

# **Meeting Minutes of the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Courts and Justice-Involved Populations Subcommittee Tuesday January 14, 2025, Approved**

## **Attendees:**

**Subcommittee Members Attending:** Stephanie Bond, Candace Facemyer, Sam Hess, Judge Rowe, Stephanie Thornton (chair)

**Members Not Attending:** Amber Blankenship, Cindy Hill, Tom Plymale

**ODCP Staff:** Justin Smith

**Marshall University Staff:** Bradley McCoy, Rachel Bledsoe

## **Opening:**

Stephanie Thornton (chair) provided welcome and opening remarks of this meeting of the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment, Courts and Justice-Involved Populations Subcommittee. The meeting was called to order on Tuesday January 14, 2025 and was conducted by Zoom conference. A quorum was present to approve the December 2024 meeting minutes. Stephanie Bond made the motion to approve the minutes and Judge Rowe seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor, and none opposed. The purpose of this meeting was to begin 2025 key performance indicators (KPIs).

## **Agenda Items:**

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

- Stephanie shared how each sub-committee highlighted successes over the past year. The meeting provided good suggestions regarding this year's planning.
- At the December meeting Dr. Stephen Loyd mentioned seeing a release in real time and it posed the following questions discussed by this group. Do prescriptions during incarcerations have continuing support after release? Are these prescriptions the same across all facilities? Is there a possibility for inmates to experience prescription abuse when treating different substances while incarcerated?
- Bradley McCoy provided an overview of the March 10, 2025 cross-cutting issues meeting of all subcommittee chairs that will address opportunities subcommittees are seeking to collaborate with other subcommittees in the 2025 State Plan.

### **Updated Spreadsheet for KPI Management and Goals 2025**

- Bradley McCoy introduced the streamlined spreadsheet for managing KPI progress and quarterly reports.
- Goal 1, Strategy 4, KPI 1: Creating a Peer Family Support Specialist position within the Family Treatment Courts. There is funding for job creation. Stephanie Thornton will invite Amber

Blankenship and Dan McCawley from the Recovery Community Subcommittee to the February or March meeting for further discussion.

- Goal 2, Strategy 2, KPI 1: Stephanie Thornton will invite Deb Harris to the February Subcommittee Meeting for discussion with Jobs and Hope in addition regarding how to access available resources.
- Goal 1, Strategy 7, KPI 3: Stephanie Thornton is reaching out to Amy Tolliver from the Pregnant and Parenting Subcommittee and the WV Perinatal Partnership for a list of obstetrics provider resources to provide to jails and courts to establish intergenerational care for families.

**Additional Discussion:**

- Stephanie Bond will share updated LEAD information with new magistrates and judges as soon as she is able to do so.
- ODCP has a new Assistant Director, Laura McGuire.
- Family Treatment Court funding is in the legislative budget, and they have not heard back from the West Virginia First Foundation. They will have to fund the current ones before expanding. Family Treatment Court has dissolved in Putnam County, but a new one will begin in Cabell County.
- Measurements for Social Determinants of Health: How are public defenders measuring or collecting the measurements for this? The group discussed how it would not be difficult to uniformly ask this of clients; however, Sam Hess stated, "Can provide about 60-70% of their clients with this information, but many clients are only there for one hearing." Gaining the information from one visit is not as obtainable as when a client has repeated hearings. Those who slip through the cracks are often the ones who need case management around social determinants of health the most but are unable to be contacted. Stephanie Thornton will reach out to the Missouri State Office Public Defender for programming information in this area.

**Adjournment:**

Stephanie closed the meeting by thanking all Subcommittee members for their attendance and participation. The Subcommittee will meet again on Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at 10 AM.