

# Meeting Minutes of the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Prevention Subcommittee Thursday October 17, 2024, Approved

## Attendees:

**Subcommittee Members Attending:** Tahnee Bryant, Christina Chill, Tammy Collins, Lori Garrett-Bumba, Stephanie Hayes (co-chair), Nancy Hoffman, Greg Puckett, Gig Robinson, Amy Saunders (co-chair), Elizabeth Shahan

**Invited, Not Attending:** Michele Bowles, Jostin Holmes, Jenny Lancaster, Melanie Purkey

**Guest Speaker:** Jonathan Board (First Foundation)

**ODCP Staff:** Jessica Smith and Dina Williams

**Marshall University Staff:** Bradley McCoy

## 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 Thursday, October 17, 2024, and was conducted by Zoom conference. A quorum was present but to save time for presentations the September minutes were tabled for the next meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to meet with the guest speaker, Jonathan Board, from the First Foundation.

## Agenda Items:

### Guest Speaker, Jonathan Board (First Foundation)

- Jonathan Board provided background information about the inception of the First Foundation as a private nonprofit organization. After the memorandum of understanding was formed, they were the only state organization like it around the nation so there was not a blueprint for how this was going to work. Transparency has been very important to them. They want to fund services to continue the upstream positive effects in the continuum of care. They were officially recognized during the 2023 legislative session, appointed a board in November 2024, and administratively operational in May of 2024. Folks have the opportunity to apply for grants and ask for partnerships throughout the year unlike other grant funding sources such as ARC or SAMHSA. They have also published their scoring process and rubric for funding applications for transparency purposes. Final funding announcements will be made by the end of the year.

### Prevention Presentation to Jonathan Board (First Foundation)

- Amy Saunders provided a presentation on the field of prevention science and how it applied in West Virginia. Prevention work is primarily federally funded. Amy discussed the continuum of care and how promotion and prevention are at the forefront of the SUD continuum. Amy also reviewed the Institute of Medicine's categories of universal, selective, and indicated prevention levels. The goals of prevention are stopping early use, stopping first time use, and stopping use

progression. It is also important to note that prevention is lifelong and developmentally targeted. The group discussed using a presentation like this at the community level to educate people about the evidence-based, data-driven, scientific nature of prevention efforts. Amy discussed risk factors versus protective factors. She continued to explain the social ecological model and social determinants of health. The group discussed how services provided across communities can be vastly different from one another. There is a need for user-friendly databases with all national and state data in one place as well as regionally available services. Data from various sources can have varied results and to have them all in one place that is easily accessible to the public would be amazing. Amy presented on prevention specialist training and what the prevention workforce looks like in the state of West Virginia. The goal is to further invest in primary prevention infrastructure and workforce development with the needs-based information provided by local coalitions.

- Amy Saunders will send out the slides from today's presentation, the associated two-pager, and any data/research information one-pagers the group has from various studies to Jonathan Board.

#### **2025 Plan Final Draft Due November 15, 2024**

- Amy Saunders is sending out a poll of member availability for dates and times to meet and work on the 2025 State Plan before November 15, 2024.

#### **Reconfirm Subcommittee Membership**

- This will be addressed at the next meeting.

#### **Additional Discussion**

- The Prevention Summit is November 14<sup>th</sup> in Charleston and will be hybrid with a virtual option. They will be reviewing the Prevention Strategic Framework at this meeting.

#### **Adjournment:**

Amy closed the meeting by thanking all subcommittee members for their attendance and participation. The subcommittee will meet again before the November 15<sup>th</sup> due date of the 2025 State Plan.