



Region 9 Opioid Abatement Council Meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

December 12, 2024, 1:00-3:00pm

Representation	Name	Present (Y/N)	Delegate present (Y/N)
Appointed by the Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners	Bill Holen	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	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 (late)	
Representative appointed from the County Court system or District Attorney’s Office or their designee by the BOCC.	John Kellner	Y	
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	

Quorum met? Yes

Participants

1. Nat Truszczynski, TSG
2. Brianna Robles, TSG
3. Rhiannon Streight, TSG
4. JK, TSG
5. Todd Weaver, County finance director
6. Tristan Derrington, Hazelbrook

7. Nicky Kulish, AllHealth
8. Emilie Van Kaeke, Englewood PD
9. Jack Patterson, Opioid Response Operation Administrator, CO AG's Office
10. Jane McCulloch, Colorado Health Network
11. Ron Carl, County Attorney

Proceedings

1. Welcome (10 mins)
 - a. Roll Call and intros
 - i. Brianna Robles (Steadman Group) started the meeting and discussed the agenda. She acknowledged that there was some elected official turnover and turned it over to Rhiannon for gratitude.
 1. Rhiannon thanked Bill Holen and John Kellner for their service to the opioid council. Invites them to say something to the council.
 2. Bill Holen speaks.
 3. John Kellner speaks.
 - b. Brianna shares slide about recovery story, asking people to sign up, we would like to see more people share recovery stories in 2025
2. Governance (10 mins)
 - a. Approval of [11.14.24 minutes](#)
 - i. **John Kellner moves to approve**
 - ii. **Stephanie Piko seconds**
 - iii. **No opposition in the chat**
 1. **Minutes are approved**
3. Programmatic Data Evaluation Mid-Point Presentation (70 minutes)
 - a. Presentation (40)
 - i. Nat Truszczynski presented the midpoint programmatic evaluation data. They provided a high level overview of the logic model that Region 9 adopted, mentioning that each of the programs are working towards the longer term goals. They went through each of the six funded programs in the Region and discussed current metrics including: population served and demographics, partner organizations, locations of service, number of trainings, types of curriculums, etc. They presented each organization in terms of a Stoplight method - highlighting an organization as 'green', 'yellow' or 'red' based on proposal and programmatic progress (Green = good communication, submitting data on time, making progress on programming). Below is an overview of the midpoint evaluation of each of the six funded programs in Region 9:
 1. Arapahoe County Public Health is a 'green' stoplight because they have had good communication and are meeting proposal goals. Their program goal is to provide more harm reduction services across Arapahoe County.
 2. Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office is a 'green' stoplight. Their program goal is to expand MAT in jails.

3. Cherry Creek School District is a 'green' stoplight because they have had good communication and are meeting proposal goals. The goal of their program is to create a Student Leadership Program and develop a model to be used across other counties.
4. Hazelbrook Community Center is a 'green' stoplight because of good communication, meeting proposal goals, and providing comprehensive data collection. The goal of their program is to expand recovery home services and create a leadership program for individuals using their services. A goal for the upcoming year is to collect BARC-10 scores. The leadership class is 10 weeks long and so far, 39 participants have taken the program.
5. Hornbuckle Foundation is a 'green' stoplight because of their good communication, meeting proposal goals, and providing comprehensive data collection. The goal of the program is to
6. Tribe Recovery Homes is a 'yellow' light, transitioning to a 'green' light, due to challenging communication at the start of the program that has improved since. The goal of the program is to recruit new peer navigators, provide peer navigator training and development, and expand peer outreach services. Tribe was transitioning to a new EHR which contributed to some early challenges.
7. Nat briefly presented the newly funded campaigns, Rise Above and Signal, and mentioned that they are on track to begin data collection.

b. Discussion (15)

i. Arapahoe County Public Health

1. Francious Bergen asked if the locations of youth programming were known, Nat said they would follow up with the County to get that information.
2. Jennifer Ludwig mentioned that they applied to COAC for funding for the mobile unit, and the ROAC funded the additional case manager, which allowed them to get out into the community. The addition of the case manager really enhanced outreach. A great outreach opportunity this past Summer were concerts at Filler's Green. Can use the baseline data prior to the hiring of the case manager to show impact.
3. Francois would like to know: What demographic was referred to a treatment and where were they referred to? Show partners, like Nat did for the Sheriff's Office.

ii. Cherry Creek School District

1. Currently working with CCSD to develop a pre/post survey for students. In addition to feedback from the school district, we will also be looking at how students rate confidence and efficacy which will be presented in the end of year report.

iii. Tribe Recovery HOMes

1. Jennifer Ludwig asked what can be done to retain peer navigators longer? Turnover is high for peer navigators. AllHealth has an exceptionally low turnover rate of peer navigators, Rhiannon asked Sarah from AllHealth to talk about their peer retention. Sarah responded that there is high turnover in part because it's a low-paying job. She mentioned that they pay competitively for each job title and that they have a BHA grant to provide bonuses for 6 month retention.
2. Stephanie Piko asked if we are tracking where clients are coming from? Are they being referred from ED's, homeless, self-referral?
 - a. Nat mentioned we could try to track this in the future. Currently, the data collection tools don't track this aspect. They mentioned that we can support funded organizations in collecting this data. Sarah mentioned Tribe is targeting people leaving justice systems. Nat mentioned that qualitative interviews are on the horizon for each of the programs and that the qualitative aspect will dive deeper into communities served and be included in the final report.
- c. Dashboard Considerations (15)
 - i. Brianna introduces the dashboard and discusses the upcoming data presentation in June 2025. The dashboard aims to display regional substance use disorder data and programmatic metrics. She asked Council what they would like to see included on the dashboard.
 1. Purpose: SUD landscape of R9, progress of organizations from the RE-AIM metrics
 2. Opens up feedback on what council wants to see
 - a. Some idea: number of people served, number of dollars spent, number of referrals to support services, previously unhoused, number of people directly impacted (sober living, outreach), money received, money allocated, funds remaining to be allocated, money going to programs vs. money going administration, pie chart of money, how do we show youth prevention work, success stories – adding in qualitative call outs on the dashboard.
 3. Dashboard will be very interactive
 4. Geographical information can be provided for the county on the dashboard
4. Strategic Planning (5 minutes)
 - a. Detox Market Sounding Event update
 - i. Shifting timeline to early 2025 for best engagement to avoid holiday absences
 - ii. More details for January meeting including a one pager, details, how to invite providers to the sounding event
5. Closing (15 mins)

- a. Updates
 - i. Region 9 2025 Monthly Work Plan will be presented to Council in January. This was an idea from the County and will provide a high-level outline of monthly meeting goals and activities. This can help determine meeting length and participants.
 - ii. Council satisfaction survey will be presented at the January meeting.
 - iii. Infrastructure grants are open.
 - iv. Region 9 general request form is still out there, for general requests, letter of support and funding specific requests that are outside of the general funding schedule
 - b. Next meeting: January (IN PERSON)
 - i. 1/9 at 1, review of local community needs and priorities
 - ii. Location
 - 1. Central location. If interested send Rhiannon or Brianna an email, and they will facilitate that on the back end
 - a. Stephanie's location? Very centrally located
 - i. Tentatively start here but we have back up plans
- c. Questions, comments, feedback?
 - i. Will we have spotlights in the New Year
 - 1. Yes, they will be included on the work plan too so that we can see when they will be