

Meeting Minutes of the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment November 16, 2022

Attendees: Dr. Koehler, Gary Krushansky, Dora Radfor, Greg Hoffman, Beverly Sharp, Dr. Becker, Justin Smith, Brian Gallagher, Dr. Christiansen, Stephanie Thornton, Dina Williams, Dr. Maxwell, Nick Stuchell, Rachel, Thaxton, Kim Tieman, Lyn O'Connell, Dr. Eggleston, Commissioner Mullins, Judge Thompson, Garrett Moran, Sheila Reyndols, Jon Dower, Dr. Berry, Jostin Holmes, Melanie Purkey, Jack Luikart, Kim Tieman, Dr. KilKenny, Amy Saunders, Chad Napier,

Opening:

The regular meeting of the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment was called to order at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 16, 2022 by the Chair. The meeting was conducted by Zoom conference. Quorum was established.

Approval of Minutes

The Chair entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the July 20, 2022 meeting.

The motion was moved by Dr. O'Connell, and seconded by Councilmember Tieman. The motion was adopted.

Agenda Items

ODCP Update - Dr. Christiansen

Dr. Christiansen gave the Council an update on the current events and initiation for SUD in West Virginia.

State response to Addiction Policy Forum recommendations - Jessica Smith - Office of Drug Control Policy

Jessica Smith of the Office of Drug Control Policy gave the Council an overview of its documents regarding the 24 point plan.

Dr. Becker was impressed with the work. He also liked the idea of removing barriers to treatment, specifically MOUD and removing prior authorization requirements.

Dr. Eggleston agreed with removing barriers and looking at education pieces. Discussion was had on mandatory education requirements or an abbreviated version of the education for those who had already received education. Discussion was also had on making it easier for people to become trainers.

Dr. Moran opened a discussion on a study from 10 state medicaid programs issues regarding continuity of care.

Jon Dower opened the discussion to reimbursement rate of hospitalization, partial hospitalization or day programs. Organizations often must refer out of state for that level of care.

For Council information, there is an ACES coalition in West Virginia to collaborate with.

Dr. O'Connell discussed reforming the residential treatment model for women

The Chair asked for a Motion for the Council to endorse as potential policy changes

John Dower moved the endorsement and Dr. Berry seconded.

The Motion was adopted.

Overview of interdiction efforts - Jack Luikart - W. Va. Fusion Center

Jack Luikart, Quin Brown, and Don Herdman of the W. Va. Fusion Center presented to the Council.

The Fusion Center assists Law Enforcement with interdiction. The Narcotics Intelligence Center does case support and looks for ways to cut off the flow of drugs into West Virginia. It also looks at who is targeting West Virginia. Fusion Center has a shared dashboard of arrests for drug crimes that includes who is not from the state of West Virginia. The Fusion Center can analyze and locate individuals arrested in West Virginia who are not residents and correlate this information with home addresses and neighbors of those individuals. Further it can analyze if areas are under gang control and are those individuals targeting West Virginia. Fusion Center then prepares a report and shares it with DEA and local offices to collaborate. Had just begun putting overdoses into their dashboard.

Commissioner Mullins discussed treatment, prevention, and public health activities. Discussion was had on where this intersects with BBH and BPH. Further discussion was had on running social media alerts on days of the week when there are more arrests and ways to utilize this data. Fusion center was able to filter data to see where certain types of drugs are coming in such as fentanyl.

Dr. Becker added initiatives such as wastewater tracking to the discussion.

Review of Year 4 priorities and plan - Subcommittee Chairs

The Chair asked for a motion to approve the Year 4 priorities and plan. Dr. O'Connell moved and Dr. Maxwell seconded. The motion passed.

Agency SUD related updates - Various

BBH was continuing to stand up CCBHCs, working on standards and starting to talk about reimbursement rates and applying for new SUD funding. It had been monitoring the 988 call line implementation. This initiative was going well, with answer rates at above 90%. BBH was also working

with St. Joe's Recovery Center, Nicholas site to pilot a project with them that would enable committals to be stepped down to an actual treatment if they are committed for SUD issues.

BMS director Dr. Becker had retired in July and suggested that Dr. Harvey be invited to participate.

The Department of Education had disseminated the naloxone guidance developed by WVDHHR and shared with all school nurses at their annual conference.

The Chair asked for a motion to adjourn

Dr. Maxwell moved. The meeting was adjourned at 4:47 p.m.