

Governor's Task Force on Prescription Drug and Heroin Abuse
Education Workgroup
April 14, 2015
9:30 am – 11:30 am
Patrick Henry Building, 1111 E. Broad St., Richmond, VA
Conference Room 3
Agenda

- I. Welcome/Housekeeping**
 - a. Approval of previous minutes
 - b. Update of upcoming meeting dates, times, and agendas
- II. Review of National Prescription Drug Abuse Summit**
- III. Public Outreach**
 - a. Review and update previous recommendations and topic areas
 - i. Website
 - ii. PSAs
 - iii. Literature (pamphlets/brochures)
 - b. Discussion of new ideas
 - c. Determine additional recommendations and implementation strategies for next Task Force Meeting (May 12, 2015, 1:00 pm)
 - d. Determine items requiring further workgroup action
- IV. Adjourn**

Reminder of our mission and previous recommendations:

The Education workgroup is required to submit recommendations on:

- Raising public awareness about the dangers of misuse and abuse of prescription drugs
- Distributing information about the appropriate use, secure storage, and disposal of prescription drugs
- Training health care providers regarding best practices for opioid prescribing, pain management, the use of the Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP), and identification and treatment of individuals at risk of substance abuse through screening, intervention, and referral tools
- Training first responders to more effectively respond to calls involving overdose, and use evidence-based interventions to reduce overdose deaths

Recommendation 1: **Develop a state website as an informational hub on prescription drug and heroin abuse** – This recommendation coincides with a referral from the Storage and Disposal workgroup. A state website will be an effective tool to educate Virginians on opioid and heroin abuse, inform affected individuals and providers on accessible resources, and provide information on disposal sites.

Task Force Action: Accepted

Legislative Action: None

Recommendation 2: **Create and send “Dear Colleague” letters and stock Op-Eds** “Dear Colleague” letters are an efficient way to inform prescribers and other professional leaders on prescription drug use and misuse. Op-eds and articles placed throughout the state can serve as an effective method to reach the public, informing Virginians about the nature of this problem and how it is impacting individual lives.

Task Force Action: Accepted

Legislative Action: None