

Opioid Response Region 4 Council Agenda

October 7, 2024

10:00 am

Virtual Meeting Attendance

On October 7, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. Board members, Advisory Council members, vested partners, community members from across the Eastern District, and staff from the Colorado Attorney General Opioid Response Unit attended a virtual meeting to continue the work of the Opioid Response Region 4 Council.

Present were:

Board Members: Scott Weaver – Yuma County, Gordon Westhoff – Morgan County, Chris Richardson – Elbert County, Sheriff Dave Martin – Morgan County, Stan Hitchcock – Kit Carson County, Terry Hofmeister – Phillips County, Mike Brownell – Logan County, Adam Gates – Yuma County

Advisory Council Members: Jennifer Mackender – Colorado Consortium, Kristin Carpenter – Colorado Consortium, Tonya Wheeler – Advocates for Recovery Colorado, Trish McClain – Northeast Colorado Health Department, Valerie Boyd – Kit Carson County Public Health, Dante Gonzales – Centennial Mental Health Center, Jim Kuemmerle – CSU Office of Engagement and Extension

Also present: Brandi Ritchey – Yuma County, Erika Greenburg – Centennial Area Health Education, Mellie Ryan – Colorado ROOTS, Sarah Arntt – New Vision, Jack Devie – Milestone Community Wellness, Lindsey Simbey – Velocity BioGroup, Andy Larrick – CMHC, Angela Shuff – CPFS, – Kelly Kretzer – Alosa Health, Lyn Weyand – NCHA, Ashley – CMHC, Ailala Kay – OMNI Institute, Melissa Rorie – OMNI Institute, Lauren Rosenbaum – OMNI Institute, Shon Reed – OMNI Institute

Minutes

Mike Brownell moved to approve the September meeting minutes, and Chris Richardson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

COAC Updates

There were no COAC updates. See below for discussion on the COAC Conference.

Recap of COAC Conference

Those who attended the COAC Conference had a lot of positive things to say. People enjoyed seeing each other in person, networking, and sharing success stories. Region 4 participants were able to brainstorm collaboration efforts for the upcoming infrastructure grant.

Sheriff Martin was nominated for an award and was presented with a check to help fund MOUD services in local jails.

A big theme of the conference and important takeaway was to have more community outreach and involvement. There was a discussion during the meeting on community buy-in.

Financial Reports

Brandi Ritchey reviewed the financial report and gave updates on funding allocations.

There was a request for the amount of remaining funds that has not been allocated to current RFPs.

Mike Brownell moved to approve the October financial report. Gordon Westhoff seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

OMNI Evaluation Updates

Melissa Rorie was introduced as a new member of the OMNI team. OMNI discussed wrapping up the evaluation of the first year of the transportation RFP. They will share an annual report with the Council later in the year.

Mellie Ryan of Colorado ROOTS gave an overview of the organization. They are a collection of hospitals, treatment providers, and support providers who came together to make resources more accessible in the region. They also connect patients to resources via an online portal. Colorado ROOTS will begin sharing data on their work related to the Treatment/Recovery RFP in January.

Data still needs to be shared from the jails that are receiving MOUD funding.

OMNI shared a case study they created on Region 4's progress. The case study was shared at the COAC conference and is on the Region 4 website.

Upcoming Grants/Funding Opportunities

OMNI shared the AmeriCops VISTA Sponsoring Agency Request for Concept Papers, Colorado Community Initiated Solutions Grants from the Colorado Health Foundation, and the MOUD Training and Mentoring applications. Grants are posted to the Region 4 [website](#).

Unscheduled Business

- The Colorado Consortium is hosting a [conference/annual meeting](#) on October 31
- A participant asked for more information on methadone and was connected with Colorado ROOTS who could share resources
- A representative from Alosa Health shared about their medical education outreach work
- Sarah Arntt shared a reminder of the NECO- S.T.I.R (socialize, talk, interact, remember) meeting on 10/8

Next Meeting

The November meeting will be held on Monday, November 4, 2024, at 10:00 am.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:59.

Scott Weaver, Board Chair