

Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention

Recovery Work Group Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2019 – OMNI Institute & by GoToMeeting

Present:

Rourke Weaver, Co-Chair, Red Rocks Recovery Center
Dana Smith, Co-Chair, The Phoenix
Tonya Wheeler, Advocates for Recovery Colorado
Brian Tierney, Red Rock Recovery Center
Gaye Croft, Telligen
Ann Ault, Illuminate Colorado
Darcy Koehn, Foothills Integrated Health
Jennifer Ryan, Foothills Integrated Health
Jean Howard
Gina Olberding, Consortium
Whit Oylar, Consortium;
Susanna Cooper, Consortium
Jen Place, Consortium
Jessica Eaddy, Consortium
Jamie Feld, Consortium
Rosemarie MacDowell, Consortium

Absent:

Jon Steffy, Sobriety First, Julie Corbett, Authentically U Marketing; Deidre Tygart, Stout Street; Michael Miller, YPR; Pastor Tom Roth, Step Seven; Denise Vincioni, Denver Recovery Group; Michele Ryan, BHG Recovery; Rod Rushing, Peer Academy; Tabitha Shackleton, Lay Person; Grady Harlow, RMHIDTA; Don Stader, M.D.; Jennifer Drapeaux, The Refuge; Melissa Mouton, 5280 High School; Stacey Oster, Lay Person; Molly Smith; Qing Li, Epidemiologist; Michael Davidson, Consortium; Timothy Harrington, Sustainably Recovery; Cathy Plush, Springs Recovery Connection; Joseph Ellis, Stout Street Foundation; Jessie Wheeler, Recovery Data Solutions; Heidi Lightenburger, RM Crisis Partners; Jalyn Ingalls, Colorado Health Institute; Edward Tilton, Valiant Living; Mark Macintosh, A Stronger Cord; Rob Valuck, Consortium; Allison Harden, Beyond Betty; Tyler Payne, Consortium; Mike Mielke, The Phoenix; Lisa Brody, Signal Behavioral Health; Jennifer Loth-Hill, DDPHE; Amy Van Voorhis, CeDAR; Beverly Sloan, Retired Health Professional; Butch Lewis, David's House; Matt Holmes, The Phoenix; Cuica Montoya, Denver Public Library; Sarah Morley, Face it Together; Tracy Cruz, AmeriCorps; Larry Wall, Wall Consulting;

Co-chair Rourke Weaver called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made to approve the December 2018 work group meeting minutes. Motion passed.

Ongoing Projects:

Jen Place announced that the Office of Behavioral Health awarded the work group strategic plan development to the Colorado Health Institute. An advisory committee will be formed, which will include members of the Recovery Work Group. Jen, Dana, and Rourke will be meeting with CHF this week and will present updates at the February work group meeting.

BRSS-TACS. Rourke Weaver updated members on his conversations with Tom Hill. Hill was able to provide technical assistance and guidance regarding the emergency department recovery support position. He also recommended that the work group consider funding one program for two years rather than two programs, i.e., one in a rural and one in an urban setting. Hill suggested that funding two programs would be difficult to manage. A decision was made to establish the program in a rural, rather than urban, setting. All rural hospitals can apply. Hill has offered continued assistance. BRSS-TACS technical support is funded by SAMHSA. Rourke, Dana, and Jen are working on the final RFA draft revisions, which will be circulated to work group members when it is completed.

Legislative Updates:

The Recovery Services bill, sponsored by Representatives Singer and Kennedy and Senators Priola and Petterson, was introduced this week. The bill includes accreditation regulations for recovery residences. The work group has been working on a different definition for recovery residences. Since some residences may not provide treatment services, treatment references have been eliminated from the bill. The bill includes mandatory licensing for recovery residences, which (based on conversations held with the National Association of Recovery Residences) is not recommended. Rourke anticipates there will be changes in the recovery residence definition as the bill moves forward, i.e., treatment services will likely be eliminated. Licensure will be replaced by a non-mandatory accreditation; however, in order to receive a referral from a licensed clinician, accreditation is necessary under the Colorado Association of Recovery Residences. It was generally agreed that Oxford-type residences would be exempt from the bill regulations. Other parts of the bill were also discussed by work group members.

Rourke will forward a draft of the bill to work group members. He indicated that most of the complicated parts of the bill are on page four. The recovery residences definition is on page 3. Changes to the bill are ongoing.

Announcements:

Jessica Eaddy updated members regarding MSO funding allocated to peer support service organizations. Some MSOs require support service organizations to be licensed; others do not. Rourke suggested that the Recovery Work Group encourage other MSOs to include recovery support services in their funding allocations for both licensed and unlicensed organizations. Dana would like to see this included in the strategic plan. She also asked work group members to email her with any other suggestions they would like to see included in the plan.

Darcy Koehn, with Foothills Integrated Health, just joined the work group. She provided a brief summary of their integrated services for individuals undergoing treatment. Services also include non-pharmaceutical pain management. They accept Medicare, Medicaid, TriCare, and many other insurance carriers. Jen Place also mentioned a similar program at Sheridan Health Services, which offers treatment for medical and psychiatric issues.

Tonya Wheeler said her organization is having a Superbowl Party and is also organizing a climbing trip for their young adult program.

The Phoenix has also been organizing climbing trips for young adults.

Red Rocks Recovery is organizing a fundraising event on January 19th from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Rourke announced that a winter symposium is being held from January 27–30 in Colorado Springs at the Elegante and that he has extra tickets available. National treatment center representatives and therapists will be attending.

Adjournment/Next Meeting:

The meeting adjourned at 4:42 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 12th, from 4 – 5:30 p.m. at OMNI in Denver.