



**Orange County Opioid Advisory Committee and  
Settlements Funds  
Friday, August 8, 2025  
9:00am-10:30am  
BCC Chambers 201 S. Rosalind Ave. Orlando FL 32801**

**Welcome & Introductions: Dr. Thundiyl, MD.**

**In Attendance:**

Name – *Organization*

**Panel:**

Dr. Josef Thundiyl, Orlando Health  
Sgt. Kevin Lopez – Orlando Police Dept  
Lt. Shane DeJarnett - Orange County Sheriff's Office  
Trinity Schwab – Central FL Cares  
Paul Maxwell – Central FL HIDTA  
Abraham Morris- City of Orlando  
Assistant Chief, Adrian Fernandez – EMS / Orlando Fire Dept  
Dr. Robert Karch – FL Dept of Health in OC

**Presenters:**

Dr. Thomas Hall - OC Drug-Free Office  
Ronique Bain - FL Dept of Health in OC  
Paul Maxwell & Britany Brown - Central FL HIDTA  
Lt. Shane DeJarnett - OC Sheriff's Office  
Sgt. Kevin Lopez - Orlando Police Department  
Jaime Bridges - Orlando Health  
Michelle Dodson – AdventHealth South  
Zach Downes & Kariely Negron – OC Health Services Dept.  
Cheryl Bello – STEPS  
Sharon Warner – Youth Families & Communities United  
Jamie Merrill & Cory Strong – Boys & Girls Clubs of Central FL

**Web-ex**

Name - *Organization*

Jasmatti Seearam – *OC Drug-Free Office*  
Tara Rao – *OC Drug-Free Office*  
Stephen Teal – *My FL Families*  
Ademola Adewale – *FL Hospital*  
Dee -

**Audience:**

Janet Rivera - *Drug-Free Office*  
Cristina Teixeira - *Drug-Free Office*  
Megan Giddens – *Drug Free Office*  
Alejandro Rojas – *Drug Free Office*  
Dr. Raul Pino - *Health Services*

**Public Comment**

No public comment at this meeting

**Approval of Minutes**

The committee approved the minutes drafted.

## **Introduction**

### **Orange County Drug Free Community** (*Dr. Thomas Hall*)

- Dr. Thomas Hall: In addition to committee reports, four presentations, two updates from Opioid Settlements funds, and two groups will present proposals for consideration for funding

### **Florida Department of Health in OC** (*Ronique Bain, MPH*)

- In the first quarter, the number of Fentanyl and Opioid urgent care visits increased.
- All drug urgent care visits decreased.
- Males were predominantly the ones getting care.
- Summary of Orange County Facilities with ED/ Urgent Care Visits
  - Orlando Regional Medical Center-49
  - Advent Health East Orlando-44
  - Advent Health Orlando-27
  - Orlando Health Central-24
  - Dr. P. Philips Hospital-23
- About 79.6% of visitors are Orange County residents.

## **Subcommittee Updates— Law Enforcement**

### **Central Florida HIDTA** (*Paul E. Maxwell, Jr. DIO*)

- Fentanyl/Heroin remains the top drug threat in central Florida:
  - Due to the highest percentage of non-fatal and fatal overdose deaths
  - In the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2025, the CFHIDTA initiatives seized 20.5 kilograms of fentanyl, 130,395 fentanyl pills, and approximately 17 grams of Heroin
  - Both are down from Q1 of 2024
  - heroin seizures have increased in the western regions of the United States
- Crystal Methamphetamine/ Ice ranked second-highest threat in Central Florida:
  - Testing revealed a purity of 95-98 percent
  - In the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2025, the CFHIDTA initiatives seized approximately 18.3 kilograms of methamphetamine
  - In the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2025, the CFHIDTA initiatives seized about 130 kilograms of methamphetamine
- Cocaine ranked the third-highest threat in Central Florida:
  - Mainly supplied by Colombian TCOs via the Caribbean Corridor and smuggled to Puerto Rican and Dominican drug Trafficking organizations
  - In the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2025, the CFHIDTA initiatives seized approximately 157 kilograms of Cocaine
  - In the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2025, the CFHIDTA initiatives seized approximately 160 kilograms of Cocaine
  - Current FDLE laboratory analyst has detected BTMPS in numerous drug seizures, almost always combined with fentanyl

## **Orange County Sheriff's Office** *(Lieutenant Shane DeJarnett)*

- Transitioned to a new reporting system to populate numbers better
- Overdose trends in Florida are like those around the country
- Local drug seizures in the past quarter:
  - 22 Kilograms of Cocaine
  - Promethazine, MDMA, Fentanyl Pills, and Cocaine
  - Cases concluded with over 170 lbs. of Cocaine seized
  - Recent Seizures (dog) 1<sup>st</sup> 24 lbs. methamphetamine 2<sup>nd</sup> time Kilo of Cocaine
  - Criminal drug networks are increasingly producing fake press pills that are Naloxone-resistant

## **Orlando Police Department** *(Sergeant, Kevin López)*

- Events in 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2025
  - Donate Easter Baskets to Project Noelle for children whose parents died of an overdose
- DEA Pill Take Back Event
  - Several cities in Orange County hosted drug takeback sites
  - Over 100 pounds of pills were collected
- Case Update: Indictment
  - On May 8, 2025, OIU and the SAO presented the overdose death case to a Grand Jury. Hector Luis Lefebvre was officially indicted for: Death caused by the unlawful Distribution of fentanyl
- Statistical Comparison 2024 VS 2025
  - Overdose Deaths - Q2 2024: 10 | Q2 2025: 13
  - Naloxone Deployments - Q2 of 2024: 33 | Q2 2025: 26
- Year-To-Date Comparison
  - 2024 vs 2025 Fatal Overdoses 21% as of 7/16/2025

## **Education & Prevention & Treatment**

### **Orlando Health** *(Jaime Bridges, LCSW)*

- Opioid Navigators interventions:
  - Expand the MAT bridge program through designating an LCSW or LMHC "Opioid Champion" within the care management team at all Orlando Health Campuses to
  - 292 Narcan kits were given to patients admitted to the ED or inpatient hospital services
  - 254 patients provided short-term MAT scripts to bridge the patient to outside treatment
  - Provided Education to 54 providers at ORMC

- To date, 405 patients have been discharged with short-term buprenorphine scripts to bridge patients to outside treatment

### **AdventHealth** (*Michelle Dodson, LCSW*)

- Expanding Navigator staff to help with intensive case management.
- Referring patients to various levels of care
  - 162 referred to Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT)
  - 128 referred to outpatient
- Discharged Medications for MAT
  - 109 boxes of Narcan distributed
  - 68 patients discharged on Buprenorphine medication
- Consults for Chemical Dependency vs Addiction Medicine
  - 1,537 consults to chemical dependency and 638 consults to addiction medicine

## **Opioid Settlements Funds Activities**

### **Orange County Health Services -Marketing** (*Zach Downes & Kariely Negrón*)

- Takeaways from the 2025 National Conference on Health Communication, Marketing, and Media (NCHCMM)
  - Acceptability & influence of health communications campaigns, shaping public perception & how they view health issues, youth substance use prevention & the relationship to mental health, nicotine & today's youth
  - Empowering parents & educators to prevent use
- Current Health Marketing Efforts
  - The Stop Overdose Campaign, however, is designed to target ages 18-34 with digital ads/social media, radio streaming, billboards, Lynx transit (buses & shelters), gas stations & local bars, and community events.
- New: Youth-Specific Efforts
  - CDC Free Mind Campaign & Vaping Education targeting among youth ages 12-17 (teens)
  - Connect young people with substance use, mental health, and drug overdose
  - Educate youth to initiate conversations with their parents, caregivers, and educators about mental health challenges.
- Planned Implementation Approach
  - Engaging the community through multiple media platforms & trusted voices (targeting both youth & parents/caregivers): PSA's, Fact Sheets & other materials, resource & conversation guides, community partnerships.

- **STEPS** (*Cheryl Bello*)

- Women's Residential 100% Occupancy
  - Funding has enabled them to enhance existing programs to meet the community's needs
  - Since May 2024, 33 unduplicated women with children have been served
  - Also, ensuring better physical health and coordinating medical care onsite
  - 100% Child Welfare Reunifications
  - No re-admissions within one year
- Pregnant Post-Partum Women
- Parenting, anger management, trauma, domestic violence, nutrition, self-help coping skills
- Reducing immense costs to multiple publicly funded systems
  - \$1,250,00 - Neonatal care (5 drug-free babies)
  - \$1,036,000 – Jail nights (20 x women diverted from 365-day
  - \$120.00 – Foster Care (18 children)
- Better Access to Treatment: Return on Investment Savings
  - \$91,638 – 27 Non-Emergency ER Admissions \$3,394 (average cost reported by MIRA)
  - \$184,500 – 9 Overdose ICU admissions (\$20,500 ICU cost reported by HFMA)
  - \$750,00 – Healthy newborns (\$250,000 NICU stay)
  - \$473,040 9 x One year jail sentences (\$144 per day cost)
  - \$69,120 x 15 VOP (30-day average jail nights)
  - \$14,000 x 14 Baker Act (\$900 based on a 30-day stay reported by legal clarity)
  - \$13,728 x 32 Non-violent Crimes (\$429 cost to respond only to a non-violent crime reported by RAND)

- **Youth Families and Communities United** (*Sharon Warner*)

- Focus on Prevention; School-Based Education, Family Centered interventions, Community-Based Programs, Community Outreach/Engagement
  - Multiple weekly morning resiliency-based parent programs at OCPS that engage parents
  - Multiple weekly evening resiliency-based family programs at OCPS that engage youth and parents in activities together
- CORE Mission and Achievements– Youth come back and give back
  - Staff and volunteers serve as mentors to parents and students

- **Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida** (*Jamie Merrill*)

- Opioid Prevention Programming
- Supporting more than 13,000 Youth across five counties
  - 99% of teens abstain from smoking,
  - 98% abstain from using marijuana

- 97% abstain from alcohol.
- 97% promoted to next grade level
- 95% Club members feel a strong connection with a trusted adult
- 93% of members feel physically safe at the club

**Open Discussion** (*Thomas Hall*)

- The committee will meet virtually to discuss today's proposals

**Next Quarterly Meeting:** 11/14/2025 at 9:00am

**Adjournment:** 10:30am

Prepared by: Janet Rivera Date: 8/12/2025

Approved by: Thomas Hall Date: 11/10/2025