

Meeting Minutes of the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Prevention Subcommittee June 15, 2023, Approved

Attendees:

Michele Bowles, Tahnee Bryant, Tammy Collins, Lori Garrett-Bumba, Stephanie Hayes, Nancy Hoffman, Deb Koester, Amy Saunders (co-chair)

Opening:

Amy Saunders (co-chair) provided welcome and opening remarks of this meeting of the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment, Prevention Subcommittee. The meeting was called to order on Wednesday, June 15, 2023 and was conducted by Zoom conference. May meeting minutes were tabled for the next meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to review 2023 Quarter 2 KPI Progress for the Prevention section of the State Plan.

Agenda Items:

KPI Corrections:

- Goal 2: The word "accountability" is currently displayed in red on the website and needs to be changed to black.
- Goal 4: On the website, the word "substances" is marked with a strikethrough.
- Amy also expressed the request to include Jostin Holmes from the WV ODCP and Gig Robinson from the ADA in the meeting invites.

2023 Q2 KPI Progress:

- Goal 1: Lori is currently engaged in updating the work related to Goal 1, which involves workforce training and credentialing. The focus is on addressing barriers that hinder individuals from obtaining prevention certifications, such as the requirement of a degree in health and human services. Michele, who works in tobacco, mentioned that her role as a tobacco treatment specialist enables her to provide a 3-day cessation program at WVU for her employees, including hotel accommodations. She suggested that a PLO could also benefit from this knowledge. Amy proposed that hosting these trainings at colleges would be beneficial as well. Tahnee mentioned that while some initiatives are incorporating vaping, current programs

still prove useful in cessation, even if they primarily focus on tobacco. Michele will provide the date for the next cessation programming. Lori expressed her willingness to create a one-page document that addresses barriers and explores certification models from other states. Nancy pointed out that there are several shared issues that are currently trained separately, such as prevention and sexual violence prevention. She suggested having a core training program that addresses the co-occurrence of these issues and proposed joint credentialing certification within the subcommittee. Lori will verify the feasibility of this idea with the certification board, and if not possible, Amy suggested exploring cross-training opportunities through Marshall University to address these interconnected issues. Tammy highlighted that this collaboration could create practicum opportunities for students across various prevention areas. Additionally, Tammy mentioned having an IC/RC list of criteria for each state and will review it, specifically focusing on certifications that only require a high school diploma, as West Virginia currently has the highest level of certification requiring a bachelor's degree. The discussion also touched on the importance of developing different levels of training for associate degree holders.

- Goal 4: Michele provided an update on Catch My Breath, stating that they have been collaborating with partners to develop a standardized plan, and training sessions have already taken place. Amy mentioned that she intends to join those meetings and pointed out that the focus is on establishing partnerships with middle schools, with the aim of scaling up the program statewide over multiple years. They are also working with a national youth advocacy program. The subcommittee can contribute to this initiative by identifying partners for counties that are currently not listed. The plan includes hosting a two-day program, with three hours of training per day, as well as offering a 40-minute curriculum spread over three days. Incentives will be provided to schools to encourage their participation, and pre- and post-data will be collected. The launch of the program is scheduled for August.

Additional Discussion:

- Tahnee mentioned that she is currently reviewing the biannual report for ODCP to ensure its alignment with meeting the KPIs. She requested the meeting minutes to include in the report.
- Amy emphasized that resources and funding were identified as a primary concern for the upcoming meeting with Dr. Gupta in order to meet next year's KPIs. Deb proposed developing a budget within the next six months to explore potential assistance from ODCP.
- Deb announced that Town Hall Meetings are scheduled for August, and specifically, the Prevention Subcommittee's meeting is set to take place on Wednesday, August 30th, from 10am to 12pm.
- Amy asked the members to review the slide that highlights strengths, opportunities, as well as barriers and roadblocks.

Adjournment:

Amy closed the meeting by thanking all subcommittee members for their attendance and participation. The subcommittee will meet again in July.