

Board of Health Report – June 2nd, 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: June 28th 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 finalizing drafts for the Opioid Storyboard Project, a visual representation of the impact of the opioid epidemic on Lowell and the city's collective response.

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.
- Lainnie continues to attend monthly Smart Policing Grant Initiative conference calls with Lowell CO-OP partners and technical assistance providers.

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 in the Lowell Mass HEALing Communities Study and is a member of the Communication Subcommittee.

Massachusetts Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative (MOAPC)

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

Please note that the contract for the Greater Lowell MOAPC grant is scheduled to end on June 30th, 2021.

Drug Free Greater Lowell Website

- 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) with upcoming events and suggestions for additional/missing content).

Other Updates

- The Prevention Professionals of Northern Middlesex continue to assess the coalition’s understanding of cultural humility and needs within the coalition.
- Greater Lowell MOAPC is partnering with UMass Lowell to analyze data for the lifetime of the grant. This project started in April and is scheduled to run through June.
- Lowell Health Department hosted a drive-through Unwanted Medication and Sharps Disposal Day on Saturday April 24th, 2021 from 10am – 2pm in the parking lot of 341 Pine Street, Lowell. Lowell Police Department and Lowell Health Department staff ran the event. This is the Lowell Health Department’s first disposal day event since March 2020. The Greater Lowell MOAPC grant paid for print and online advertisement in the Lowell Sun.

April 24 th , 2020 Disposal Day Outcomes		
Participants	Medication Collected	Sharps Collected
113	100 pounds	308pounds

Future Lowell Substance Misuse Prevention Efforts

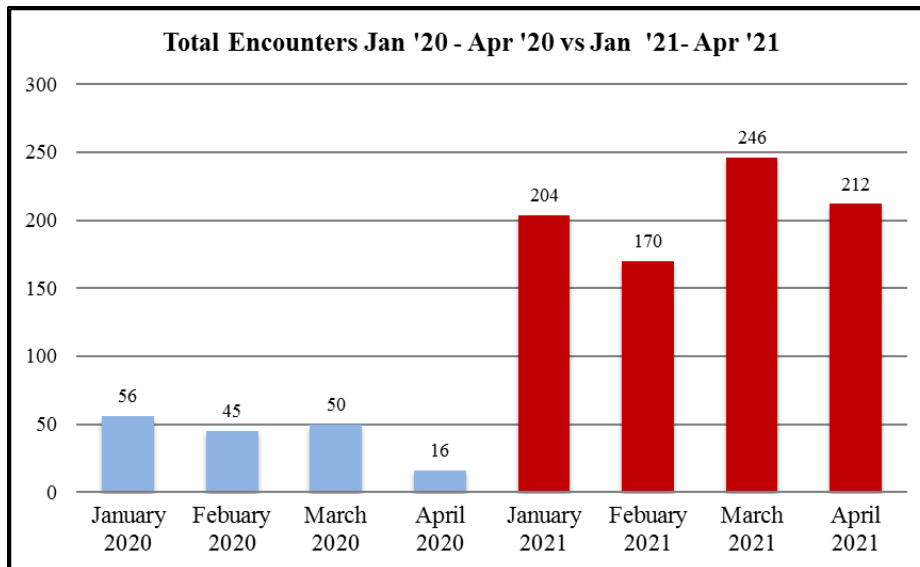
- The Lowell Health Department has been awarded the Massachusetts Collaborative for Action, Leadership, and Learning 3 (MassCALL3) from MDPH BSAS. MassCALL3 focuses to prevent and/or reduce use and misuse of substance of first use (ie. alcohol, nicotine, and marijuana). MassCALL3 will start in July 2021 and will build upon MOAPC, SAPC, and PFS efforts in Lowell. MassCALL3 will be housed within the Substance Abuse and Prevention Division. A grant coordinator position will be created to oversee the day-to-day grant activities. Lainnie will lead grant efforts until a coordinator is hired, and will then supervise the grant coordinator throughout the lifetime of the grant.

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

Lowell CO-OP Data: 2020 and 2021 Comparison

--	Apr 2020	Apr 2021	2020 Total	2021 Total
Total Encounters	16	212	1,387	832
Unique Encounters	4	97	640	338
Initial Interaction	0	20	151	97
OD Follow-Up	0	14	104	55
Section 35	0	3	10	13
Clinical Clients	4	55	175	176
Disseminate Narcan	0	36	198	223
SUD Treatment	1	6	188	46
Medical Treatment	0	21	106	21
Other Services	1	31	99	57
Misc. Outreach	0	50	684	313

Additional Data: Lowell CO-OP Encounters by Month for Past Six Months



Total individual encounters Lowell CO-OP remain more than triple number compared to the months at the beginning of the 2020 calendar year.

Additional

Maricia continues to supervise the day to day operation of the Lowell CO-OP, work with community partners, and provide coordination and guidance for more complex clinical clients.

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

--	Apr 2020	Apr 2021	Total 2020	Total 2021
Clinical Sessions	16	155	756	491
Clinical Clients	4	53	208	158
Initial Interaction	0	3	54	26
Medical Treatment	1	26	141	90
Transportation	0	16	39	23
Housing	0	50	125	212
Financial	2	58	261	231
DCF	4	4	63	10
Other	0	27	96	330

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 September of 2020, Joseph established a relationship with a male client. Client was homeless and suffering from substance use disorder. Client also suffered from severe medical issues. Client approached Joseph for help with his substance abuse, employment documentation, identification documentation, and the Department of Transitional Assistance. Joseph was able to coordinate with community partners, to assist with the Department of Transitional Assistance, and employment documentation; and locate client's identification documentation at his previous recovery facility. However, client, at this point in time, has not been able to sustain his recovery and has returned to homelessness and active substance use. Joseph continues to maintain contact with client, and encouraging behavior change on a regular basis.

Additional Information

Joseph was contacted by the Lowell and Lawrence Probation Departments to assist clients who are struggling with substance abuse issues to enter detox and outpatient programs. This relationship will benefit clients by helping them avoid probation and parole violations, which often lead to re-incarceration.

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

Youth Services Data

--	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Youth Services Sessions	--	17	51	70	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	138
Youth Services Clients	--	6	16	15	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	37
SUD Treatment and Recovery Coordination	--	--	15	24	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	39
Healthcare Coordination	--	14	14	14	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	42
Housing Coordination	--	4	7	16	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	27
Youth Connected to Services within 48 Hours	--	7	14	8	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	29
Care Coordination Meetings with Family/Collaterals	--	9	25	18	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	52

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.
Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment and Recovery Coordination	Total number of engagements with clients or collaterals resulting in one or more of the following: an additional treatment or recovery service for the client, additional education about substance use, additional information about treatment and recovery services available locally to address a client’s needs.
Healthcare Coordination	Total number of engagements with collaterals resulting in an additional medical service for the client. Includes mental health, psychiatry, and behavioral health services.
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 or collateral agencies and the Youth Outreach Specialist for case management purposes.

Additional

- Through the sponsorship of Tewksbury SAPC, Devin participated in a virtual Youth Mental Health First Aid Instructor Training on May 12th. Devin is now available to facilitate trainings in Mental Health First Aid to youth and youth-facing providers in Lowell and Greater Lowell.
- Devin continues to conduct outreach in the community to reach youth and families in need of resources. One of her outreach goals in May is to inform all dental, pediatric, and primary care offices in Lowell of her services and contact information, so that when opioids are prescribed to youth for pain management, the Youth Outreach Specialist is contacted to provide coaching for the family on how to take and dispose of prescription opioids safely.