

Region 9 Opioid Abatement Council

June 12, 2025, Virtual Meeting, 1-3pm

Meeting Minutes: DRAFT

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	Y	
Public Health Director of the Arapahoe County Public Health Department	Jennifer Ludwig	Y	
Director of the Arapahoe County Human Services Department	Dan Malkelky	Y	
The Arapahoe County Sheriff	Tyler Brown	Y	
Representative appointed from a municipal law enforcement agency within the AC Region			
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)	Y	
Representative appointed by the City of Centennial	Mayor Stephanie Piko	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 (Bennett)	N	Y (Denise Taylor)

Quorum (6)? **Yes-** Kendra was able to verify with Arapahoe County legal that we could vote on matters without an appointed law enforcement council member. A law enforcement member has been identified and Region 9 is now waiting for the proper procedure for the law enforcement representative to join the Region 9 Opioid Abatement Council.

Participants

1. Kendra Davis, Arapahoe County
2. Brianna Robles, Steadman Group
3. Courtney Lange, Steadman Group
4. Nat Trusczynski, Steadman Group
5. John Jackson, City of Greenwood Village
6. Nicky Kulish- RN, AllHealth Network
7. Anessa Minner-Lee- Director of Outreach at Antelope Recovery
8. Theodora Barychewsky- Grant Writer, Colorado Coalition for the Homeless

9. Tristan Derington- Grants and Programs Manager, Hazelbrook
10. Devin Granbery- City Manager, City of Sheridan
11. Amy Padden, DA 18
12. Heather Lin, Arapahoe County
13. Omar Montgomery, Director at Cherry Creek School District
14. Todd Weaver, Fiscal Agent Region 9
15. Callie Tucker- Crisis Intervention Program Administrator, City of Aurora

Proceedings

1. 1:00pm: Welcome (*10 minutes*)
 - a. Brianna Robles welcomed the Region 9 Opioid Abatement Council and provided and overview of the agenda.
 - b. Roll call was conducted and a quorum was later established.
2. 1:05pm: COAC Request for Conference Sponsor at Conference & Colorado Communities in Action: Leadership Awards Dinner on October 27, 2025 (register [here](#)).
 - a. The COAC asked for sponsorship for the 2025 Colorado Opioid Abatement Conference, sponsorship is anywhere between \$5,000-\$10,000
 - b. Board looking to buy a sponsorship at \$5,000

Motion to support COAC Conference scholarship at \$5,000:

Motion: Sheriff Tyler Brown

Second: Commissioner Summey

No objections: motion approved

3. 1:10pm: Annual Evaluation Presentation by The Steadman Group
 - a. Nat Truszczynski from TSG presented the final evaluation presentation to the Council, including details and metrics for all funded organizations in 2024. The dashboard and final evaluation report will be available to Council members by the end of the month.
 - b. 1:30pm: Discussion
 - i. Sober Living
 1. Are individuals in sober living leaving if they are not able to remain sober and are they being referred to a more appropriate level of care?
 - a. Hazelbrook's response: Yes and yes
 - ii. Tribe Sober Living
 1. How long are individuals housed with Tribe?
 - a. TSG response: we do not have this data but we can track and provide for council in the future
 - iii. Cherry Creek
 1. Are there any grant programs that they can augment their funding with?
 - a. TSG response: we have made recommendations for CCS to look for other funding sources for sustainability

- iv. Rise Above campaign
 - 1. Can we get a copy shared to the council of the YouTube video that had the highest amount of success in completion rate?
 - a. TSG to follow up
- v. Amelie
 - 1. Can we get more information on the completion rate for their YouTube video?
 - a. TSG to follow up – Follow Up: it is also at 71%
- vi. Funded partner close out meetings are scheduled for the week of June 23rd where we will discuss with the programs: sustainability, action points, future needs, etc.
- vii. Council would like to be notified of 2024 overdose data as soon as possible when released from the CDPH
- 4. Strategic Planning & Workgroups
 - a. 1:40pm: Where we've been | Where we're headed
 - i. Closeouts meetings scheduled for June 23rd week
 - 1. Google form- current funded partners will fill out a google form for contract extensions which will be reviewed in August meeting
 - ii. The September Colorado Opioid Settlement Tracker (COST) deadline has been extended to 11/15/2025 which gives Region 9 flexibility in deciding on priorities.
 - iii. Co-Response: There is currently \$100,000 allocated and a decision should be made whether that is prioritized or whether it should be repurposed to another funding priority
 - iv. Discussion on Transportation: no one was in the workgroup last time, should we remove transportation from the funding priority areas? Council believes transportation should still be a priority but possibly paired with other funding priorities instead. Transportation is an aspect of all of the funding areas and could just be written into the other three workgroups.
 - 1. **Decision:** transportation priority area will be removed but offered on future RFPs in conjunction with other funding priorities, current funded programs will have the opportunity to write transportation in on contract extensions
 - b. 1:50pm: Workgroup Tasking- Scope of Work and Allocation Worksheet
 - i. Workgroups met for 30 minutes to discuss and draft scope of work templates
 - c. 2:30pm: Return from Workgroups
 - i. [Family Services / Youth Recovery](#)
 - 1. RFP: the workgroup is leaning towards pro-social alternatives to substance use as the number one priority (entities that host sober events)
 - a. Workgroup would like to push the RFP out into lesser-known channels
 - b. Workgroup wants to release by September 2025 and issue contracts by February 2026

2. Budget: \$750,000 total, \$250,000 to three organizations
3. Preferred partners:
 - a. Less-known agencies and innovation
 - b. Tracking and reporting capabilities
- ii. Transportation
 1. Transportation to be removed and combined with other groups
- iii. Detox
 1. Preferred partner is an acute detox facility that can do medical detox and that can do law enforcement drop off
 - a. Workgroup has a preference for location
 - b. Workgroup suggests funding 1-2 programs or multiple locations for one program
 2. Do we select someone that has a building? Or do we look at a program that can provide the service if they had a building?
 - a. Tiered scoring for RFP: Extra points to go to programs with buildings
 - b. Renovations will be allowed within the RFP budget
 3. Workgroup would like to explore a possible phased operating timeline: i.e. 75% funding in the first year and then taper off funding to promote sustainability
 4. Medicaid changes: the applicant may need a client work opportunity component to qualify for Medicaid reimbursements
 5. Workgroup has almost all work completed and would like to have a scope prepared by August
- iv. Co-Response
 1. Workgroup wants to prioritize using data trends to come up with funding amounts
 2. Scope: workgroup wants to look at building out co-response capacity across the Arapahoe County region (regional impact/improvement)
 3. Next workgroup focus: narrowing down funding amount
- d. Next steps:
 - i. As soon as scopes are developed/finalized, TSG will build a formal scope of work draft, bring them back to the council for feedback/approval, then submit for procurement with Arapahoe County
 1. If workgroups want to get a rough draft RFP prepared for August, send to TSG when ready for preparation
 - ii. Workgroups may meet in July if they want to even though the Council will not be meeting
5. 2:40pm: Governance
 - a. Council Chair Vote

Motion: Mayor Stephanie Piko motioned to elect Francois Bergan to 2025 Chair
 Sheriff Tyler Brown- second to motion

No objections: motion approved

b. Meeting Minutes Approval

- i. [December 2024](#)
- ii. [January 2025](#)
- iii. [February 2025](#)
- iv. [March 2025](#)
- v. [April 2025](#)
- vi. [May 2025](#)

Motion: Francois Bergan motion to approve all minutes (12/2024- 5/2025)

Stephanie Piko- second to motion

No objections: motion approved

6. 2:45pm: Updates

a. Addressing Federal Impacts and Council Response

i. Discussion:

- 1. Council's preference is to not supplant funds and instead stay on course to fund new or innovative projects- council could stick to the RFP process without inquiring about supplantation
- 2. Another idea: the Council could set aside emergency funding, separate from RFP funding, for organizations federally impacted that the Council wants to support knowing the organization is doing good work
 - a. If the Council goes this route, the Council would like to create a very rigid process in order to address these types of requests
- 3. The Council needs more information and clarification on the COAC statement on supplantation
 - a. Jack from the COAC to come to the next meeting for more clarity
- 4. We will keep this discussion as a topic point moving forward

b. Affirming the [Conflict of Interest Policy](#)

Motion: Sheriff Tyler Brown motions to approve the Conflict of Interest Policy

Stephanie Piko- second to motion

No objections, **APPROVED**

c. Regional Learning Forum Padlet Link:

<https://padlet.com/opioids1/regional-learning-forum-padlet-4s9m4rx1welplqd4>

- i. Shared, no discussion

d. Recovery 2.0 COAC Funding Update

- i. Shared, no discussion

e. [Colorado Opioid Settlement Funds Spending Dashboard](#)

- i. Shared, no discussion

7. Closing (5 mins)

- a. Next meeting: No July meeting; August 14th, 2025 (In-person / hybrid)
 - i. Shared, no discussion
- b. Questions, comments, feedback?

Meeting Concludes at 3:01pm