

Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention

Recovery Work Group Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2019 – OMNI Institute & by GoToMeeting

Present:

Dana Smith, Co-Chair, The Phoenix
Rourke Weaver, Co-Chair, Red Rocks Recovery Center
Mike Mielke, The Phoenix
Tonya Wheeler, Advocates for Recovery Colorado
Seth Forwood, Denver Rescue Mission
Amy Van Voorhis, CeDAR;
Beverly Sloan, Retired Health Professional
Joseph Ellis, Jefferson County First Judicial District
Butch Lewis, David's House
Sarah Morley, Face it Together
Gaye Croft, Telligen
Daniel Fuchs, Oxford House
Thomas Hernandez, Tribe Recovery Homes
Jeff Riley, Tribe Recovery Homes
Evelyn Hardy, Denver Health
Tracy Cruz, AmeriCorps
Rachael McLoughlin, Rocky Mountain Crisis Partners
Della Turque, AmeriCorps
Karen Campbell, Colorado Department of Human Services
Steve Pietrafeso, Denver Rescue Mission
Anna Michaels-Boffy, Illuminate Colorado
Jalyn Ingalls, Colorado Health Institute
Larry Wall, Wall Consulting
Gina Olberding, Consortium
Jen Place, Consortium
Jamie Feld, Consortium
Rosemarie MacDowell, Consortium

Absent:

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, Community Member; 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; Jessie Wheeler, Recovery Data Solutions; Heidi Lightenburger, RM Crisis Partners; Edward Tilton, Valiant Living; Mark Macintosh, A Stronger Cord; Rob Valuck, Consortium; Allison Harden, Beyond Betty; Tyler Payne, Consortium; Lisa Brody, Signal Behavioral Health; Jennifer Loth-Hill, DDPHE; Matt Holmes, The Phoenix; Cuica Montoya, Denver Public Library; Whit Oyler, Consortium; Susanna Cooper, Consortium; Jessica Eaddy, Consortium; Ann Ault, Illuminate Colorado; Darcy Koehn, Foothills Integrated Health; Bryan Standley, Creative Treatment Options; Anna Hebert, Adventures in Soberland, Jean Howard, Crossroads Turning Points; Linda Martin, OBH; Lindsey Kato, Consortium

Jen Place called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made to approve the February 2019 work group meeting minutes. Motion passed.

Emergency Department Pilot Program Update:

The Colorado Health Foundation has provided funding to the Consortium to support an emergency room pilot program that will include a recovery support services specialist. Three hospitals applied in response to an RFP issued by the Consortium. All three submissions were from hospitals located in urban areas. Since the CHF wanted the pilot located in a rural area, the Consortium is now seeking approval from the CHF to establish the pilot in an urban location. A decision is expected by the end of March.

Strategic Plan Update:

Jalyn Ingalls said the needs assessment survey is due in three weeks. Jalyn discussed the development of a strategic plan for recovery supported and developed by the Colorado Health Institute. Input was obtained from an advisory committee comprised of some of the work group members and a survey distributed to individuals in recovery or family members of individuals in recovery. The advisory committee then compiled a list of needs. This list will be emailed to the work group members for review. She asked members to review and prioritize the list and to let her know if there are any needs not covered in the document or if there are any questions. The final assessment will be used to formulate the strategic plan. Jen Place will email the survey link to work group members to forward to their respective networks.

Definition of Recovery Community Organizations Discussion:

The work group has been reviewing the possibility of determining a working definition of ‘recovery community organizations.’ Dana Smith mentioned again that she has concerns about the long-term ramifications of creating a definition that is too narrow, which could influence legislation and place unnecessary restrictions on some organizations. Rourke felt that there is a need to provide a definition in order to establish parameters and protect the integrity of recovery organizations. A discussion ensued regarding the various existing definitions and the pros and cons of each one. Dana said she was not confident the work group could actually establish a definition since there were so many variables to consider and the resulting definition could be too broad, particularly if it encompasses other disorders. Any decision made about a definition will take time and a lot of thought.

Both Jeff Riley and Thomas Hernandez had questions regarding how a definition might affect their operations, which is organized under an LLC. Their organization qualifies as a recovery residence and, therefore, does not fall under an RCO definition.

Tonya Wheeler mentioned another definition of a recovery community organization: “RCOs are grassroots community-based organizations, primarily non-profit, that are involved in public education,

policy advocacy, and delivery of peer-based recovery support services.” Rourke suggested that the recovery community organization discussion be continued at next month’s work group meeting.

Legislative Updates:

As of March 6, 2019, HB 19-1009 (Substance Use Disorders Recovery) is under consideration by the House Committee on Public Health Care & Human Services: <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb19-1009>

Jamie Feld reported on other pending bills. Updates will also be listed in the Consortium newsletter.

Senate Bill 1 – Expansion of MAT Pilot Program in Pueblo and Routt. Passed Senate Appropriations on March 8th and is now on the Senate floor. The Fiscal note decreased from \$5 million to \$2.5 million annually for a two-year period.

SB 19-008 Criminal Justice bill, which includes law enforcement assisted diversion and access to MAT within jails, has just been introduced in the Senate.

Three bills from the ISC did not make it through legislative council: Treatment, Prevention, and Harm Reduction

Other bills were discussed, including those related to background checks and criminal history reported on employment applications.

Bev Sloan said that Ryan Warner covered all of the topics in the bills during a recent “Colorado Matters” program.

Announcements:

- The Affected Families & Friends Work Group will be launching their video stories at a campus event on April 10th. An invitation will be emailed to all Consortium members. The videos will be available for use by all work groups and other organizations. A user guide will also be available.
- The Phoenix has expanded to Montrose, Fort Collins, and Steamboat Springs.
- Funding Opportunities:

Colorado Health Foundation – funding Recovery Support (Nurture Healthy Minds section):
<https://www.coloradohealth.org/open-funding>

USDA rural recovery support/recovery residence:

<https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2019/02/15/usda-and-hhs-partner-create-recovery-housing-rural-communities>

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program>

SAMHSA BCOR (Building Communities of Recovery):

<http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/ti-19-003>

Adjournment/Next Meeting:

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 9th, from 4 – 5:30 p.m. at OMNI Institute in Denver.