

## **Opioid Response Region 4 Council Agenda**

**July 7, 2025**

**10:00 a.m.**

### **Virtual Meeting Attendance**

On July 7, 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 Regional Opioid Abatement Council (ROAC).

#### **Present were:**

Board Members: Scott Weaver – Yuma County, Terry Hofmeister – Phillips County, Benjamin Ferree – Town of Limon, Mike Brownell – Logan County, Stan Hitchcock – Kit Carson County

- With Designated Proxy: Sheriff Dave Martin – Morgan County (Proxy: Terry Hofmeister)

Advisory Council Members: Dante Gonzales – Centennial Mental Health Center, MJ Jorgensen – North Colorado Health Alliance, Michelle Pemberton – Northeast Colorado Health Department, Valerie Boyd – Kit Carson County

Other Attendees: Candace Lozano – CommonSpirit St. Elizabeth Hospital, Dayna DeHerrera-Smith – Porch Light Health, Don Stader – Colorado ROOTS, Elly Bailey – Centennial Mental Health Center, Jack Devie – Milestone Community Wellness, Jamie Baker – New Vision Withdrawal Management, Jeff Schiel – Clear Path Recovery, Jim Kuemmerle – Colorado State University, Kristen Carpenter – Colorado Consortium, Mellie Ryan – Colorado ROOTS, Mindy Baumgardner – Colorado Attorney General’s Office, Olivia Carrara – Colorado ROOTS, Sarah Arntt – New Vision Withdrawal Management, Shaun Wilson – Hope House, Shauna Richardson – Centennial Area Health Education Center, Tonya Wheeler – Advocates for Recovery, Trinity Ivester – Antelope Recovery, Ailala Kay – Omni Institute, Lindsay Houston – Omni Institute, Shon Reed – Omni Institute, Rhiannon Streight – Omni Institute, Lauren Rosenbaum – Omni Institute, Thao Lam – Omni Institute

#### **Minutes**

Terry Hofmeister moved to approve the May and June meeting minutes. Mike Brownell seconded. The motion passed without objection.

#### **Financial Reports**

Omni shared the current Region 4 financial update. The Council reviewed funding to date and current funding areas.

Mike Brownell moved to approve the June financials. Terry Hofmeister seconded. The motion passed without objection.

#### **Request for Proposal (RFP) Funding Decisions**

The Council voted on the applications for the open Request for Proposal (RFP) and the mini-grant RFP.

The proposal from North Colorado Health Alliance (NCHA) sought \$500,000 to seek renewed and expanded funding to support a collaborative regional model that addresses the opioid crisis in Northeast Colorado through whole-person care.

- Terry Hofmeister, Dave Martin, Mike Brownell, and Benjamin Ferree voted to fund this proposal in full.
- The vote passed without opposition. The Council will be in communications with NCHA regarding next steps.

The proposal from Antelope Recovery sought \$9,523.80 to support a six-month outreach and engagement campaign throughout Region 4 to raise awareness of their substance use disorder (SUD) intense outpatient (IOP) and outpatient (OP) programs, increase program engagement, and build community partnerships.

- Terry Hofmeister, Dave Martin, Mike Brownell, and Benjamin Ferree voted to fund this proposal in full. The vote passed without opposition.
- The Council will be in communications with Antelope Recovery regarding next steps.

The proposal from Hope House sought \$15,000 to provide a structured, one-year, summer after-school programming for substance misuse prevention activities and mentorship for around 25 to 35 youths ages 12–18 residing in Sterling and Fort Morgan Counties.

- Terry Hofmeister, Dave Martin, Mike Brownell, and Benjamin Ferree voted to fund this proposal in full. The vote passed without opposition.
- The Council will be in communications with Hope House regarding next steps.

The Naloxone Project (TNP) submitted a proposal for \$292,466.45 to expand and enhance harm reduction and naloxone distribution programs throughout the region, while strengthening TNP's existing provider network by improving access to naloxone and fentanyl testing strips, screening, assessment, and connection to treatment for individuals with SUDs and opioid use disorders (OUDs). The proposal also included a Buprenorphine Field Induction Program.

- Terry Hofmeister, Dave Martin, Mike Brownell, and Benjamin Ferree voted not to fund the full proposal. The vote passed without opposition.
- The Council voted on the standalone Buprenorphine Field Induction Program, as part of the aforementioned whole ask, in the amount of \$3,700.
- Terry Hofmeister, Dave Martin, Mike Brownell, and Benjamin Ferree voted to fund this standalone ask. The vote passed without opposition to fund the Field Induction Program.
- The Council will be in communications with TNP regarding next steps.

Centennial Mental Health Center (CMHC) submitted a proposal that sought \$517,772 to establish a partnership with The Phoenix to support individuals in recovery and offer in-person and virtual, structured, free activities for sober individuals across CMHC's 10-county service area, including Logan, Morgan, and Kit Carson Counties.

- Terry Hofmeister, Dave Martin, Mike Brownell, and Benjamin Ferree voted not to fund this proposal. The vote passed without opposition.

The Council also voted on the transportation aspect of the proposal for \$137,966.

- Terry Hofmeister, Dave Martin, Mike Brownell, and Benjamin Ferree voted not to fund this standalone ask. The vote passed without opposition.
- The Council encouraged CMHC to stay in touch and consider future funding rounds.

The proposal from Colorado ROOTS sought \$404,833 to begin a new initiative, Tele-ROOTS, that expands addiction specialty services through a fully integrated service in rural hospitals and health clinics in Region 4.

- Benjamin Ferree voted to fund this proposal in full. Terry Hofmeister, Dave Martin, and Mike Brownell opposed the vote. The vote did not pass due to opposition.
- The Council encouraged Colorado ROOTS to stay in touch and consider future funding rounds.

The proposal from Unbound Courage sought \$15,000 to expand recovery-related services, including trauma-informed addiction coaching, peer-led recovery support groups, mindfulness, acudetox, and red-light therapy. Funding would also support venues within Morgan County to host pro-social community events, and also support training of 1 to 2 recovery coaches to provide trauma-informed coaching sessions at low-to-no-cost for participants.

- Terry Hofmeister, Dave Martin, Mike Brownell, and Benjamin Ferree voted not to fund this proposal. The vote passed without opposition.
- The Council encouraged Unbound Courage to stay in touch and consider future funding rounds.

Clear Path Recovery submitted two proposals. The first sought \$25,000 as a standalone amount to fund a portion of the Executive Director's salary to lead the development of a fully-licensed and operational 3.7-level treatment facility in Northeast Colorado.

- Terry Hofmeister, Dave Martin, Mike Brownell, and Benjamin Ferree voted not to fund this proposal. The vote passed without opposition.

Clear Path Recovery's second proposal sought \$25,000 as a standalone amount to support infrastructure planning of the aforementioned treatment facility, such as licensing, partnership coordination, administration, and program development.

- Terry Hofmeister, Dave Martin, Mike Brownell, and Benjamin Ferree voted not to fund this proposal. The vote passed without opposition.
- The Council encouraged Clear Path Recovery to stay in touch and consider future funding rounds.

### **Omni Evaluation Updates**

Omni will receive Quarter 3 data from Centennial Mental Health Center (CMHC) and the North Colorado Health Alliance (NCHA), supported by Region 4's transportation funding.

Omni shared that the evaluation report detailing Quarter 2 data from CMHC and NCHA has been completed. This quarter, CMHC served and transported 71 people in 9 counties with 1,512 total rides, totaling 748 services; NCHA served 168 people and transported 35 people in 9 counties with 228 total rides, totaling 1,084 services.

The report also gathered feedback from clients and providers on these transportation services, including door-to-door support. Feedback was also particularly positive on NCHA's partnerships with counties' probation departments and Advantage Treatment Center, community resource centers, and housing resources.

The report is posted to the [Region 4 website](#).

### **Upcoming Grants/Funding Opportunities**

- Omni reshared the Colorado Community Initiated Solutions Grants (deadline in October).
- Omni also shared Round 6 of the 1287 Grant Program: Building Substance Use Disorder Treatment Capacity in Rural and Frontier Colorado (deadline July 23rd). This opportunity considers Region 4, and provides funding for innovative, sustainable solutions to build and expand substance use disorder (SUD) treatment capacity across underserved communities. The Board encouraged organizations within Region 4 to apply, and offered opportunities to provide letters of support in advance.

Grant opportunities are posted to the [Region 4 website](#).

### **Social Media Updates**

Omni shared that the [ROAC Facebook page](#) is still active. Members are encouraged to follow the page, and to share community events to be reposted on the ROAC's social media [via this form](#).

### **Unscheduled Business**

- The Board discussed updates to the by-laws to provide more clarity on voting. The first update is the requirement for at least 5 board members to be present at the meeting, whether via in-person, call, or another designated method. The second update allowed for Board members to vote by prior designation of a proxy. Terry Hofmeister moved to approve both voting updates to the by-laws. Benjamin Ferree seconded. The motion passed without objection.
- Sarah Arntt from New Vision Withdrawal Management shared an upcoming event flyer for the United in Recovery Fair on August 23, 2025, at Riverside Park in Fort Morgan, CO.
- MJ Jorgensen from NCHA shared that registration for the Rethinking Addiction Conference with the Colorado Attorney General's Office on October 28, 2025, in Loveland, CO, is reaching capacity. The registration form can be found [here](#).
- Scott Weaver and Omni discussed funding deadlines for the ROAC and the Colorado Opioid Abatement Council (COAC).

### **Next Meeting**

The August meeting is currently scheduled for August 4, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. Scott Weaver and Omni will connect about the September meeting date, currently scheduled on Labor Day.

The July meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

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Scott Weaver, Board Chair