

# Monthly Legislative Safety Committee Agenda Presentation – Jan. 2025

**Presenter(s):** Melissa and Camille

**Topic:** Drug Task Force Progress Update

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## Key Updates by Melissa

### 1. Fatality Review Board Development

- Organizational structure near finalization.
- Data collection and analysis in progress.
- Mock committee meetings being prepared.
- Last meeting held on 1/13/2025

### 2. Drug Task Force: Vaping Prevention

- **Vaping Roundtable Next meeting Feb 2025:** Sullivan 180 hosted 20 community leaders to address youth vaping surge in schools.
  - Key Focus: Prevention, education, and cessation.
  - Coalition for a Vape-Free Sullivan formed.
  - Pending JUUL settlement funds to support initiatives.
  - Contact for educational presentations: [Trainings@Sullivan180.org](mailto:Trainings@Sullivan180.org).

### 3. Drug Task Force Open Community Meeting Held on December 13<sup>th</sup>

- **Purpose:** Review 2024 accomplishments and outline 2025 plans.
- **Presentations:**
  - **Inpatient Substance Use Treatment Facility:**
    - Plans for reopening inpatient services in early 2025 at Garnet Health – Catskills campus.
    - Addresses loss of inpatient services in 2023; Catholic Charities has since expanded outpatient options for adolescents at Sullivan BOCES.
  - **Workforce Development:**
    - Scott Curry from the Center for Workforce Development highlighted employment opportunities for individuals in recovery.
- **Pillar Updates:** Reports provided from Maternal/Child Health, Finance, Community Supports, Treatment Providers, Hospital and Healthcare Systems, Prevention, Law Enforcement, and Veteran Support.
- This meeting marked the first held outside the Government Center, emphasizing the Task Force's outreach and community engagement.

### 3. Pillar Updates

- **Financial Pillar:** Tracking opioid abatement fund allocation.
  - **Medical Provider Services:** Addressing training needs and substance use trends in the medical field.
  - **United Sullivan:**
    - **Medicaid Billing Update:**
    - **Start Date:** Medicaid-funded services (housing, nutrition, non-medical transportation, case management) to begin January 1, 2025, under the 1115 waiver program.
    - **Hudson Valley Care Coalition (HVCC):** Preparing operations and fee schedules for participating agencies; updates to follow.
    - **Unite Us Platform:** Enhancing capabilities to manage Medicaid billing. Local reps to assist partner agencies with adjustments.
    - **Sullivan County Network Stats:**
    - **Total Cases:** 826 cases, 464 clients served.
    - **Active Organizations:** 36 locally; access to 200 providers statewide.
    - **Referral Metrics:**
    - **Sending Organizations:** 18 active senders (+1).
    - **Receiving Organizations:** 65.
    - **Referral Outcomes:** 492 accepted (65.0%), 174 rejected (23.0%).
    - **Top 5 Case Types:**
      - Housing and Shelter (21.5%)
      - Individual and Family Supports (18.0%)
      - Food Assistance (15.1%)
      - Mental/Behavioral Health (12.8%)
      - Benefits Navigation (12.0%)
  - **Treatment Providers:**
    - Key initiatives: PSA content, PALM Cards, Stabilization Center, Mobile Crisis services and First Responder Wellness
    - Workforce integration in treatment services underway.
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## Key Updates by Camille

### 1. Prevention Efforts

- **Hope Not Handcuffs:** Free training for Angels – Continued Recruitment
  - Flyers being distributed to sign up for training

### 2. Outreach and Prevention:

- **Cannabis Campaign:** Education on safe use, locking storage, and RX Destroyer for cannabis disposal.
- **Anti-Stigma Efforts:** Billboard and anti-stigma song in development.

- **Wound Care Kits:** SALT and Catholic Charities distributing kits and socks.
  - Going into vending machines
- **Youth Programs:** RESTART program operational; alcohol/drug education reaching over 60 students.

### **3. Policy Reform Pillar:**

- Working with SALT Legislative Action Committee
  - Adding Cannabis to the Social Host Law
  - Training & Education for Points of Sale
  - Looking to set up meeting with Legislators before next month's Safety Committee to talk about possible policies like proximity, signage, responsible sales

### **4. Law Enforcement Pillar**

- **QRT Initiatives:** Support for non-fatal overdose victims and jail release follow-ups.
- **HIDTA Analyst:** New hire to improve overdose data tracking.
  - **Visit to CAC on 1/24**

### **5. Veteran Pillar**

- Continued outreach and assistance for veterans.