



**Region 9 Opioid Settlement Governance Committee**

October 9, 2025  
Virtual Meeting

**Roll Call of Voting Members**

<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	Rhonda Fields	<b>Y</b>	
Appointed by the Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners	Leslie Summey	<b>Y</b>	
Public Health Director of the Arapahoe County Public Health Department	Jennifer Ludwig	<b>Y</b>	
Director of the Arapahoe County Human Services Department	Dan Malkelky	<b>Y</b>	
The Arapahoe County Sheriff	Tyler Brown	<b>Y</b>	
Representative appointed from a municipal law enforcement agency within the AC Region	Lonnie Eddy	<b>Y</b>	
Representative appointed from the County Court system or District Attorney’s Office or their designee by the BOCC.	John Kellner		<b>N (Joel Z)</b>
Representative appointed by the City of Aurora	Francoise Bergan	<b>Y</b>	
Representative appointed by the City of Centennial	Mayor Stephanie Piko	<b>Y</b>	
Representative to represent the west side of the County, appointed by majority vote of the Cities of Englewood, Sheridan, and Littleton	Steven Ward (Englewood)	<b>Y</b>	
Representative to represent the east side/smaller communities of the County, appointed by majority vote of the remainder of the municipalities	Trish Stiles (Bennett)	<b>Y</b>	

Quorum (6) **Yes**

**Additional Participants**

The following individuals participated in or observed the October 9, 2025 Region 9 Opioid Abatement Council meeting via Zoom. 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
Omar Montgomery	Cherry Creek School District; NAACP
Brianna (Bri) Robles	The Steadman Group
Tristan Derington	Hazelbrook Community Organization
Sarah Prager	AllHealth Network (Clinical VP)
Nicky Kulish	AllHealth Network, RN
Theodora Barychewsky	Colorado Coalition for the Homeless
Allison Dodge	One Chance to Grow Up
Amy Tharp	Centennial City Council Member, District 1
Calli Tucker	City of Aurora, Crisis Intervention Programs
Patrick Greene (PMG)	Amélie Company – Keep The Party Safe Campaign
Kent MacLennan	Rise Above Colorado, Executive Director
Daniel Singer	Tribe Recovery Homes
Elicia Chacon	Arapahoe County Public Health (ACPH)
Carrie Knowlton	ACPH
Julianne Collins	Amelie
Patrick Greene	Amelie
Sarah Hornbuckle	Hornbuckle Foundation
Josh Beaston	Hornbuckle Foundation
Betsy Craft	Arapahoe County Public Health (ACPH)
Todd Weaver	Arapahoe County and fiscal agent for Region 9

Allison Dodge	One Chance To Grow Up
Doug Robinson	Cherry Hills City Council
Elizabeth Larson	Signal
Kent MacLennan	Rise Above Colorado
Heather Lin	Arapahoe County Finance

## Proceedings

1. **1:00pm: Welcome (10 minutes)**
  - a. Montelle Tamez and Sara Miller, 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. **1:10pm: Governance (5 minutes)**
  - a. **Motion to Approve [September Meeting Minutes](#):**  
Motion: Sheriff Tyler Brown moved to approve the September minutes.  
Second: Mayor Stephanie Piko.  
**Vote: No opposition; motion passed.**
  - b. Region 9 ROAC Facilitation: Sara Miller provided an update on transition from Steadman Group to Otowi Group (handoff progress, administrative systems transfer, future support).
3. **1:15pm: Strategic Planning & Funding Decisions (90 minutes)**
  - a. Continuation of current programs
    - 1) Discussion of revised proposals

Organization / Program	Amount	Funding Focus	Motion / Outcome
<a href="#">Arapahoe County Public Health</a>	\$214,000	Harm Reduction	<b>Motion: Francoise Bergan</b> <b>Second: Mayor Piko</b> <b>Vote: Approved</b> <b>Abstention: Jennifer Ludwig</b>
<b>Discussion: Arapahoe County Public Health</b> - Elicia Chacón and Carrie Knowlton presented a revised proposal focused on maintaining harm reduction services. The revised request of \$214,000 reflected significant budget reductions, including removal of certain staff positions and reduced supply costs. Council members sought clarification about staffing levels, distribution methods, and ongoing funding gaps created by the loss of prior state support. Members commended the program’s responsiveness to prior feedback and fiscal responsibility. The motion to approve passed with one abstention (Jennifer Ludwig).			

<a href="#"><u>Hornbuckle Foundation</u></a>	\$452,430	Recovery	<b>Motion: Francoise Bergan Second: Mayor Piko Vote: Approved unanimously</b>
<b>Discussion: Hornbuckle Foundation</b> - Sarah Hornbuckle presented an updated proposal reflecting a \$93,000 reduction from the prior submission, achieved through removal of software expenses and one recovery coach position. Council discussion noted appreciation for budget tightening and the organization’s plan to expand mobile recovery services. Members expressed confidence in the revised proposal and unanimously approved the funding request of \$452,430.			
<a href="#"><u>Tribe Recovery Homes</u></a>	\$220,000	Recovery	<b>Decision: Deferred to November 2025 meeting for revised budget and scope clarification</b>
<b>Discussion: Tribe Recovery Homes</b> - The Tribe Recovery Homes representative described plans to expand capacity through the addition of Behavioral Health Technicians (BHTs) and development of a Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP). Council members discussed the need for a complete budget and clarification regarding staffing, licensing, and alignment with previously funded peer support activities. Several members supported the concept but expressed concern about expanding the program without clear outcome measures. The Council deferred a decision, requesting additional budget documentation and outcome projections for review at the November meeting.			

**2) Discussion of continuation proposals**

<b>Organization / Program</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Funding Focus</b>	<b>Motion / Outcome</b>
<a href="#"><u>Amélie Company – Keep the Party Safe</u></a>	\$200,000	Prevention	<b>Motion: Francoise Bergan Second: Jennifer Ludwig Vote: Approved unanimously</b>
<b>Discussion: Amélie</b> - Julianne Collins and Patrick Greene presented a \$200,000 proposal to expand the existing public education campaign addressing fentanyl overdose prevention among adults aged 18–44. The campaign’s prior success was highlighted, with over 3 million ad impressions and strong engagement metrics. Council discussion focused on expanding to RTD transit advertising and increasing visibility in high-traffic areas. Members noted the campaign’s alignment with prevention priorities and approved the continuation funding unanimously.			
<a href="#"><u>Rise Above Colorado – Connect Effect</u></a>	\$98,273	Prevention	<b>Motion: Francoise Bergan Second: Mayor Piko Vote: Approved unanimously</b>
<b>Discussion: Rise Above</b> - Kent MacLennan presented a \$98,273 proposal to continue youth prevention work through media campaigns and school-based outreach. The campaign targets middle- and high-school students, with data showing increased awareness and peer advocacy following prior efforts. Council discussion emphasized the value of prevention, youth engagement, and new evaluation measures to capture Arapahoe County-specific data.			

Members unanimously approved the proposal and commended the alignment between youth and adult prevention strategies.			
<u>Signal Behavioral Health Network</u>	\$40,000	Treatment	<b>Motion: Francoise Bergan Second: Mayor Piko Vote: Approved unanimously</b>
<b>Discussion: Signal</b> - Elizabeth Larson presented a \$40,000 continuation proposal to fund up to 40 scholarships for substance use treatment professionals pursuing CAS, CAT, or LAC certification. The Council discussed the importance of workforce development and noted prior success of the program in supporting credentialing and filling local workforce gaps. The motion to approve passed unanimously.			
<u>Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office</u>	\$316,087	Treatment	<b>Motion: Mayor Piko Second: Francoise Bergan Vote: Approved Abstention: Sheriff Tyler Brown</b>
<b>Discussion: Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office</b> - Carl Anderson presented the Sheriff's Office request for continuation funding of \$316,087 to support in-custody treatment and overdose prevention efforts. Council members acknowledged the program's impact in serving a high-risk population and affirmed the value of maintaining service continuity. The motion to approve passed with one abstention (Sheriff Tyler Brown).			

**b. Funding for new strategies**

**1) Update on newly-released RFQs**

- i. New RFQs posted on BidNet for Co-Response and Family Services and Youth Recovery Programs, open until October 30, 2025. Council encouraged to share and assist with outreach.
- ii. Otowi Group and Kendra Davis to coordinate Workgroup Report Outs.

**2) Review and approval of Detox Services SOW**

- i. Developed by the Detox Workgroup, led previously by J.K. (Steadman Group). The scope outlines priorities for funding regional detox and crisis stabilization services. Council discussion confirmed that the draft accurately reflected current provider capacities and that the RFP would remain open to any qualified organization within Region 9. Members emphasized the need for a longer submission window and coordinated outreach to improve response rates compared with the prior year's solicitation.
- ii. Council approved the revised detox scope of work and directed staff to proceed with posting the RFP once timing and outreach plans are finalized.
  - a) **Motion: Mayor Stephanie Piko moved to approve the Detox Scope of Work and authorize preparation for posting.**
  - b) **Second: Sheriff Tyler Brown.**
  - c) **Vote: Motion carried with one abstention (Jennifer Ludwig).**

- iii. Follow-Up: Otowi Group and Arapahoe County staff will determine the release date—likely open through early 2026—and develop outreach strategies to ensure broad distribution.

**c. Strategic priorities and long-term planning**

- 1) Otowi Group will conduct one-on-one interviews with Council members to identify long-term priorities.
- 2) This will be followed by a broader stakeholder survey.
- 3) Strategic planning retreat anticipated in early 2026

**4. 2:45pm: Updates (10 minutes)**

- a. COAG Conference – October 27, 2025.
- b. Next Council Meeting: November 13, 2025 (Virtual).
- c. Tribe Recovery Homes and Cherry Creek School District proposals to be reviewed during the November 2025 meeting.
- d. Possible December in-person meeting for end-of-year celebration and acknowledgement of Mayor Piko’s last meeting.

**5. 2:55pm: Meeting Adjourned**

**6. Action Items**

Task	Responsible Party	Due Date
Update funding tracker with all approved proposals	Otowi Group	Before next meeting
Follow up with Tribe Recovery Homes for full budget & outcomes	Otowi Group	Prior to Nov 13 meeting
Convene workgroups for Youth Recovery & Co-Response RFQs	Otowi Group & Kendra Davis	October 2025
Post Detox RFP & determine submission timeline	Otowi Group & Arapahoe County	Q1 2026
Schedule one-on-one strategic planning interviews	Otowi Group	Nov–Dec 2025