



# Norfolk County-8 Coalition Opioid Abatement Collaboration Discussion February 12th, 2025 Meeting Agenda

<b>Time:</b> <b>2:30 pm–4 pm</b>
<b><u>Virtual Meeting</u></b> Meeting link: <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89489028326">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89489028326</a>

## **Attendance Roll Call**

### Voting members present:

Meg Goldstein, Canton (joined late)  
Kylee Foley, Dedham  
Caroline Kinsella, Milton  
Stacey Lane, Norwood  
Melissa Ranieri, Walpole  
Jhana Wallace, Wellesley  
Jared Orsini, Westwood

### Non-voting members present:

Aine Studdert-Kennedy, BME Strategies  
Cynthia Baker, BME Strategies  
Angie Truesdale, BME Strategies  
Katie Paciorkowski, Dedham

6/7 voting communities present, quorum met.

## **Opening**

Melissa Ranieri made a motion to start the meeting. Stacey Lane seconded the motion.

Canton: not present (joined late)  
Dedham: Y  
Milton: Y  
Norwood: Y  
Walpole: Y  
Wellesley: Y  
Westwood: present but did not voice vote

The special meeting of the NC-8 Local Public Health Coalition was called to order by Cynthia Baker at 2:37PM on February 12th, 2025.

# Norfolk County-8 Coalition

## Opioid Abatement Collaboration Discussion

### February 12th, 2025 Meeting Agenda

#### I. Welcome

- a. Agenda Review

#### II. NC-8 Data Review

- a. BSAS Dashboard Data

BME provided an overview of currently available data from the Bureau of Substance Addiction Services Community Profile dashboard. The data summarized key statistics related to substance use and recovery in NC-8 communities, including opioid- and substance use-related deaths, ER visits and EMS incidents, total individuals enrolled in BSAS services or receiving OTP, and harm reduction supplies distributed to communities.

Communities expressed interest in understanding the data source for distribution of harm reduction supplies, noting that health department requests during the reporting period differed greatly from the information in the Community Profile. BME will request further information from BSAS to clarify this.

- b. Municipal Payment Look-up Tool

BME shared information about the recently released municipal abatement payment look-up tool from Care Massachusetts. The group reviewed the total abatement funding to be received by NC-8 as a region through the term of the sub-division agreement and discussed the scope of the opportunity to formally collaborate.

#### III. Opioid Abatement Collaboratives

- a. Review of OAC Configurations

NC-8 reviewed the list of possible Opioid Abatement Collaborative configurations provided by MAHB to assess the best potential fit for the group.

- b. Discussion

The coalition discussed the pros and cons of the previously reviewed configurations. Most communities expressed interest in keeping a proportion of their funding to pursue municipality-specific initiatives, but were open to collaborating on specific ideas or potentially hiring a shared coordinator to guide regional programming. Two communities shared that they are not directly in charge of their opioid abatement funding and would need to request use of funds from different departments or agencies within the town to participate. Other concerns cited included capacity constraints and limited staffing time to contribute towards coordination of shared programs. Several communities shared that they are currently undertaking community health assessments, focus groups, or other initiatives to drive community engagement to determine the best use of their abatement funds.

# Norfolk County-8 Coalition

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Dedham, Norwood, Walpole, and Wellesley expressed their interest in hiring or sharing the cost of a regional substance use prevention coordinator with abatement funds. Canton, Milton, and Westwood would like to be kept informed of shared services next steps to be able to evaluate potential participation at a later date. BME will compile some examples of job descriptions and postings for similar positions for the group to review.

#### IV. Other Business

- a. HRiA invoices - Communities can anticipate receipt of invoices from HRiA for the in-person training session around the end of this week or early next.
- b. RCC Contract - BME shared a reminder to communities participating in the recovery coaching contract that the updated draft has been shared, and Riverside is looking for additional responses or feedback no later than Friday 2/14 to keep us on track for a 3/1 start date. The most recent draft featured a proposed update to the Termination for Convenience clause. BME polled the group regarding potential obstacles to executing contracts by 2/28 (contingent upon release of final documents to communities by 2/18) in order to stay on track for the proposed 3/1 program start date. Westwood voiced some concern about the internal review process. BME will connect with Westwood the following day for additional updates to inform the possibility of adjusting the program start date.

#### V. Meeting Closure

Stacey Lane motioned to adjourn the meeting. Melissa Ranieri seconded the motion.

Canton: not present (left early)  
Dedham: Y  
Milton: Y  
Norwood: Y  
Walpole: Y  
Wellesley: Y  
Westwood: Y

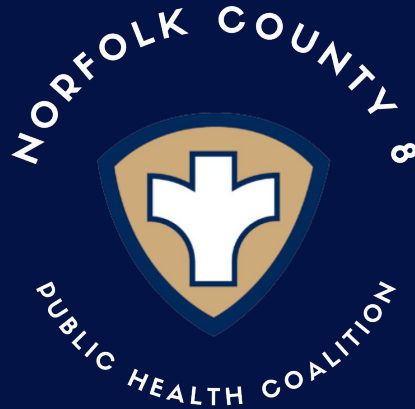
The meeting adjourned at 3:58PM.

#### Documents used and referenced during the meeting:

February 2025 Opioid Abatement Collaboration Discussion Presentation  
Care Massachusetts Municipal Opioid Abatement Funds Look-up Tool

# NC-8 Local Public Health Coalition Opioid Abatement Collaboration Discussion

February 2025



# Agenda

- I. Welcome**
- II. NC-8 Data Review**
- III. Opioid Abatement Collaboratives**
  - a. Discussion
- IV. Other Business**
- V. Meeting Closure**

# NC-8 Data Review

## BSAS Dashboard Data

NC-8 Municipality	Population (2023)	2023 Opioid-Related Deaths	2023 Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths	2023 Alcohol-Related Deaths	2023 Stimulant-Related Deaths	Any Substance-Related ER Visits (July 2023- June 2024)	Opioid-Related ER Visits (July 2023- June 2024)	Opioid-Related EMS Incidents (July 2023- June 2024)	Alcohol-Related ER Visits (July 2023- June 2024)
Canton	24,370	0	0	1	0	226	21	17	158
Dedham	25,364	7	7	5	5	316	16	35	249
Milton	28,360	0	0	3	0	224	12	22	172
Norwood	31,611	6	6	11	2	398	31	19	318
Walpole	26,383	1	1	3	0	280	10	6	233
Wellesley	29,550	2	2	2	1	127	*	6	99
Westwood	16,266	0	0	0	0	81	*	10	58
<b>NC-8 Region</b>	<b>181,904</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1,652</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>1,287</b>

## BSAS Dashboard Data

NC-8 Municipality	Population (2023)	Individuals Admitted to BSAS Services (July 2023- June 2024)	Avg. Distance Traveled to BSAS Provider (Miles) (July 2023- June 2024)	Individuals Who Received OTP Services (July 2023- June 2024)	Avg. Distance Traveled to OTP Provider (Miles) (July 2023- June 2024)	Buprenorphine RXs Filled (July 2023- June 2024)	Individuals Receiving Bup. RX (July 2023- June 2024)	Naloxone Kits Received (July 2023- June 2024)	Fentanyl Test Strips Received (July 2023- June 2024)
Canton	24,370	51	27	25	11	1,876	252	314	600
Dedham	25,364	92	19	36	10	2,063	176	112	5000
Milton	28,360	47	16	16	9	742	82	67	300
Norwood	31,611	114	24	39	14	3,164	275	211	0
Walpole	26,383	62	28	21	16	1,589	143	101	0
Wellesley	29,550	13	27	*	12	274	28	1,061	1,200
Westwood	16,266	15	31	9	12	396	36	39	0
<b>NC-8 Region</b>	<b>181,904</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10,104</b>	<b>992</b>	<b>1,905</b>	<b>7,100</b>

Source: [Bureau of Substance Addiction Services Dashboard: Community Profile](#)



# Municipal Opioid Abatement Funds Look-up Tool

# Opioid Abatement Collaboratives

# Review: Pooling Funds

- **Advantages**

- Greater impact with more funding
- Shared administrative burden
- Ability to address regional opioid issues and gaps

- **Pooling Process**

- Outreach to PHE shared services coordinator or to other neighboring municipalities
- Ensure agreement of municipal leaders to pool funding
- Create Inter-municipal agreement (IMA), if needed

- **Intermunicipal Agreements**

- Establish roles and responsibilities of municipalities, governance structure, and use of funds
- If **all communities in PHE** pooling funds, existing IMA will govern
- If **new intermunicipal collaboration or a subset of PHE**, MAHB can support drafting an IMA or other governing document

**Scenario:** PHE Collaborative agrees to pool **all** of its combined opioid abatement funds.

- Collaborative pools all of their funds into the existing host agency.
- Funds spent based on decisions made by governance board.
- Host agent files annual expense report on behalf of entire PHE collaborative.
- Individual cities and towns would not have to file an expense report because all of the funds are with the PHE collaborative.
- IMA would be amended to include evidence-based opioid abatement strategies.

## Scenario: PHE Collaborative agrees to pool some of each municipality's funds:

- Collaborative decides to pool **some** of their funds to implement common opioid abatement strategies for the entire collaborative.
  - Governance board decides how to spend these funds.
    - Sharing mobile harm reduction services.
- Cities and towns would retain a percentage of their funds.
- Host agent files expense report for funds spent on behalf of PHE collaborative.
- If individual cities/towns remaining funds exceed \$35,000, each municipality files an expense report describing individual municipality's expenditures.
- IMA could be amended to reflect this agreement.

## **Scenario:** 2 or more municipalities agree to pool all of their opioid abatement funds to create an OAC:

- One municipality would act as host agent.
- Participating municipalities would send funds to host agent.
- Participating municipalities would decide together how to spend the funds.
  - There should be a written agreement between the municipalities.
- Host agent would file expense report for all participating municipalities.
  - If the amount is more than \$35,000, no individual expense reports would need to be filed.

## **Scenario:** 2+ Municipalities agree to pool some of their funds:

- Municipalities agree to pool **some** of their opioid abatement funds.
- Cities/town retain some of their funds.
- Municipalities agree that one acts as host agent.
- Municipalities decide about how to spend the combined funds.
- Host agent files expense report for expenditures of combined funds.
- Individual cities/towns file expense report for funds spent by individual city/town if over \$35,000.

# Discussion



# Questions to Consider

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- Shared priorities around specific evidence-based strategies
- Identification of host agent
- Budget development & planning
- Governance board membership
- Group decision-making process

Other Business

Adjournment