

Omni Institute Report

Colorado Opioid Region 4 Treatment and Recovery RFP Quarterly Evaluation Report Quarter 2 (January 1 – March 31, 2025)

Colorado ROOTS



Background

In its second round of funding, the Colorado Region 4 Opioid Council awarded the Colorado Rural Opioid & Addiction Treatment System (ROOTS) with funds to improve access to treatment and recovery services in the region through care coordination, educational programming, and technical assistance. The ROOTS network currently comprises over ten Eastern Plains hospitals or health systems as well as numerous addiction treatment specialists and peer support organizations. Through their efforts, providers and individuals with OUD and other SUDs alike are more easily able to access education on comprehensive addiction care and connections to services.

As the contracted evaluator, Omni worked with ROOTS to develop a comprehensive set of indicators to showcase the impact of their programming on care coordination and education within Region 4. This evaluation report provides a detailed account of the grantees' activities during the second quarter of the grant period (January 1, 2025 – March 31, 2025).

Year 1 Quarter 2 Grant Accomplishments

Completed

First medical peer training with Milestone Community Wellness

One New Hospital

engaged in **outreach for new partnership**

LMS Upgrade

in process with **launch scheduled for next quarter**

Gap Analysis

completed at **One additional hospital**

8/10

Region 4 Counties were directly served

2

New hospitals onboarded: Sterling Regional Medical Center and Haxtun Hospital

4

Hospitals became involved in **new initiatives**

5

Partners became involved in **new initiatives**



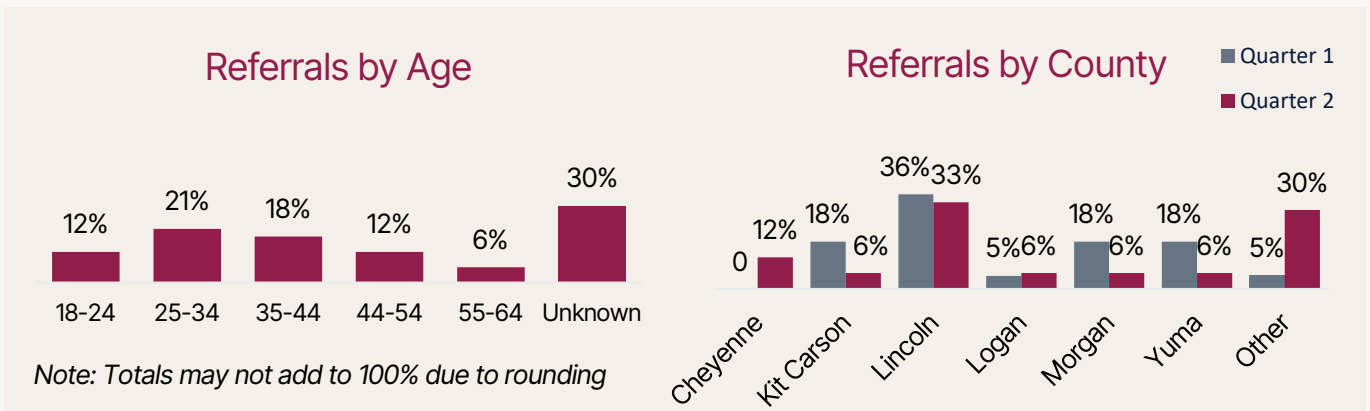
Services Provided

Care Coordination

ROOTS provides care coordination for referred patients with OUD/SUD to see clinicians who are able to provide appropriate care. Care coordination is provided for each of the four American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) levels of care (Outpatient Care, Intensive Outpatient Program [IOP/HIOP], Residential, and Inpatient) and peer recovery. Hospitals and clinics can refer patients through an online form, available at www.coloradoroots.us or by calling 719-96-ROOTS.

There were **21 Incoming Referrals** and **12 Outgoing Referrals** in Quarter 2

Referrals by Provider: [Lincoln Health \(7\)](#) | [Porchlight Health \(5\)](#) | Peer Support (3)



Education and Outreach

ROOTS hosts educational and outreach events for SUD providers in Region 4. They host and attend rural leadership and implementation meetings to communicate with each facility and build relationships between partners. Outreach is done with individual providers and the Eastern Plains Healthcare Consortium (EPHC), which comprises partner hospitals from across Region 4.

7 Facilities received outreach	8 Interactions between ROOTS and Providers	53 Providers connected for greater service collaboration
3 Site Visits completed	2 Virtual Trainings held	3 Continuing Medical Education trainings held

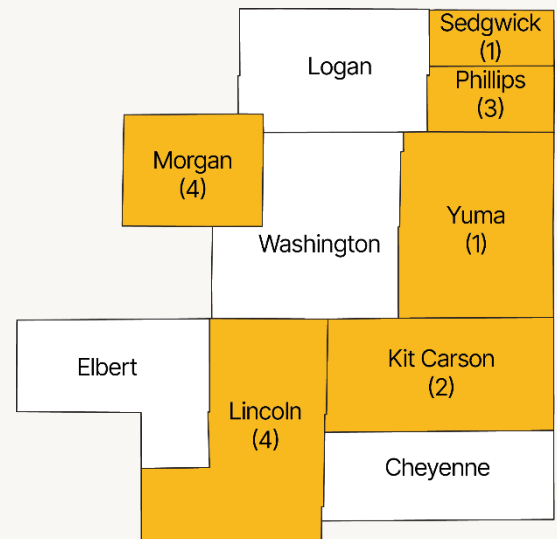


● Services Provided

Technical Assistance

The ROOTS warmline provides hospitals and prescribing clinicians access to addiction care specialists. Specialists can help guide treatment decisions and aid in the adoption of evidence-based practices. ROOTS tracks warmline utilization and the nature of calls to gain further insights into the training needs of hospitals in the Eastern Plains.

This map showcases ROOTS technical assistance engagement numbers (including text, email and warmline) by county in Region 4. In Q2, ROOTS provided technical assistance to six of the 10 counties in Region 4, in addition to Kiowa County outside the region.



● Program Feedback

Program Feedback

During the second quarter of funding from Region 4, ROOTS took great steps toward building connections to care through provider networking and referrals. Providers and patients alike have expressed appreciation for ROOTS networking efforts, capacity building, and technical assistance.

Success Stories

Providers from Sterling Regional Medical Center **provided positive feedback following a training with their Primary Care Providers**

The warmline has shown to be a helpful resource, evidenced by an increase in use and repeat use by providers

Several Phase 1 sites **are interested in additional training**.

Full onboarding of Milestone Community Wellness Peer Coaches has **increased collaboration between organizations**

A patient who returned to use felt comfortable contacting their peer coach and getting re-engaged with treatment.



Challenges

As ROOTS continues to grow its network and services provided, providers and the ROOTS staff have noted several challenges still present in the Region. Some challenges are linked to the Region's geography and cannot be mitigated quickly and others are clinical challenges that CO ROOTS can improve with support from local providers.

There is no **opioid treatment program (OTP) on the Eastern Plains.**

The long distance to drive to Lincoln Health for withdrawal management and outpatient visits remains a barrier for many

There has been an **increase in chronic pain referrals to CO ROOTS**

"[It is] appropriate for chronic pain to be treated by PCP with support of ROOTS clinicians. [ROOTS] plans to provide additional education around alternatives to opioid treatment for pain management and focus on supporting partner providers in this area of focus."

- ROOTS Staff Member

