

Northern Colorado Health Sector Partnership All Member Meeting

Addressing the Opioid Crisis | Table Question and Answers

Wednesday, May 29th

Table Questions:

- a. How do you see the rise in substance use impacting you as an employer, specifically in relation to your employees? If not the employer, your practice?
 - Lots of unknown, diversion (drugs) – few ease due to right protocol employability
 - Cost of screening/evaluation (pre-employment)
 - What’s happening in Boulder or other areas
 - Networking events – part of culture (alcohol)
 - Theft of medication, lack of employable workers
 - Clients being denied medications due to pre-auth and quantity limits placed on opiates
 - Rise in the need for service, dilemma for when to prescribe pain meds and when not to
- b. What processes or resources do you have in place to support employees dealing with substance use? Have these been effective?
 - Navigation, community connections, work-life partnership/EAP
 - State vs Fed Laws (marijuana)
 - Work-life navigator programs, MHFA – encourage employees to go
 - Employee assistance programs, CO-SLAW number
- c. What other resources/processes do you think would be beneficial for you as an employer?
 - Vaping Campaign/marijuana education (65% of employed population of CO is using marijuana)
 - Random drug testing, careful management
 - \$ expensive (\$65/screen)
 - Networking events
 - Communication between PCP and psychiatrist or other scribes
 - Integration of mental health services in practices
 - Pain management without medication (new therapies)
 - Reducing stigma in healthcare