



KyAPAC Policy Priorities 2023

1) Harm Reduction:

- a) Removing Fentanyl Test Strips as paraphernalia from the criminal code.
 - i) Changing the definition and awareness of what Fentanyl test strips are and how they work
- b) Good Samaritan law
 - i) Removing loopholes that could use this occurrence as ammunition to charge individuals with Manslaughter II for an overdose (poisoning).
 - ii) Closing loopholes that require law enforcement to arrest individuals that have an active warrant for arrest on individuals that utilize the GS law
- c) Narcan:
 - i) Support legislation that enforces Narcan to be in emergency kits in every public space and government building

2) Recovery Housing:

- a) Work with local groups to develop zoning definitions & policies that support recovery Housing in various places across the commonwealth.
 - i) Recommend working with state groups and the KRHN advisory board to work toward an adoption of RH statutes - Gene D, president KRHN Advisory Board
- b) Work with Cabinet to support NARR become a separate non-profit organization
 - i) Next steps: The Advisory board has been formed
 - ii) Work on partnerships with stakeholders in order to ensure definitions and policies to be written into statute are consistent with National Affiliate of Recovery Residences as adopted by Kentucky

3) Criminal Justice:

- a) Voting Rights bill:
 - i) Automatic restoration of voter rights of records after completion of programming and agreements
 - ii) Creating more awareness to remove criminal justices responses to activities that are inherent of Substance use disorders
- b) Clean slate Bill:
 - i) Automatic and automated expungement

4) Prevention Programing for K-12:

- a) Currently schools are required to do 1 hour of instruction for Mental Health/Suicide prevention, but there is little or no curriculum around substance use and recovery

5) Child abuse & neglect Expungement process:

- a) The ability to expunge offensives after completion of treatment or programming required by judge or court order. Having this on your record prevents parents



from being able to apply for equitable employment and begin the process for reunification.

- i) Registry needs to be evaluated by an expert that can address the impact of having this be a part of the process for treatment/programming of individuals if convicted.
- ii) **Next steps:** separate “abuse” and “neglect” charges as they can be vastly different. Develop a framework which can define charges, process, and for someone to get convictions expunged after completion of programs.

6) Telehealth:

- a) The ability for LCADC to bill insurance for telephonic services was given when the COVID emergency order was enacted by the Governor. Since the emergency order ended, providers have not been able to bill insurance companies for services, groups, and one on one care. As a result, participation in services have dropped significantly from participants especially in rural Kentucky.
 - i) Identifying gaps in regulation that the state legislature can aid in order to facilitate this effort

Regulations:

- 1) Access to Identification Cards & Real ID's:
 - a) There are serious challenges for those coming out of incarceration and treatment to get Identification cards. Real ID regional offices are a specific barrier for those with transportation challenges and/or employment limitations.
 - i) Adapting policies that allow for individuals to get ID's while incarcerated, whereas identification can be confirmed.
 - (1) **Recommendation:** Some counties have deployed pilot sites in rural areas that help returning citizens gain access to ID's before leaving institutions. These institutions need funds in order to facilitate these services.
- 2) First Responders:
 - a) Adding language that will allow for an EMT to be allowed to administer Narcan. They are only allowed to administer eight drugs, which Narcan is not one of them. EMT's currently have to seek NGO's in order to be trained to administer even though they are trained to give other life saving medicine and care.
 - b) **Narcan Administration for First Responders:**
 - i) Support new regulations for first responders to establish a new procedure when intervening in an overdose (poisoning) that will provide resources, family contact/intervention, or physician follow-up. (In memory of Josh Gritton)