

Meeting Minutes of the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Courts and Justice-Involved Populations Subcommittee Monday August 19, 2024, Approved

Attendees:

Subcommittee Members Attending: Candace Facemyer, Sam Hess, Cindy Hill, Judge Rowe, and Stephanie Thornton (chair)

Members Not Attending: Amber Blankenship, Stephanie Bond, Tom Plymale

ODCP Staff: Justin Smith; Rachel Thaxton

Marshall University Staff: Bradley McCoy

Opening:

Stephanne 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 Wednesday September 18, 2024, and was conducted by Zoom conference. A quorum was present to approve the August 2024 meeting minutes. Judge Rowe made a motion to approve without changes, and Sam Hess seconded with all in favor, and none opposed, and the minutes were approved. The purpose of this meeting was to provide Quarter 3 updates of KPI progress.

Agenda Items:

Town Hall Meeting Summary Report Review

- Stephanie Thornton and Bradley McCoy reviewed the Town Hall Meeting Summary Report and discussed overarching themes. Subcommittee members were encouraged to read the shared document before the October meeting to develop the 2025 Plan.
- An example of another state's solution to naloxone availability in jails was that in Delaware they use duct tape to secure naloxone to the wall of every cell so that it is readily available.
- In response to women being scared to seek SUD treatment while pregnant and parenting, West Virginia is not the most punitive state for it; however, the stigma around it persists. There is a nationwide issue of pregnant and parenting women not seeking treatment for SUD out of fear of how they will be perceived.
- Another concern the group discussed was the lack of treatment/recovery residences for target populations such as youth and pregnant and parenting women which is confirmed in Justin Smith's residence data.

2024 Q3 KPI Progress

- Goal 1, Strategy 1, KPI 1: 50%, Stephanie Thornton will get the next dataset in November. 40% of those in jail self-reported having a SUD problem in the initial dataset. Stephanie is going to reach out again to ask exactly what questions were part of this screening.

- Goal 1, Strategy 1, KPI 2: 50%, Stephanie has reached out to Wexford about MOUD injectable costs. Subutex is sublingual but injectables last longer so it would actually reduce time and labor spent on it.
- Goal 1, Strategy 1, KPI 3: 100%, complete.
- Goal 1, Strategy 1, KPI 4: 75%, Justin Smith has a map of correctional institutions and places that use SUBLOCADE. After realizing some deserts in the map, they reached out to regional coordinators who said they do use SUBLOCADE. The website and manufacturer were not able to confirm their usage. Justin is now using the Board of Pharmacy as a route of information because they should have its usage documented in their controlled substance database.
- Goal 1, Strategy 2, KPI 1: 100%, complete.
- Goal 1, Strategy 2, KPI 2: 50%, Cindy Hill and Stephanie Bond are scheduling these meetings.
- Goal 1, Strategy 2, KPI 3: 25%, this will need to be reconfigured with Dr. Stephen Loyd.
- Goal 1, Strategy 2, KPI 4: 50%, this is evolving. Jail Bill meetings would meet the requirements of Rule 46G. There could be a resource guide of best practices made. Training on the rule could be put on the agenda for judicial conferences. Cabell County and Raleigh County both use the rule and could show successful examples of it saving time and money for both the county and individuals. Written guidance could be disseminated to the Prosecuting Attorney Institute.
- Goal 1, Strategy 3, KPI 1: 100%, complete.
- Goal 1, Strategy 3, KPI 2: 0%, Stephanie Thornton has reached out to Dr. Lyn O'Connell.
- Goal 2, Strategy 1, KPI 1: 50%, Judge Rowe has left a message at the West Virginia Law Institute.
- Goal 2, Strategy 2, KPI 1: 100%, Stephanie Thornton has been attending the Transportation and Employment Workgroup meetings. They have identified gaps in services. There is a three-tier system of travel services: 1) things related to SUD treatment, 2) for Jobs and Hope participants everything related to SUD is reimbursable, 3) those who are not participants of Jobs and Hope and have adjacent SUD needs such as legal/child needs can request services that will be provided if bandwidth available. The group wants to hire a mobility manager whose sole job is to document available services.
- Goal 2, Strategy 2, KPI 2: 75%, have the information but need to prepare a written summary.

Establish Planning Schedule (Final Plan Due November 15, 2024)

- The group will draft the 2025 Plan during their October meeting and finalize it during their November meeting.

Reconfirm Subcommittee Membership

- The group reconfirmed their subcommittee membership and contact information.

Additional Discussion

- The group discussed that the new ODCP Director, Dr. Stephen Loyd has a focus on corrections. Stephanie Thornton has sent corrections and SUD data to Rachel Thaxton to forward to him.

Adjournment:

Stephanie closed the meeting by thanking all subcommittee members for their attendance and participation. The subcommittee will meet again on Monday October 7, 2024.