EVENT BRIEFING MEMO: Safe Stations and Service to Address Opioid Crisis

Arlington Community Center ★ 36 Arlington St ★ Nashua, NH 03060

EVENT DATE AND TIME: May 10, 2018 | 1.5 Hours
HOST: Nashua Safe Stations, Mayor’s Office
Commissioner Lead: Chairman Joe Heck
Staff Lead:

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE:
In response to the opioid drug crisis facing New Hampshire, each Nashua, N.H. Fire Station is a designated safe environment for individuals seeking assistance and looking for treatment to start their path to recovery. At any time of day or night a person seeking help with substance misuse can go to any Nashua Fire Department Station and speak to the Firefighters on duty. The Firefighters will arrange for and/or provide a medical assessment and if there is cause for concern that something else is medically wrong with the patient, transportation will be arranged to an appropriate level medical facility and provided by Nashua’s contracted 911 Service AMR. As most city hospital emergency rooms may be overwhelmed with patients, this program assists all by weeding out those individuals seeking assistance that may not need immediate medical attention, but do need immediate help.

The Safe Stations initiative relies on partnerships between Harbor Homes, Inc., Keystone Hall, Nashua Mayor Jim Donchess, the City of Nashua’s Fire Department, and Ambulance Medical Rescue (AMR). St. Joseph’s Hospital and Southern NH Health System are additional collaborators in this effort.

The purpose of this meeting is:
➢ To showcase how public service is meeting the needs of a community.
➢ To better understand the impact of public service on a local level.
➢ To learn to what extent meeting the public health needs of communities constitute as service.

PARTICIPANTS:
Participants will be approximately nine individuals who represent different perspectives of the service being provided to the local community via the Safe Stations initiative. Key participants include:
● Jim Donchess, Mayor, City of Nashua
● George A. Walker, Assistant Chief, Nashua Fire Administration
● Peter Kelleher, CEO, Harbor Homes, Inc.
● Chris Stawasz, Regional Director, American Medical Response New Hampshire
● Bobbie Bagley, Director, Greater Nashua Public Health and Community Services
● Nikki Casey, Executive Director, Revive Recovery Center
● Dan Bennison, AmeriCorps Ready Corp Disaster Preparedness Coordinator
● Heather Haines, AmeriCorps Community Health Worker
● Kim Kleiner, Chief of Staff, Mayor’s Office and Arlington Street Community Center

*Bios and additional information on participants and organizations can be found on page 3 of this memo.
AGENDA:
11:30 - 11:35 AM Welcome remarks from Mayor Jim Donchess
11:35 - 11:40 AM Brief remarks and Commission introduction by Chairman Joe Heck
11:40 - 11:45 AM Roundtable introductions (name, organization)
11:45 - 12:30 PM Roundtable discussion

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:
The questions below are provided for guidance only and are not intended to serve as a protocol or script for the meeting.

General Questions on Service:

- What is the inherent value of service?
- What are the biggest barriers to service in the U.S. today?
- What is the right level of engagement in service for the entire population? Should all serve?
- Is the average American sufficiently exposed to all types of service opportunities?
- How can the U.S. increase the propensity for Americans, particularly young Americans, to serve?
- How can the U.S. increase participation in service by individuals with skills critical to address the national security and other public service needs of the nation?
PARTICIPANT BIOS

Jim Donchess, Mayor, City of Nashua
Mayor Jim Donchess graduated from Yale University in 1971 and received his J.D. five years later at the New York University School of Law. Jim was elected to Nashua city government for the first time in 1977, and he served for four years as Alderman-at-Large. He was elected as Mayor in 1984, and he served for two terms. Under his leadership, Nashua was awarded the “Best Place to Live in America” by Money Magazine. The award called national attention to the accomplishments of the city during Jim’s term, including good schools, a low crime rate, and a Triple-A bond rating. Nashua also won federal grants to develop Clocktower Place in our downtown, an effort that Jim championed. After his second term, Jim returned to his law practice in 1992 and worked to win fair outcomes for victims of workplace discrimination based on gender, age, race, ethnic origin and disability. Jim returned to the public service scene in 2011, when he was again elected as Alderman-at-Large. With his return to the Mayor’s Office, Jim hopes to make Nashua a city that works for all people by again making Nashua a welcoming community of families, businesses, and schools.

George A. Walker, Assistant Chief, Nashua Fire Administration
Chief Rhodes is a native of Danielson, Connecticut and began his career with Nashua Fire Rescue in 1987. He was promoted to Lieutenant in 2000, Captain in 2004, Deputy Chief in 2011, Assistant Chief in June of 2015 and his current position April 2018. Chief Rhodes graduated from New Hampshire Vocational Technical College - Laconia with an Associate's Degree in Fire Science and a B.S. in Public Service Management from Granite State College. He has attended the National Fire Academy and successfully graduated from both the Fire Service Financial Management and Executive Planning programs. Chief Rhodes served as a State Representative from 2008-2014 representing Nashua Ward 3 in the New Hampshire General Court.

Peter Kelleher, CEO, Harbor Homes, Inc.
Mr. Kelleher achieved his BA degree in Psychology from Clark University and his Masters in Social Work degree from Simmons College School of Social Work. He has more than 40 years of experience in the field of health and human services, non-profit management, low-income housing and facility development. Peter began his current career at Harbor Homes as the agency’s first employee in 1982. Under his vision, the Partnership model was born and nurtured, now serving approximately 10,000 community members annually. Peter also serves as board member of the National Health Care for the Homeless Council, on numerous local and state committees, and in 2015 was appointed as the New England representative to the Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans, where he will be providing advice to the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs in regards to veteran homelessness issues on a federal level.
Chris Stawasz, Regional Director, American Medical Response New Hampshire
Christopher Stawasz is AMR's Regional Director for New Hampshire and Maine. Christopher was born and raised in New Hampshire and was one of the first practicing paramedics in the state. We talk about the opioid crisis that is hitting New Hampshire and how EMS is combating the epidemic. There is a program in New Hampshire to place Narcan in the schools. Listen to how the EMS crews handled the change in allowing non EMS persons administer Narcan.

Bobbie Bagley, Director, Greater Nashua Public Health and Community Services
Bobbie Bagley is the Director of the Division of Public Health and Community Services, the public health entity for the City of Nashua. It is the first accredited Health Department in New Hampshire. All of the Departments within the Division offer services that directly impact the health, social, and economic well-being of the residents of the City of Nashua and the surrounding communities. Ms. Bagley is also a full-time nursing instructor teaching Policy and Politics in the Nursing Profession at Rivier University.

Nikki Casey, Executive Director, Revive Recovery Center
Nikki Casey has been the Executive Director of the Revive Recovery Center for a little over a year.

Dan Bennison, AmeriCorps Ready Corp Disaster Preparedness Coordinator
As an Americorps Vista member, Dan is positioned with the City of Nashua, NH Division of Public Health and Community Services. He coordinates volunteer events such as CERT Trainings, outreach, and other events targeted to at-risk and vulnerable populations to promote disaster preparedness.