

## **Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention**

### **Affected Families & Friends Work Group Meeting Minutes**

November 18, 2022 via Zoom

#### **Present:**

Sarah Werner, Co-chair  
Christina Dalpiaz, CHANCE  
Laura Martinez, Rooted 303  
Deanna Uhler, University of Colorado  
Cath Adams, Aperture of Hope  
Anna Maria Stroh, Community Member  
Hard Beauty: Prescillia Wells, Amy Walker  
Consortium: Gina Olberding, Hilary Bryant, Jen Place, Jessica Eaddy, Lindsey Simbeye,  
Michael Davidson, Teresa Cantwell, Rosemarie MacDowell

**Absent:** See attached roster.

Work group Co-chair, Sarah Werner, called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m. She reviewed the work group mission statement.

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

A motion was made to approve the October 2022 meeting minutes. Motion approved.

#### **Resource List Updates:**

Sarah proposed the following additions to the Resource List:

- Voice for Awareness
- Hard Beauty
- Maddie Wright Foundation

Work group members approved the above additions. Jen Place asked about adding the Raymond Rountree, Jr. Foundation as well.

#### **Into Light Update:**

Sarah summarized last month's work group meeting presentation "Into Light," which is an art exhibition showcasing the lives of overdose victims. The exhibition is being held in various locations around the United States. Professionally rendered portraits of each individual are accompanied by a biography. Submissions are being sought for a Colorado exhibition. Pending funding, the exhibition will be held during Overdose Awareness Month in August of 2023 in three Colorado locations – the Front Range, Western Slope, and either the southeast or southwest area of the state.

#### **December Planning Session:**

The work group will be holding a planning meeting next month in lieu of a work group meeting. Sarah asked meeting participants if they had any suggestions for future work group speakers.

Comments:

Deanna Uhler said she would like to hear more about what is being done in high schools regarding drug awareness and how hospital emergency rooms are managing and following up on overdose patients.

Christina Dalpiaz mentioned the importance of teaching young people coping skills to prevent drug misuse. Sara suggested Rise Above Colorado's programs and a possible update from Kent MacLennan.

Laura Martinez said Rooted 303 is planning to expand their services to mental health providers associated with the Littleton and Englewood public schools.

Amy Walker said Hard Beauty could provide a presentation of their services. Hard Beauty accepts Medicaid and provides scholarships for individuals requiring treatment or other trauma assistance.

Anna Maria Stroh mentioned the possibility of an informational presentation pertaining to drug trafficking – how it is happening and what is being done to educate people about it.

Deanna Uhler said when she was in Charlotte, NC, they worked closely with law enforcement and suggested Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (RMHIDTA) as a possible presenter. <https://www.rmhidta.org/>

Sarah Werner suggested a presentation pertaining to the future of naloxone and the more potent forms of fentanyl.

Work group members briefly discussed the closing of The Haven, long-term residential treatment program for women:  
<https://nfg-dm-bee.s3.amazonaws.com/images/havenfriends/Haven%20Program%20Letter.pdf>

**Public Awareness Campaign Update (Michael Davidson):**

The Consortium launched a fentanyl overdose prevention campaign called “Keep the Party Safe” targeted to the 18 to 44 age group, the age range where most overdoses are occurring among recreational drug users. Michael reviewed the campaign efforts, including social and digital media outreach. Print material, including poster kits and rack cards, is available for dissemination. The campaign is seeking individuals with lived experience who can speak to the media. Michael asked participants to let him know if they would like to participate in public outreach. [Michael.davidson@cuanschultz.edu](mailto:Michael.davidson@cuanschultz.edu)

**Good Samaritan Law & Recent Fentanyl Bill (Jose Esquibel):**

A new section of penalties related to the possession of fentanyl was included in the recent legislation. The new law makes it a felony to possess more than one gram of a substance containing fentanyl. HB 1326 also decreases the amount of fentanyl compound required to charge people with higher-level felonies for distribution.

The Good Samaritan law has been in place for several years. This law allows a person to be exempt from charges or prosecution if they call 911 during an overdose to save the life of an overdose victim. The person would have had to remain on the scene and cooperate with law

enforcement. Due to an oversight, the law does not reflect the new fentanyl changes. Therefore, from a technical standpoint, the Good Samaritan Law no longer applies to the new fentanyl penalty. In addition, each judicial district and district attorney will have discretionary power to prosecute or not. The Boulder DA has indicated they will not prosecute anyone if possession is four grams or less. The Good Samaritan Law will have to be amended to include the new fentanyl rules, and this will require legislative action.

The Consortium Harm Reduction Work Group is currently working on a communication to help people understand the new law's implications and penalties.

Sarah said she listened to a podcast regarding the Good Samaritan Law and provided the following link:

<https://html5-player.libsyn.com/embed/episode/id/24970554/height/90/theme/custom/thumbnail/yes/direction/forward/render-playlist/no/custom-color/2f2766/>

Lindsey Simbeye provided the following fentanyl link: <https://youtu.be/grZ8HcmwuCY>

**Announcements:**

Hilary Bryant said a survey will be sent to all work group members within the next several weeks to obtain feedback regarding community and member engagement.

**Adjournment/Next Meeting Date:**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:53 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Friday, January 20, 2023 from 12:00-1:00 p.m.

Attachment: Work group roster