



## Region 9 Opioid Settlement Governance Committee

January 8, 2026

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/94024774593>

Representation	Name	Present (Y/N)	Delegate present (Y/N)
Appointed by the Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners	Rhonda Fields	Y	
Appointed by the Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners	Leslie Summey	N	N
Public Health Director of the Arapahoe County Public Health Department	Jennifer Ludwig	Y	
Director of the Arapahoe County Human Services Department	Dan Makelky	Y	
The Arapahoe County Sheriff	Tyler Brown	Y	
Representative appointed from a municipal law enforcement agency within the AC Region	Lonnie Eddy (Aurora PD)	Y	
Representative appointed from the County Court system or District Attorney's Office or their designee by the BOCC.	Amy Padden (Joel Zink)	N	Y
Representative appointed by the City of Aurora	Francoise Bergan	Y	
Representative appointed by the City of Centennial	Amy Tharp	Y	
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 (Bennet) (Denise Taylor)	N	Y

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## Roll Call of Voting Members

Quorum (6) Yes

### **Additional Participants**

The following individuals participated in or observed the January 8, 2026 Region 9 Opioid Abatement Council meeting.. This list includes non-voting attendees who were not included in the official roll call. These are individuals who indicated their presence in the chat. Some may be missing, if joined late, etc.

Name	Organization / Affiliation
Sara Miller	Otowi Group
Montelle Tamez	Otowi Group
Kaylee Rivera-Gordon	Otowi Group
Kendra Davis	Arapahoe County
Tristan Derington	Hazelbrook Community Organization
Sarah Prager	AllHealth Network
Nicky Kulish	AllHealth Network
Allison Dodge	One Chance to Grow Up
Carl Anderson	Arapahoe County
Sam Wilson	Full Circle
Todd Weaver	Arapahoe County Finance
Doug Robinson	Cherry Hills Village
Jack Patterson	COAG

### **Proceedings**

#### **1. 1:00pm: Welcome**

- a. Montelle Tamez, Otowi Group, welcomed the Region 9 Opioid Abatement Council and provided an overview of the agenda.
- b. Roll call was conducted and a quorum was established.

#### **2. 1:08pm: Governance**

##### **a. Motion to Approve December Meeting Minutes:**

Motion: Francoise Bergan moved to approve the November minutes.

Second: Sheriff Brown

**Vote: No opposition; motion passed.**

- b. **Monthly Workplans:** This document is available in our shared drive and indicates the priorities of the meetings for 2026.

#### **3. 1:10pm: Strategic Planning**

- a. Partner Survey Development Update:
  - a. Interviews finished December 2025

- b. In the process of making updates to the survey based on December meeting feedback.
- c. Final survey approval expected February 2026
- b. Scheduling Strategic Planning Session
  - a. The council needs 8 hours together for strategic planning.
  - b. The council discussed and decided that April would be best and Friday's are preferred. Otowi group to send around a poll to gather feedback on the best date for everyone.

#### **4. 1:20pm: Continuation of Current Programs**

- a. Tribe Recovery and Cherry Creek Schools, remain on hold pending revised proposals and key personnel availability
  - i. The Tribe program lead, Daniel, is on medical leave through at least mid-February 2026, delaying formal presentation and proposal clarification.
  - ii. Cherry Creek Schools, led by Dr. Armstrong, is submitting a revised proposal addressing prior feedback to ensure clarity and completeness.
- b. Both programs continue operating under existing funding levels, avoiding service interruptions while awaiting updated proposals.

#### **5. 1:23pm: Funding New Strategies**

- a. Family Services & Youth Recovery: Kendra Davis provided an overview of the workgroups recommendations for funding. Three proposals were shared with the Council for discussion.
  - a. Full Circle received a recommendation for \$230,125 to partially support existing programs and expand reach, leveraging peer networks and direct services.
  - b. 5280 High School, a recovery-focused school with an eight-year history, was recommended for funding at a reduced amount from \$394,500, to focus on targeted outreach and transportation for Arapahoe County students.
    - i. The team noted that about 25% of current students are from Arapahoe County, with referrals coming through schools, counselors, and behavioral health centers.
    - ii. Increased funding is expected to enhance targeted outreach within Arapahoe County, focusing on personalized engagement with local schools and community organizations.
  - c. One Chance to Grow Up was recommended for \$195,000 under the prevention category, despite its focus on adult education and advocacy rather than direct youth services.
    - i. The Council decided to support collaboration between this group and existing media campaigns Rise Above and Amelie to maximize impact.
    - ii. Jennifer Ludwig volunteered to serve as the liaison to coordinate efforts between One Chance to Grow Up and the other prevention campaigns.
  - d. Funding Allocation: \$750,125 approved; includes Full Circle (\$230,125) 5280 High School (\$325,000 reduced), and One Chance to Grow Up (\$195,000).

- i. Motion: Francoise Bergan
- ii. Second: Rhonda Fields

**Vote: No opposition; motion passed.**

- b.** Co-Response: only one proposal was received, and the work group is still assessing its viability. Recommendations are expected by next month
- c.** Withdrawal Services:
  - a. Extended deadline to apply to February 5, 2026
  - b. We aim to have proposals recommended for funding presented in April 2026.

**6. 1:40: State Infrastructure Grant**

- a. Letters of Acknowledgements (5 total)
  - a. Francoise Bergan will sign the letter as Chair of the Region 9 Opioid Abatement Council.
- b. Implementation Partner Request
  - a. An organization, Valley Hope, sought to become an implementation partner with Arapahoe County acting as fiscal agent but due to required county approval timelines exceeding the grant deadline (January 14, 2026), the partnership could not proceed this cycle.
  - b. Kendra Davis highlighted the recurring nature of this grant and suggested the Council consider process improvements to support timely approval for future cycles.
    - i. This issue will be incorporated into the upcoming strategic planning discussions to improve administrative responsiveness.

**7. 1:45pm: Updates and Closing**

- a. Next meeting is February 12, 2026 on Zoom.

**8. Meeting Adjourned**

**9. Action Items**

Task	Responsible Party	Due Date
Review revised Survey	Otowi Group, Doug Robinson & Jennifer Ludwig	Before next meeting
Sign Letter of Acknowledgments & Return to Kendra/Otowi Group	Francoise Bergan	ASAP
Submit names of subject matter experts in withdrawal management services without conflicts for RFQ review panel	Region 9 Council	ASAP
Connect Once Chance to Grow Up with Amelie and Rise Above	Jennifer Ludwig	As time permits, prior to their funding start
Find content experts for the Withdrawal Management Workgroup	Kendra Davis, Otowi Group	Ongoing