



**Region 9 Opioid Abatement Council Meeting**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

November 14, 2024, 1:00-3:00pm

<b>Representation</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Present (Y/N)</b>	<b>Delegate present (Y/N)</b>
Appointed by the Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners	Bill Holen	N	
Appointed by the Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners	Leslie Summey	Y	
Public Health Director of the Arapahoe County Public Health Department	Jennifer Ludwig	Y	
Director of the Arapahoe County Human Services Department	Cheryl Ternes	Y	
The Arapahoe County Sheriff	Tyler Brown	Y	
Representative appointed from a municipal law enforcement agency within the AC Region	Police Chief Dustin Varney	Y	
Representative appointed from the County Court system or District Attorney’s Office or their designee by the BOCC.	John Kellner	N	
Representative appointed by the City of Aurora	Francoise Bergan (Aurora)	N	
Representative appointed by the City of Centennial	Mayor Stephanie Piko	Y	Eric Eddy - Alt
Representative to represent the west side of the County, appointed by majority vote of the Cities of Englewood, Sheridan, and Littleton	Steven Ward (Englewood)	Y	
Representative to represent the east side/smaller communities of the County, appointed by majority vote of the remainder of the municipalities	Trish Stiles (Bennett)	N	

**Quorum (7) met**

Participants

1. Nicky Kulish, AllHealth Network
2. Sarah Prager, Clinical VP at AllHealth Network
3. Allison Dodge, One Chance to Grow Up
4. Tristan Derington, Hazelbrook
5. Jack Patterson, Colorado Attorney General’s Office

6. Dana Murphy-Parker, University of Colorado College of Nursing, Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner
7. Lindsey Simbeye, Community Health Manager, Velocity BioGroup
8. Kendra Davis, Arapahoe County
9. Todd Weaver, Finance Director, Arapahoe County
10. Sarah Prager, AllHealth
11. Sarah Hornbuckle, Hornbuckle Foundation
12. Rhiannon Streight, Steadman Group
13. Brianna Robles, Steadman Group
14. Burke Fishburn, Steadman Group

### Proceedings

1. Welcome Roll Call and intros
  - a. Brianna Robles, Steadman Group, opened the meeting and conducted the roll call. Quorum was met. She then reviewed Region 9 Opioid Settlement progress.
2. Governance
  - a. Brianna requested review and approval of the Region 9 Opioid Settlement Governance Committee [10.10.24 minutes](#).
    - i. Motion
    - ii. Second:
    - iii. Minutes were approved with opposition.
3. Year 2 Funding Decisions
  - a. Hornbuckle Foundation (Hornbuckle): Rhiannon Streight, Steadman Group, presented the Hornbuckle Foundation's request for additional funding due to increased outreach and insufficient Medicaid reimbursement, with Sarah Hornbuckle and participants discussion points that included:
    - i. Hornbuckle outreached almost 1,900 people, exceeding the goal of 1,500.
    - ii. Hornbuckle is currently not reimbursed for about 65% of the work by Medicaid.
    - iii. The Program cost for the first year was \$335,000.
    - iv. The Region 9 Council should be intentional about setting a precedent for funding increases.
    - v. The program is cost-effective, helping 1,800 people at \$179 per person.
    - vi. Clarification on the additional funding request for the Hornbuckle Foundation.
      1. The second-year contract totals \$321,860.



3. Collaboration with Douglas County could be beneficial for detox facilities. Douglas County is also motivated to set up a detox facility.
4. There is potential for a joint application for the Colorado Opioid Abatement Council's infrastructure grant.
- ii. The conclusion was that the market sounding event for detox facilities will be planned for early 2025, with potential collaboration with Douglas County.
  1. The County and Steadman Group will plan and promote the market sounding event for detox facilities in January.
  2. Steadman Group (JK Costello) and others will explore collaboration with Douglas County for detox facilities and potential grant application.

## 6. Updates

### a. Infrastructure Grant

- i. Rhiannon briefed on the Colorado Opioid Abatement Council Infrastructure Grant Opportunities, which was just announced. There was a discussion that there is no need for Region 9 to rush into applying for the infrastructure grant if not ready, as there will be future opportunities.
- ii. The current round of infrastructure funding has \$5 million available.
- iii. The application is due in February 2025.
- iv. Steadman Group will provide logistic information about the infrastructure grant in the December council meeting.

### b. External Request Form: Brianna briefed on the new External Requests document for any requests to Region 9, e.g., funding opportunities.

### c. Substance Use as a Healthcare Disorder: there was discussion on the lack of education for healthcare professionals about substance use as a healthcare disorder.

- i. There are only about 150 certified addictions registered nurses at advanced practice in the country.
- ii. Dana Murphy-Parker, University of Colorado College of Nursing, is a Region 9 resource on these issues. She will provide expertise in substance use as a healthcare disorder, which is appreciated and will be valuable in future council discussions.

### d. Workforce Development Funding: The workforce development funding is in the process of being executed and will be finalized soon.

- i. The \$100,000 approved for workforce development with Signal will help people get their classes for certification.
- ii. Kendra Davis, Arapahoe County, will follow up on this

7. The next Region 9 Opioid Settlement Governance Committee Meeting will be on December 12, 2024, and will be in-person in January.
8. The meeting concluded at 2:08pm.