

**Meeting Minutes of the Governor’s Council on  
Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment  
Community Engagement and Supports Subcommittee  
Housing Workgroup  
Tuesday December 3, 2024, Approved**

**Attendees:**

**Workgroup Members Attending:** Emily Birckhead, Danny Hale, Bob Hansen (chair), Matt Johnson, Joey McComas, Gwyn McGee, Jay Phillips, Nick Stuchell, Kristin Tiedeman

**Not Attending:** Amber Blankenship, Jostin Holmes, Julian Levine, David Sanders, Jessica Smith, Jana Stoner, Krista White

**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 December 3, 2024, and was conducted by Zoom conference. A quorum was present to approve September, October, and November 2024 meeting minutes. Jay Phillips made a motion to approve without changes, and Emily Birckhead seconded with all in favor, and none opposed, and the minutes were approved. The purpose of this meeting was to develop materials for the December 18<sup>th</sup> Governor’s Council meeting, finalize the 2025 State Plan materials, and provide Housing Conference Updates.

**Agenda Items:**

**Review 2024 Accomplishments, State Plan 2025, and Introduction Paragraph**

- The group approved of the existing introduction paragraph with the addition of “safe and affordable” before housing.
- The following accomplishments were developed to share with the Governor’s Council:
  - 2024 WV Peer Recovery Support Services and Recovery Housing Conference held on December 12, 2024
  - Preliminary steps taken with several providers for universal data collection system
  - Measuring the status of recovery residences and available beds in the state with 18 homes 146 beds added this year.
  - Collaborate with the Fletcher Group, Inc. to develop an economic calculator for a return on investment in recovery housing.
- The 2025 Plan required the following updates:
  - Goal 1, Strategy 1, KPI 2: update FY2025 to FY2026.
  - Goal 1, Strategy 2, KPI 1: update the date to September 30, 2025.

### **December 18th Meeting of the Governor's Council**

- Bradley McCoy gave an overview of the December 18th meeting. Bob Hansen will be able to attend and present for this workgroup.

### **Q4 KPI Progress**

- Bob Hansen agreed to work on these individually and share them back with Bradley McCoy.

### **Update on Plans for Housing Conference**

- Over 300 people have signed up for the 2024 WV Peer Recovery Support Services and Recovery Housing Conference either in-person or virtually.
- Presentations and speakers include but are not limited to the following: SB475, grant compliance, a funder's panel, the Housing and Development Fund, the Fletcher Group, Inc, Rachel Thaxton, and certification changes.
- Additional workshops are available on Friday December 13, 2024, at The Schoenbaum Center in Charleston. This includes an outcomes platform presentation and a workshop from Jeff with the Ohio Recovery Housing group presenting their budgeting tool. An email update on Friday's presentations and an agenda will follow.

### **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 January 7, 2025, at 1:00 PM.

## Housing Workgroup State Plan 2025 Draft

### **Goal 1: Increase capacity of recovery housing in West Virginia.**

Strategy 1: Advocate for long-term funding to help strengthen and grow all levels and types of recovery housing in West Virginia where it is needed.

- KPI 1: Through December 31, 2025, determine the capacity needs for all types of recovery housing.
- KPI 2: By February 28, 2025, collaborate with the Office of Drug Control Policy and Bureau of Behavioral Health to identify funding needed in FY 2026 for the development of new recovery housing residences to meet capacity needs in West Virginia.
- KPI 3: By June 30, 2025, submit recommended strategies to the Community Engagement chair on how certified recovery residences may be sustainably funded.
- KPI 4: By December 31, 2025, increase the number of certified recovery residence facilities by 15%.
- KPI 5: By December 31, 2025, increase the number of certified recovery residence beds by 20%.

Strategy 2: Facilitate ongoing training and technical assistance for current and future recovery residence operators and staff.

- KPI 1: By September 30, 2025, conduct the third annual conference for recovery residence operators and staff, in collaboration with the West Virginia Association of Recovery Residences, Office of Drug Control Policy, and Bureau for Behavioral Health.
- KPI 2: By March 31, 2025, implement monthly promotion of the availability of technical assistance and resources (i.e., toolkits) for recovery residence operators and staff through multiple partners and outlets, including social media.
- KPI 3: By July 1, 2025, partner with the West Virginia Association of Recovery Residences and the Fletcher Group to assure development, implementation, and evaluation of a coaching/mentoring process for new and existing recovery residence operators.

Strategy 3: Facilitate the development and improvement of the utilization of recovery residences in a strong viable continuum of support for people in recovery.

- KPI 1: By March 31, 2025, develop recommendations for strategies that promote comprehensive, uniform data collection processes among recovery housing residences.
- KPI 2: By July 1, 2025, conduct outreach and data collection among residential treatment providers and payers (i.e., managed care organizations), to identify barriers, perceptions, and opportunities to strengthen linkages with recovery residences.
- KPI 3: By October 1, 2025, develop a written report that summarizes the data collected and provides recommendations based on the findings and present to Governor's Council.