

Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention

Recovery Work Group Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2024 from 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. via Zoom

Present:

Rica Rodriguez, Co-chair
Angela Williams, Harbor Light Salvation Army
Carrie Elliott, Sagebrush Recovery Services
Dane Stevens, Elevate Recovery & True North Recovery Services
Darin Valdez, Colorado Artists in Recovery
Dave Wasserman, Community Member
Donna Mae Baukat, Community Compassion Outreach
Erik Olson, Face it Together
Farrell White, Axis Health System
Gabriella Turnbull, Ke'nekt Recovery
Lindsey Simbeye, Velocity BioGroup/Hikma
Parker LaCombe, DDPHE
Precious Collins, Colorado Providers Association
Rob Shearon, Reconnected
Rourke Weaver, Colorado Agency for Recovery Residences
Shana Shaw, Compound of Compassion
Victor King, Mental Health Partners
Wendy Sachs, Behavioral Health Group
William Cussins, Milestone Community Wellness
Ryan Hobert
Colorado Mental Wellness Network, Hope Hyatt, Kristin Orzel
Servicios de La Raza, Rick Thompson, Frederick Hill
Behavioral Health Administration: Alia Andrews, Danielle Gillespie
Consortium: José Esquibel, Jennifer Place, Hilary Bryant, Jennifer Mackender, Eric Barker, Teresa Cantwell
Absent: See attached roster.

Co-Chair Rica Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. with a review of the work group's mission, goals, and norms.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made to approve the September 2024 work group meeting minutes, which included recent edits by Co-chair Betsy Craft. Motion approved.

State Partner Updates:

BHA Recovery Services update (Alia Andrews): An update will be provided during the November meeting.

RCO leaders were reminded to complete the [RCO survey](#).

Peer Support Professionals Association update (Hope Hyatt and Kristin Orzel, Colorado Mental Wellness Network):

Hope reviewed upcoming peer training sessions. She reminded meeting participants of global peer support day events on October 17.

Kristin spoke about the new peer support group for peer professionals, which is facilitated. Some topics addressed during support group meetings include role drift, challenges and benefits of supervision, self-care, and ethical guidelines. Meetings are usually held on the last Friday of each month from noon to 1 p.m.

For more information regarding training, upcoming events, membership, and certification:

<https://coloradopeersupport.com/>

Peer support group registration:

https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom-join?meetingRef=5ce88e6e2c&mc_eid=534b500aef#/registration

2024 Subcommittee Updates:

Subcommittee: Advancing the Peer Support Workforce in Carceral Facilities:

Jose Esquibel provided the following updates in Betsy Craft's absence. Jose expressed thanks for Betsy's subcommittee leadership, including involvement in a recent Opioid Abatement Council meeting where she and Rica Rodriguez gave a presentation, and the moderating of a panel at the Rethinking Addiction conference. Several jails have already provided some of their policies, which will inform a model template. Efforts are being made to address the inconsistency related to peers within jail settings, including peers with felony records. There are no federal or state laws that prevent peers with felony records from working inside jails. Another goal of the subcommittee is to develop training and certification for peers in carceral settings.

Subcommittee: Medicaid Billing & Best Practices (Rourke Weaver):

The subcommittee met in August. Rourke is preparing a white paper. The subcommittee is looking into Medicaid and billing organization practices to determine if the billing organizations are following appropriate peer billing procedures.

Rourke is also working with the Colorado Criminal Justice Reform Coalition regarding respite housing in Colorado. A recent study indicated that re-incarceration was primarily due to returns to use or expulsion from a program.

For more information on the above: Rourke@carrcolorado.org

Recovery Data Update (Jen Place): Nothing to report at this time.

Events:

September:

The work group discussed events which took place during September Recovery Month. Events included:

- Recovery Friendly Workplace at the White House: On September 18th, the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) hosted an event in recognition of National Recovery Month. Recently certified recovery friendly workplaces (RFW) and leaders from three state government initiatives working to promote the adoption of recovery-ready workplace policies in their states discussed efforts to support recovery in the workplace. David Shapiro, RFW Work Group co-chair, represented Colorado's RFW Initiative.
- Parker LaCombe, with the Denver Department of Public Health & Environment, was recognized by SAMHSA as the STAR (SAMHSA Trailblazers in Advancing Recovery) Peer Support Worker of the Year!
- Hilary Bryant thanked everyone who participated in the Affected Families & Friends Work Group *Stories in Black and White* exhibition at the Colorado Opioid Abatement Conference.

October:

- NAPS Conference (Chicago) October 16 & 17
- Denver City Council Proclamation – Global Peer Support Day:
<https://www.publicnow.com/view/32B5E4F7B65E561D7B5E235FCF58E793269288C5?1726760785>

November:

- CAiR's annual fundraising event - Saturday, November 23 from 6-8 p.m. MST <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/colorado-artists-in-recovery-winter-fundraiser-2024-tickets-1000160576207?aff=oddtcreator>
- Hard Beauty Recovery Along the Rockies fundraising event, November 15 from 5-9 p.m. More information: <https://www.hardbeautyfoundation.org/artshow>

Events can be posted on the work group Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/RecoveryReadyColorado>

Please email co-chairs or Jen Place with information to be posted:

- betsy.coloradodpc@gmail.com,
- promotores5280@gmail.com,
- jennifer.place@cuanschutz.edu.

Funding Announcements:

Boulder County - Funding to Address Opioid Crisis (Due October 10):
<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/COBOULDER/bulletins/3ac369f>

Recovery Funding Designed to Advance the Field of Recovery Science (Due October 31):
<https://prin.uthscsa.edu/accelerator-program/>

Consortium Announcements/Updates:

Consortium Annual Meeting October 31 – the meeting will focus on lived/living experience in all areas of the continuum of care/Consortium work. A copy of the preliminary agenda is attached to the minutes. Registration: <https://corxconsortium.org/2024-annual-meeting/>

Guest and Member Announcements/Updates:

Shana Shaw, Compound of Compassion, will be providing free auricular acupressure training on October 13 in Denver (flyer attached). For information email Shana: compassion4free@gmail.com.

Job Announcements:

- NoCoCARES - Project Supervisor for newly formed Center of Excellence Model for Peer Recovery Leadership
<https://cu.taleo.net/careersection/2/jobdetail.ftl?job=34948&lang=en>
- National Peer-Run Training and Technical Assistance Center for Addiction Recovery Support (CARS) - Lived Experience Technical Assistance Coordinator (remote position) <https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/view/4037100239/>
- The Phoenix – site manager in Denver - <https://thephoenix.org/careers/4437036007>
- [AllHealth Network](#)
- [Colorado Village Collaborative](#)
- CU PSP jobs – <https://cu.taleo.net/careersection/2/moresearch.ftl?lang=en>
Search term - Peer
- Serenity Recovery Connection: www.srchope.org/careers
- Advance Pathways: <https://advancepathways.org/careers/>
- CHOW is seeking a part-time (5 hours/week) bilingual Spanish speaking experienced peer. \$35/hour plus training. Applications accepted through October.
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1tEmmp4G0ui3yPjXMzUzTg3JC6Pin2TBVuQG_VqpS1dUg/edit
- Indigenous Wellbriety has positions open for youth peer coaches:
<https://indigenouwellbriety.org>

Recovery Resources:

Mobilize Recovery (national advocacy and resources) workshops recorded through their [Interconnected Recovery Community Classroom](#).

Recovery Research Institute – recorded Seminar Series on a variety of topics:
<https://www.recoveryanswers.org/addiction-research-summaries/seminar-series/>

Rob Sheron - Safe Project <https://www.safeproject.us/>
Reconnected App: A Social and Professional Networking App for People in Recovery
<https://forms.gle/66mFftcM6X4X3ZLC6>

Adjournment/Next Meeting:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 12, 2024, from 4:30 to 6 p.m.

Attachments: Work group roster, Preliminary Agenda - Consortium Annual Meeting, S.Shaw flyer