

Meeting Minutes of the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Law Enforcement Subcommittee Tuesday October 8, 2024, *Unapproved*

Attendees:

Subcommittee Members: Misty Atkins, Marty Hatfield, Lata Menon, Shawn Schwertfeger (chair), Kevin Williams

Subcommittee Members Unable to Attend: Adam Crawford and Errol Randle

ODCP Staff: Justin Smith, Yolanda Sowards, Dina Williams

Marshall University Staff: Bradley McCoy

Opening:

Chief Shawn Schwertfeger (chair) provided welcome and opening remarks of this meeting of the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment, Law Enforcement Subcommittee. The meeting was called to order on Tuesday October 8, 2024, and was conducted by Zoom conference. A quorum was present to approve the September meeting minutes. Kevin Williams made the motion for approval and Misty Atkins seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed with all in favor, and none opposed. The purpose of this meeting was to work on the draft of the 2025 State Plan.

Agenda Items:

Review Town Hall Meeting Report

- Bradley McCoy provided a review of the 2024 Town Hall Meeting Report. The group discussed how instead of specifying one program like Police and Peers, they would like to include more programs by using more inclusive language such as "expand community and law enforcement embedded peers." The group discussed how they would like to clearly define diversion goals in the future. The continuing education piece of the plan will hinge upon the training developed by Errol Randle, so the group needs to connect with him on that.

State Plan 2025 Draft (Final Draft Due November 15, 2024)

- The group actively worked on the 2025 State Plan Draft.
- The group would like to address diversion that is occurring but is not documented such as when circuit courts place people into drug court unbeknownst to prosecutors and what kind of code could be developed for this.
- The plan should consider all the touch points in the Sequential Intercept Model and how many places someone can be diverted. The group discussed including fire/EMS/and 911 in the subcommittee to address this.
- The group added an additional Goal 4 about CIT Training and diversion. However, it is possible that Goal 3 and Goal 4 will be combined into one goal about continued law enforcement education with one Strategy and associated KPIs that address Handle With Care and one Strategy and associated KPIs that address diversion and CIT and social

determinants of health. The Strategy should also address cultural sensitivity, stigma reduction, and trauma-informed care but more information is needed about how that will specifically be addressed directly in CIT Training or elsewhere.

- Handle With Care has seen a 30% decrease in utilization since their new system rolled out. A steering committee has been established to address this. Justin Smith pointed out that it may correlate with the 30% decrease in overdose events seen in ODCP's data.
- The group would like to sit with the current version of the plan and send suggestions to Chief Schwertfeger and Bradley McCoy for their inclusion in the final version. After putting together the group's suggestions, they will finalize the plan at the November 12, 2024 meeting. The working version is included below in the minutes.

Reconfirm Subcommittee Membership

- The group reconfirmed their subcommittee membership and confirmed their job titles and email contact information were correct. The group would like to engage more members to expand to other first responders/agencies.

Adjournment:

The Chief closed the meeting by thanking all subcommittee members for their attendance and participation. The subcommittee will meet again on Tuesday November 12, 2024, at 9:00 AM.

Law Enforcement 2025 State Plan Draft

Goal 1: Equip and train law enforcement agencies to respond to overdoses.

Strategy 1 Provide education and training on naloxone, self-care, harm reduction principles, stigma, and models for responding to overdoses to all law enforcement officers.

KPI 1: By December 31, 2024, provide at least two training events per year (virtual and in-person) for law enforcement that includes naloxone administration, self-care, harm reduction, stigma reduction, and models for responding to overdoses. (50% complete)

KPI 2: Through December 31, 2024, convene a workgroup that will be focused on coordinating/planning trainings and tracking of number trained. (50% complete)

Goal 2: Provide law enforcement with analytical tools, techniques, resources, and policies to improve enforcement of drug laws.

Strategy 1 Utilize the Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program to identify drug trafficking routes across state lines and encourage local law enforcement to enter overdose data, as required by law.

KPI 1: Through December 31, 2024, continue to inform all local law enforcement agencies and first responders that entering overdose data into the Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program within 72 hours of overdose is state required and report number of trainings provided. (0% completed)

KPI 2: Through December 31, 2024, continue notifying state and local law enforcement of overdose events and apparent drug routes identifiable via the Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program and report the number of notifications provided per month. (75% complete)

Goal 3: Strengthen use and implementation of strategies among law enforcement and first responders to address incidence and prevalence of children's exposure to violence/trauma. (consider collapsing this goal with the proposed Goal 4 so that both are about training with one strategy about Handle with Care and one strategy about diversion and CIT).

Strategy 1 Support and expand the Handle with Care program to all first responders in all 55 counties of West Virginia.

~~KPI 1: By December 31, 2024, offer training on Handle With Care and Handle With Care protocols to at least 400 law enforcement officers. (75% complete but finished by next meeting).~~

~~KPI 2: By December 31, 2024, offer training on Handle With Care and Handle With Care protocols to at least 200 personnel who interact with law enforcement to include emergency medical services, 911, social workers, mental health providers, victim advocates, teachers, and school staff. (100% complete)~~

KPI 3: Through December 31, 2024, maintain law enforcement referrals and use of Handle with Care that are reported quarterly to identify opportunities for continued improvements, additional supports needed, etc. (65% complete)

Goal 4: Continue and strengthen the education of diversion with Law Enforcement. (consider combining this goal with the proposed Goal 3 so that both are about training with one strategy about Handle with Care and one strategy about diversion and CIT).

Strategy 1 Provide education and training to all law enforcement officers and first responders on diversion, trauma-informed care, cultural sensitivity.

KPI 1: By December 31, 2025, provide at least two training events per year (virtual and in-person) for law enforcement and first responders that includes CIT, social determinants of health, and Sequential Intercept Model.