

Meeting Minutes of the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Community Engagement and Supports Subcommittee Transportation and Employment Workgroup Tuesday, March 18, 2025, Approved

Attendees:

Members Attending: Alyce Almond, Jonathan Compton, Deb Harris (co-chair), Ashley Payne (co-chair), Jay Phillips, Brie Salmons, Stephanie Thornton

Guests Attending: Leah Cook, Todd Dorcas, Josiah Hannah, Bob Hansen, Keith King, Mark Lanyon, Britney Lowther, Jennifer Rohrig

Invited, Not Attending: Mike Austin, Terry Baker, Amber Blankenship, Laura Boone, Jeb Corey, Danial Gum, Alanna Keller, Ann Hammond, Tamara Lee, Joshua McGill, Lata Menon, Steve Roberts, Lori Thayer, Bev Sharp, Lorrie Smith, Stephanie Stout, Charlotte Webb

Marshall University Staff: Rachel Bledsoe, Bradley McCoy

Opening:

Deb Harris and Ashley Shaw (co-chairs) provided welcome and opening remarks of this meeting of the Governor's Council on Transportation and Employment. The meeting was called to order on Tuesday March 18, 2025, and was conducted by Zoom conference. A quorum was present to approve the January 2025 meeting minutes. Jonathan Compton made a motion to approve without changes, and Brie Salmons seconded with all in favor, and none were opposed. There was no further discussion and the minutes were approved. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss progress on 2025 State Plan key performance indicators.

Agenda Items:

Q1 Transportation Strategies, Goals, and KPI Progress:

- Goal 2, Strategy 1, KPI 1: 66%. The Workgroup has identified 2 out of 3 funding opportunities through the Interstate Planning Commission and ARC Inspire. The identification of third opportunity is scheduled for Q2.
- Goal 2, Strategy 1, KPI 2: 33%. A letter of intent has been submitted for identified Tri-State Transit Authority Program funding. An ARC grant application related to transportation has been submitted by Seed Sower to implement a transportation model.
- Goal 3, KPI 1: 0%. Groups are being identified for stigma training, including but not limited to, employers and correction facilities. The Workgroup suggested inviting faculty from an upcoming educational conference as well as instructors. The Workgroup also identified collegiate recovery peer networks for training.
- Goal 3, KPI 2: 10%. Ashley Payne and Deb Harris will reach out to Lyn O'Connell for the Collaboration of the Public Education Subcommittee to assist in obtaining the training materials.
- Goal 3, KPI 3: 0%. The materials are pending in the requirement to have two educational sessions with community groups and faith-based leaders.

- Strategy 2, KPI 1: 100%. The Workgroup has met their March 31st deadline and will continue to meet quarterly to identify resources available.
- Strategy 2, KPI 2: 100%. Potential areas have been identified with Seed Sower and Routes to Recovery for collaborative efforts.

Q1 Employment Strategies, Goals, and KPI Progress:

- Goal 4, Strategy 1, KPI 1: 25%. A Workgroup meeting was held in February regarding the next steps for the training which is centrally focused on increasing the number of recovery-friendly workplaces.
- Goal 4, Strategy 1, KPI 2: 0%. Assessment of 15 of the 25 employees is dependent on the completion of the KPI 1 training for workplaces.
- Goal 4, Strategy 1, KPI 3: 10%. Ashley Payne will follow up with Lynn O'Connell to obtain stigma reduction education materials and resources.
- Goal 4, Strategy 2, KPI 1: 10%. The Workgroup is scheduling a meeting for May 2025 to meet bi-annually to revise existing plans.
- Goal 4, Strategy 2, KPI 2: 50%. Creating Opportunities for Recovery Employment (CORE) has been identified and invited to participate in two more funding opportunities. One opportunity features an app development by John Hopkins that is focused on recovery. Workforce WV along with Jobs and Hope have also applied for grant funding. Todd Dorcas can assist in applying for funding and identifying smaller grant amounts with a focus towards 2026 projects. Ashley Payne can connect with Todd Dorcas about future partnerships.

Additional Discussion

- The First Foundation allows for direct funding opportunities by contacting its regional board members outside of full-scale applications for funding. Josiah Hannah will contact Ashley Payne about this opportunity.
- Over the next month Ashley Payne will reach out to Lyn O'Connell from the Public Education Subcommittee to attend an April meeting. Ashley will share these findings in May with the Workgroup and will also send out a sample agenda by the end of the week for approval.

Adjournment:

Ashley thanked the Workgroup members for their attendance and involvement. The Workgroup is scheduled to meet again on May 20, 2025 at 11:00 AM.