

Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Misuse Prevention

Treatment Work Group Meeting Minutes

January 28, 2026 from 12 to 1 p.m. via Zoom

Present:

Steve Young, MD, Angela Bonaguidi, Michelle Lalinde, Co-Chairs

Teresa Cobleigh, Gold Spark Studio

Lindsay Shillinglaw, Epifluence Health

Marie Archambault, Jeffco Jail/Creative Treatment Options

Shannon Bryan, CDHS DCW

Adam Cabrera, Denver Recovery Group

James Kuemmerle, CSU

Lorraine Hoover, Raymond Rountree Jr. Foundation

Terri Hurst - CDPHE

Brook Mower

CMS: Stephanie Stewart, Elizabeth ter Haar

CAM Academy: Emily Elrick, Elizabeth Rumbel

Consortium: Jen Place, Jessica Eaddy, Hilary Bryant, Kristin Carpenter, Eric Barker,

Rosemarie MacDowell

Absent: See attached roster.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made to approve the December 2025 meeting minutes. Motion approved.

Presentation: Denver Center for Addiction Medicine (CAM) - Continuity of Care & Lessons from Implementation (Emily Elrick and Elizabeth Rumbel):

A copy of the presentation is attached to the minutes. Presentation summary:

Elizabeth Rumbel is a Senior Learning and Development Specialist at Denver Health. Emily Elrick is a Workforce Development Specialist with the CAM Academy, Center for Addiction Medicine at Denver Health. Elizabeth provided a brief history of Denver Health, which was founded in Denver in 1860 to provide high-quality patient care, including for the region's most vulnerable population. The Center for Addiction Medicine (CAM) was established in 2018 to provide addiction medicine training and education services and trauma-responsive SUD treatment with the goal of improving patient services and outcomes.

The presentation focused on work being done under the Advance Treatment (CO-MAT) Grant, an initiative supported by the Colorado Attorney General's Office and the Denver Prevention Training Center (PTC). The grant was funded in 2024 through the opioid settlement. Its primary purpose is to strengthen the connection between local service providers and jail personnel to improve access to medication-assisted treatment (MAT) and continuity of care for individuals with substance use disorders transitioning from incarceration. The project aligns with broader state and national efforts to reduce overdose deaths and increase access to treatment for opioid-dependent individuals, especially during and after incarceration.

Since 2023 the CAM Academy has served 3,200 people through 38 different courses and 87 presentations. CAM partnered with the Colorado Health Institute to analyze the current state of hub-and-spoke treatment services within Colorado, including within the 19 regional opioid abatement councils. The goal of the analysis was to help each ROAC region understand existing strengths and resource gaps in order to determine effective opioid interventions. CAM also developed a Hub & Spoke Model Toolkit to expand evidence-based OUD treatment access and care coordination.

In 2024-2025, CAM collaborated with the Consortium and the North Colorado Health Alliance to hold continuity of care meetings in Colorado. Meetings were intended to strengthen post-incarceration coordination between jails, providers, and community organizations. Professionals from both rural and urban Colorado locations shared strategies and innovative approaches to OUD treatment and care. Sessions included presentations by Dr. Don Stader and Dr. Ely Walker. Other sessions included presentations by Dayna DeHerrera-Smith, Porchlight Health, and Denise Vincioni, Denver Recovery Group, as well as other community organizations whose representatives discussed the intersection of housing stability, treatment engagement, and long-term recovery. Future plans include collaboration with Denver area OTPs.

Hub and Spoke Model Toolkit: https://courses.denverptc.org/resource_detail.html?id=599

2024-2025 Continuity of Care Impact Report:
https://courses.denverptc.org/resource_detail.html?id=600

For information: CAMAcademy@dhha.org; Emily Elrick: emily.elrick@dhha.org; Elizabeth Rumbel: elizabeth.rumbel@dhha.org; Brooke Bender: brooke.bender@dhha.org

Legislative Updates:

Teresa Cobleigh reported that the Spencer's Law legislation is not moving forward during the current legislative session. She spoke about new rules issued by the BHA for public comment, which mirror some of the concerns addressed in Spencer's Law (for example, improve discharge policies related to fentanyl and low tolerance). Another bill sponsored by Sen. Judy Amabile would place recovery residences under BHA authority.

BHA rules link for public comment: <https://bha.colorado.gov/for-service-providers/laws-and-rules>
The public comment period will remain open until the end of March.

Jessica Eaddy said that Rob Valuck has been involved in efforts to reauthorize the Opioid and Other Substance Use Disorders Study Committee. Other efforts include broadening PDMP access for medication disruption events.

Stephanie Stewart reported that COSAM has been working to oppose a ballot initiative to criminalize any amount of fentanyl. They plan to reach out to other medical societies, such as the Colorado Medical Society, Colorado Psychiatric Society, the Colorado Nurses Association, and the Colorado Academy of Family Physicians, to see if they will join the opposition.

For more information: stephanie.stewart@cuanschutz.edu

Ballot Initiative 85: <https://news.ballotpedia.org/2025/12/17/colorado-voters-to-decide-ballot-initiative-increasing-penalties-for-the-sale-and-possession-of-fentanyl/>

Future Agenda Topics:

The March work group meeting will include a presentation by Colorado State University on the topic of rural behavioral health services for farmers and ranchers through Agrability, CAAMHP, and other programs.

Colorado Agrability programs: <https://agrability.colostate.edu/programs/>

Ag Behavioral Health Work Group: <https://ag.colorado.gov/home/about-us/ag-behavioral-health-work-group>

Jessica asked meeting participants to let her know if they have any other suggestions for future work group meeting topics: Jessica.eaddy@cuanschutz.edu

Teresa Cobleigh mentioned that the work group could be invaluable in advising policy makers about future efforts. She said she learned a great deal from the stakeholder process involved in promoting Spencer's Law. She will share information and resources related to the influence of private equity on hospitals and rehab facilities and how that influence might affect patient safety when it involves cost cutting (see attachment with relevant links). She also mentioned the work being done by Dr. Don Stader, how the work group might focus on improving patient outcomes, and the barriers involved in hospitals abiding by the Legislative Analysis and Public Policy Association (LAPPA) Model Act.

Adjournment/Next Meeting:

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 25, 2026 from 12 to 1 p.m. via Zoom.

Attachments: Work group roster, Presentation, Resource Listing (T. Cobleigh)