

Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention

Recovery Work Group Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2018 – 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
Cuica Montoya, Denver Public Library
Lisa Brody, Signal Behavioral Health
Jennifer Loth-Hill, DDPHE
Mark Macintosh, A Stronger Cord
Beverly Sloan, Volunteer
Sarah Morley, Face it Together
Larry Wall, Wall Consulting
Allison Harden, Beyond Betty
Butch Lewis, David's House
Brian Tierney, Red Rock Recovery Center
Rob Valuck, Consortium
Gina Olberding, Consortium
Susanna Cooper, Consortium
Jen Place, Consortium
Tyler Payne, Consortium
Jessica Eaddy, 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.; AnnaMarie Neal, Illuminate Colorado; Jennifer Drapeaux, The Refuge; Melissa Mouton, 5280 High School; Stacey Oster, Lay Person; Molly Smith, YPR; Quig Li, Epidemiologist; Jamie Feld, Boulder County Public Health; 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; Whit Oyler, Consortium;

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

Approval of Minutes:

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

Ongoing Projects:

Rourke Weaver summarized current work group projects:

- An angel initiative in emergency departments; a new name for this project will be selected
- Working definition of “recovery” and recovery residencies
- Data collection to support grant funding applications
- State strategic plan for recovery

Provider Education Symposium & Consortium Annual Meeting:

A symposium will be held on October 24th, the evening before the Consortium annual meeting. Both Rourke and Allison Harden will be participating on a panel addressing recovery advocacy. The symposium will cover medication assisted treatment as well as treatment practices. A copy of the agenda is attached to the minutes.

The Consortium annual meeting the following day will focus on the opioid crisis with updates from representatives at the state and federal level. Local coalitions will also be present to provide participants with updates on activities in their local communities.

Review of Angel Initiative:

Rourke provided work group members with a brief history of the angel initiative objective, i.e., to assist those in need of treatment services and referrals, particularly for those individuals admitted to emergency departments. In order to pursue this project, a statewide needs assessment will need to be conducted before locations can be identified. OMNI has developed a questionnaire for this purpose. The work group will receive limited assistance from the Colorado Hospital Association.

Mention was made of a “NY Times” article about the lack of physician training regarding addiction, which will be disseminated to work group members. It was recommended that work group members consider attending the provider education symposium.

Membership Drive:

Rourke indicated that the member drive resulted in additional members. He encouraged diversity among the membership.

New Business:

Tonya Wheeler updated members on the Rally for Recovery scheduled for Saturday, September 15th. The rally begins with a walk starting at Union Station. The rally will be held in Civic Center Park beginning at noon and will include a jazz band. A flyer will be disseminated to work group members.

Strategic Plan:

Rourke reviewed the task assigned to the work group by the Consortium: The governor shall direct the Consortium to create a process with the substance use recovery community to develop a strategic plan that addresses the full continuum of recovery support services, including detoxification services and reintegration into the community with peer support for individuals who experience substance use disorder; develop a definition of recovery residencies and issue a recommendation regarding whether recovery residencies should be licensed; report recommendations to the general assembly on or before January 1, 2020. Money in the general fund may not be used for the implementation of the above.

A subcommittee met to discuss the definition of recovery. They decided to follow the SAMHSA definition. The recovery residence definition was also discussed. It was defined as any premise, place, or building that provides housing accommodation which is free from alcohol and non-prescribed or illicit drugs, promotes independent living and life skill development, and provides structured activities and/or treatment services that are intended to promote recovery from substance use disorders. The residence does not include a private residence in which a family member is required to abstain from substance use or receive behavioral health services for a substance use disorder as a condition to reside in the residence.

A discussion ensued regarding the legal structure of this entity, i.e., for profit or non-profit, and other legal and licensing concerns that may impact existing recovery organizations. Sober living organizations were also discussed as was the definition of recovery support services and how the definition could also impact existing organizations. Different levels of support services were defined.

Jen Place has been meeting with various hospital organizations as well as the Colorado Association of Emergency Room Physicians to discuss the needs assessment survey. She mentioned the importance of finding hospitals that already have the necessary infrastructure and requirements to set up the pilot locations.

OBH will fund the creation of the work group's strategic plan in the amount of \$100,000. The Colorado Health Institute may also lend assistance. Funding is part of the OBH SOR grant. Jen has already submitted the work group's preliminary statement of work to OBH.

Interim Study Committee:

Rourke provided a brief history of the ISC and its objectives. Current bills under consideration include 1) Treatment, 2) Recovery, 3) Harm Reduction, 4) Prevention, and 5) Criminal Justice. Supervised injection sites are not part of the current legislation. Additional information can be found on the Opioid and Other Substance Use Disorder Study Committee web page:

<https://leg.colorado.gov/committees/opioid-and-other-substance-use-disorders-interim-study-committee/2017-regular-session>

Allison Harden spoke about supervisor and recovery coach training. Trainers from Massachusetts are conducting training on December 3rd and 7th at Denver Health.

Adjournment/Next Meeting:

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 9th, from

4 – 5:30 p.m. at OMNI in Denver.

Attachments: Provider Education Symposium Registration & Agenda