

Opioid Response Region 4 Council Agenda
February 3, 2025
10:00 am
Virtual Meeting Attendance

On February 3, 2025, 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, Stan Hitchcock – Kit Carson County, Terry Hofmeister – Phillips County, Adam Gates – Yuma County, Tim Malone – Morgan County, Benjamin Ferree – Town of Limon, Sheriff Dave Martin – Morgan County

Advisory Council Members: Tonya Wheeler – Advocates for Recovery Colorado, Trish McClain – Northeast Colorado Health Department, Michelle Pemberton – Northeast Colorado Health Department, MJ Jorgensen – NCHA

Also present: Brandi Ritchey – Yuma County, Erika Greenberg – Centennial Area Health Education Center, Shauna Richardson – Centennial Area Health Education Center, Kristin Carpenter – CO Consortium, Jannndiette Sims – CO Consortium, Jim Kuemmerle – CSU Office of Engagement and Extension, Calandra Lindstadt – CO Behavioral Health Administration, Dayna DeHerrera-Smith – Porch Light Health, Jack Devie – Milestone Community Wellness, Jack Patterson – CO AG’s Office, Mellie Ryan – CO ROOTS, Sarah Arntt – New Vision Withdrawal Management, Angela Shuff – AFRC, Ashley Weycer – CMHC, Elly Bailey – CMHC, Shaun Wilson – Hope House, Anessa Minner-Lee – Antelope Recovery, Amber Delay O’Connor – Porch Light Health, Ailala Kay – OMNI Institute, Shon Reed – OMNI Institute, Lindsay Houston – OMNI Institute, Thao Lam — OMNI Institute

Minutes

Dave Martin moved to approve the January meeting minutes, and Terry Hofmeister seconded. The motion passed without objection.

COAC Updates

There were no updates shared.

Financial Reports

Brandi Ritchey shared the current Region 4 financial update.

The Council reviewed funding to date, current funding areas, and the current total unallocated funds.

Dave Martin moved to approve the February financial report. Stan Hitchcock seconded. The motion passed without objection.

Social Media Follow-up

Following the purchase of Hootsuite social media management platform, OMNI has created Facebook and LinkedIn accounts for the Region 4 Council and posted a first post on both accounts promoting this February Council meeting. OMNI is in the process of building out a posting calendar to schedule upcoming posts.

Suggestions were brought up for youth and families to be a target audience for social media efforts, with potential platforms promoting to parents, schools, and private local groups.

Infrastructure Grant Funding

In January, the Board agreed to provide support for a neighboring region's proposal for a platform/app that would allow for real-time overdose reporting and tracking by community members and local providers. In addition, Colorado Roots submitted an Infrastructure application on behalf of Region 4 to fund a withdrawal management unit and recovery housing. The region will learn about funding decisions on these awards in June 2025.

Upcoming Grants/Funding Opportunities

OMNI shared the RCORP Grant, Infrastructure Grant, Rural Health Care Program – Healthcare Connect Fund, and the Colorado Community Initiated Solutions Grants. Grants are posted to the Region 4 [website](#).

There was an inquiry on the status of the federal RCORP Grant. Local organizations will follow up on any pauses in federal funding for those opportunities.

Next Round of Region 4 RFP Planning

The Council reviewed funding that will finish Summer 2025 for CMHC, NHCA, and OMNI, and discussed an opportunity to conduct an open RFP process for the next round of funding. Advantages of an open RFP process include launching efficiency and the potential for a larger reach to communities, allowing more applicants in a rural area like Region 4 to apply and thereby more potential for innovative ideas.

The Council discussed disadvantages along with advantages of an open RFP process. Mentioned concerns included application volume and the possibility of more applications that service certain areas instead of the entire region. A suggestion was brought up to utilize a blend of RFPs through both traditional and open processes, with the former targeted towards supporting growth/momentum opportunities. OMNI will revise the past Region 4 RFP to reflect an open RFP and will bring proposal to the Board for review prior to opening the RFP during March to applicants.

OMNI Evaluation Updates

OMNI has received data from NHCA, CMHC, and CO ROOTS, which will be shared at the next meeting and posted on Yuma County's website.

OMNI shared that the evaluation report detailing the first quarter of data received by local jails receiving MOUD funding has been completed. While invoicing has led to slower data retrieval, OMNI will continue updating the Council for the next three-month period. Over the course of a three-month period, 29 people received MOUD and 40 MOUD instances were supported by

Region 4 funds, highlighting the funding's extensive support for the community. The report is posted on the Region 4 [website](#).

Unscheduled Business

- Sarah Arntt's shared a tentative networking collaboration with NECO-S.T.I.R.'s (Socialize, Talk, Interact, Remember) on June 10th.

Next Meeting

The March meeting will be held on Monday, March 3, 2025, at 10:00 am.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 am.

Scott Weaver, Board Chair