

**Barnstable County Regional Substance Abuse Council
Governance Statement
Adopted 9-3-15**

I. Vision and Purpose

Barnstable County will have a coordinated and comprehensive regional approach to substance abuse across the continuum of prevention, treatment, intervention, and recovery.

The core functions of the Barnstable County Regional Substance Abuse Council are to:

- Establish and maintain a Cape-wide Regional Substance Abuse Council
- Establish a legislative and advocacy plan to effect policy change
- Facilitate funding and support of identified regional priorities
- Establish a communication strategy
- Support evidenced-based and promising practices and programs
- Provide surveillance, information management, and technical assistance

II. Structure and Roles

The Council is comprised of town and community leaders from across Barnstable County who are working to address the issue of substance use on Cape Cod.

i. Leadership

Recognizing that collaboration is needed to combat substance use, the County Commissioners shall appoint co-chairs representing the public and private sectors.

Co-Chairs are responsible for convening the RSAC, Advisory Committee, and monitoring progress on implementation of the Action Plan and Work Groups.

ii. Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee shall be comprised of the following:

- Co-Chairs
- Chairs of the Work Groups
- Parent support group representative
- Person in recovery
- Treatment provider
- School representative
- Community Health Center representative
- Barnstable County Sheriff
- District Attorney
- Elected Official

The Advisory Committee shall meet periodically and is primarily responsible for reviewing progress on the Action Plan and communicating the Council's advocacy agenda. New representatives and vacancies shall be added to the Regional Substance Abuse Council by invitation of the Advisory Committee.

iii. Council Representatives

The Regional Substance Abuse Council has multi-sector representation from stakeholders and organizations working on the issue of substance use in Barnstable County. A list of the sectors represented on the Council is found in Exhibit A.

Council Representatives:

- Support the core functions and principles of the Council
- Participate in at least 2/3 of regularly scheduled meetings
- Share information with the RSAC on topics of interest, resources, trends or research
- Act as the point of contact for two- way communication between the town or organization they represent and the Council
- Provide guidance and advice on the issues of substance use and addiction
- Provide feedback on the Action Plan and deliverables
- Assist with implementing the Action Plan and recommendations of the Council by participating on at least one Working Group

iv. Work Groups

The role of the Work Groups is to implement the strategies identified in the Regional Action Plan. There shall be Work Groups addressing Prevention, Intervention (Harm Reduction), Treatment, and Recovery. Each Work Group shall have co- chairs approved by RSAC Leadership.

Work Groups are comprised of Council Representatives, grant funded partners, and other members of the public who are interested in participating and supporting the work of the RSAC.

The Department of Human Services will staff the Work Groups.

III. Decision Making.

The Council strives to make decisions by consensus. Consensus is defined as a collective opinion or general accord. In circumstances where consensus is not reached, decisions are made by a simple majority vote when quorum is present.

IV. Communication

The Council utilizes a number of communication tools, including:

- Regular Council meetings
- Email and E-Newsletters
- Website
- Publishing reports to community
- Database of resources and information
- Social media

V. Open Meeting Law

The Council is subject to Open Meeting Law.

VI. Amendments.

This document will be reviewed periodically and updated as needed by the Council

Exhibit A

Barnstable County Regional Substance Abuse Council (2015)

* new seat 9-3-15

At – Large Seats (4-6)

Barnstable County Commissioner (1- Convener)

Barnstable County Department of Human Services (1)

Barnstable County Drug Court (1)

Barnstable County Public Health Nurse (1)

Barnstable County Sheriff (1)

Cape and Islands District Attorney's Office (1)

Cape Cod Community College (1)

Cape Cod HealthCare (2)

*Chamber of Commerce (1)

Community Health Centers (1)

*Department of Mental Health (1)

*Department of Children and Families (1)

Elected Officials (3) Hunt, Keating, Wolf

*Faith Community (1)

Gosnold on Cape Cod (2)

Harm Reduction Provider (1)

*Parent Support Group (1)

Physician (1)

Police/EMS (2)

Probation Department (1)

Recovery Supports (2)

School Adjustment Counselors (1)

School Nurses (1)

School Superintendents (1)

Town/Local Coalitions (up to 15) * reps from each town/ if a town has a substance use coalition there will be an appointee from that committee to sit on the Regional Council

*Wampanoag Tribe (1)

*Young Adult/ in Recovery (1)

Youth Serving Org (1)