

**Meeting Minutes of the Governor's Council on
Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment
Community Engagement and Supports Subcommittee
Housing Workgroup
Tuesday October 8, 2024, Approved**

Attendees:

Workgroup Members Attending: Bob Hansen (chair), Matt Johnson, Joey McComas, Nick Stuchell, Kristin Tiedeman

Not Attending: Emily Birkhead, Amber Blankenship, Danny Hale, Julian Levine, Tennysa Mace, Gwyn McGee, Jay Phillips, David Sanders, Jessica Smith, Jana Stoner, Krista White

ODCP Staff: Jostin Holmes

Marshall University Staff: Bradley McCoy

Opening:

Bob Hansen (chair) provided welcome and opening remarks of this meeting of the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment, Community Engagement and Supports Subcommittee - Housing Workgroup. The meeting was called to order on Tuesday October 8, 2024, and was conducted by Zoom conference. A quorum was not present to approve the September 2024 meeting minutes. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the Town Hall Meeting Report and 2025 State Plan Draft.

Agenda Items:

Review Town Hall Meeting Report

- Bradley McCoy provided a review of the Town Hall Meeting Report Summary document and the emerging themes.

KPI Q3 Progress

- Progress reports for Quarter 2 and Quarter 3 of 2024 are pending at the time of this meeting.

2025 State Plan Draft Due November 15, 2024

- The group reviewed the 2024 Plan and discussed the 2025 Plan.
- They would like to reduce the number of KPIs from six to focus on the completion of them.
- Bob Hansen will communicate the completeness of the six current KPIs to Bradley McCoy so the group will know what will remain in the plan next year. Bradley will email the current plan to all group members so that they can communicate suggestions back to him and to Bob prior to the November 5, 2024 meeting, when it will be finalized.
- In regard to SB475, public comment on the rule ended in August. It will go to the legislative rule review committee for approval in November. Final approval will go to the next legislative session in a rule bundle. It will then be up to the legislature as to when it will be effective. This workgroup identified as a priority to have discussion on how the bill will affect recovery bed

capacity. This bill and its effects will have to be considered in next year's plan in some way. The First Foundation is not funding an increase in the capacity of recovery housing as the Foundation is not funding non-certified recovery housing.

- The group discussed profit of out-of-state treatment providers based on the business model of the treatment and recovery continuum in West Virginia.
- An additional barrier discussed was recovery residences that charge residents who work for their own program fees are setting up additional barriers for them that prevent them from saving up for court costs, transportation, ID/license documentation, etc.
- Securing funding for some recovery residences can be difficult because they are not defined clearly in the recovery housing continuum.
- The group would like to inform providers, courts, and the public about the treatment and recovery residence continuum of care.
- The group would also like to see an increase in the number of referrals to recovery residences with empty beds, which could solve the problem of an unnecessary increases in bed capacity. Streamlining the referral process so that people do not get held up in court and with other responsibilities would better utilize the system currently in place.

Update on Housing Conference

- This agenda item was not addressed.

Reconfirm Workgroup Membership

- This agenda item was not addressed.

Establish Full Community Engagements and Supports Subcommittee Meeting

- This agenda item was not addressed.

Adjournment:

Bob Hansen closed the meeting by thanking all the workgroup members for their attendance and participation. The subcommittee will meet again on November 5, 2024, at 1:00 PM.