.
Housing Coordination	Total number of engagements with collaterals resulting in an additional housing service for the client.
Youth Connected to Services within 48 Hours	Total number of engagements with collaterals resulting in an additional service for the client obtained in less than 48 hours.
Care Coordination Meetings with Family/Collaterals	Total number of encounters between clients' families and/or collateral agencies and the Youth Outreach Specialist for case management purposes.