

Meeting Date: January 9, 2024

Attending:

- **Rachel Kaplan:** SCHRC
- **Marc Burrows:** Challenges, Inc & SCHRC
- **Margie Stevens, PhD:** UHC School of Medicine Professor (Research Assistant)
- **Amber Frazier, CPSS:** Courage Center in Lexington, SC
- **Kris Stepp:** AID Upstate Prevention and Mobile Unit Operator
- **Tricia Christensen:** CGE in Raleigh
- **Eric Ridings, SC DHEC:** Upstate DHEC (will finish Stigma Grant in December 2023)
- **Azhane Powell:** Founder of FyreBird Recovery & SCHRC
- **Rollie Martinson:** SCHRC

Discussion 1:

Conversation started off by briefly speaking on the fentanyl trafficking sting.

- Rollie mentioned to keep in mind that the people listed in this article are just some of the small-time dealers and drug users. Rollie also mentioned that he would like to compose/start a trend in an OD map and overdoses within Greenville, SC, and Pickens County. There seems to be solid research this year showing a causal link between large drug seizures and overdoses. He will get back with some results by the end of the Month.
- -Marc reminded everyone that when the fentanyl bill came out the worry was that the bill would not target other people the legislators would like to target. The list does prove that the individuals that were for sure targeted are low-level, and the hope was to catch those higher up the chain.

Discussion 2:

Recapping information with the Syringe Bill S854 that has been sponsored by Senator Tom Davis

- According to Marc, he still has not heard anything from Corey Davis regarding the bill.
- The language used for Community Distributer is a little in question.
 - How do you distribute the materials legally.
- The bill also does not mention paraphernalia laws.
 - It seems to just keep putting SSP work under Community Distribution.
- Art Street Institute Publication in the State of Delaware is where Senator Davis obtained his language for this bill. Marc also informed that Senator Davis also sits on the medical affairs sub-committee. This information was provided by Ed (per Marc B.) who has a close personal relationship with Senator Davis.
 - Kris asked if he will still reach out to try to speak to Senator Davis and per Marc, let Ed become the in-between person.
- Amber did ask if it is worth reaching back out to ACLU for some type of guidance about the bill and per Marc it would be nice to get some type of direction.
 - However, Marc wants to be careful attaching ACLU to anything.