



# **Meeting Minutes of the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Law Enforcement Subcommittee December 12, 2023, Approved**

## **Attendees:**

Gary Krushansky, Chad Napier (co-chair), Shawn Schwertfeger, Justin Smith

## **Opening:**

Chad Napier (co-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, December 12, 2023 and was conducted by Zoom conference. A quorum was not present to approve October meeting minutes, and they were tabled for the next meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to review and finalize the 2024 Law Enforcement section of the State Plan.

## **Agenda Items:**

### **Review of 2024 Plan**

- The courts subcommittee aims to collaborate with the law enforcement subcommittee in order to diminish stigma within law enforcement training. Chad acknowledged that this aligns with their Goal 1, but the final decision will be deferred to the incoming chair in 2024.
- Chad also mentioned the potential inclusion of LEAD programs in their strategies. Gary highlighted its recent expansion and shared details from the budget meeting held yesterday, discussing plans to extend the program to Ohio and Berkeley County in 2024, encompassing all eight action counties. Gary additionally raised Senate Bill 323, addressing gaps in the law enforcement intercept model. He advocates for LEAD to encompass pre-arrest, post-arrest, and re-entry phases.

### **Subcommittee Updates**

- Gary is set to step down as the chair of the Law Enforcement subcommittee, and Chief Schwertfeger has been recommended to assume his position. The recruitment of new subcommittee members will take place in the upcoming year.
- Justin reported completing two trainings, despite initial cancellations for two academy classes, and expressed the goal of achieving 100% completion for Goal 3, Strategy 3, KPI 1.
- Justin also provided an update to the subcommittee regarding the validation of suspected overdose data, which is currently a few months behind. He anticipates improvement in this process with the implementation of automatic data collection in the coming year.
- Chad will be introducing Shawn to the Colonel of the Police Academy.

**Additional Discussion**

- Chief Schwertfeger is looking to organize a meeting in Charleston to discuss LEAD programs and intends to contact Gary regarding this matter.
- Chad suggests that consideration should be given to Errol Randall, a retired individual from Charleston PD, for potential inclusion in the subcommittee.
- Chad provided the subcommittee with contact information for Misty Atkins, the new director for the West Virginia Center for Children's Justice.

**Next Steps**

- Shawn will reach out to current subcommittee members by mid-January to convene.
- Chad will facilitate the connection between Shawn and the Colonel of the Police Academy.

**Adjournment:**

Chad closed the meeting by thanking all subcommittee members for their attendance and participation. The subcommittee will meet again in the new year.