

Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention

Harm Reduction Work Group Meeting Minutes

November 8, 2022 via Zoom

Participants:

Sam Bourdon, Co-chair

Chris Stock, Pharmacist, Ret.

Kiry Lake, Springs Recovery Connection

Melinda Sentence, Public Department of Health & Environment

Kimberly Santos, Salud Family Health Centers

Geena Rupp, The Yarrow Collective

Mila Long, Denver Recovery Group

Chassity Lemuel, Springs Recovery Connection

Kaleigh Kessel, CDPHE

Sarah Money, Southern Colorado Health Network

Jane McCulloch, Colorado Health Network

Erika Greenberg, Centennial AHEC

Sophie Feffer, CDPHE

Consortium Staff: Jessica Eaddy, Jen Place, Hilary Bryant, Shayna Micucci, Lindsey Simbeye, Teresa Cantwell, Kristin Carpenter, Michael Davidson

Absent: See attached work group roster.

Co-chair Sam Bourdon called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made to approve the September 2022 work group meeting minutes. Motion approved.

Member Updates:

Sam Bourdon's updated participants regarding the plan to form smaller groups within the work group to address specific areas. The three sub-groups are:

- Education & Advocacy: education for providers (behavioral health and medication), education for young people.
- Program Expansion: smoking/snorting equipment, naloxone vending machines, MAT, and HCV treatment
- Policy & Innovation: safe supply, supervised consumption sites, on-site drug checking

Sam provided a brief explanation of each sub-group's focus. Participants also discussed the Consortium's position regarding the Good Samaritan Law and messaging.

Link to sub-groups:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_RH6dBhry5yUOf5c0fYTQxuf3mEeYx8aK9h_-UyFJTI/edit?usp=sharing

Michael Davidson provided an update of the "Keep the Party Safe" campaign and website. Ads will also appear on Tik Tok, Instagram, and various other digital sites.

Sophie Feffer: Dance Safe has new fentanyl testing equipment. To order:
<https://dancesafe.org/preorder-strips/> Code: NEWSTRIPS2022

The strips are supposed to be less reactive to different substances and have fewer false positives.

There is a new opioid fund settlement dashboard:
<https://geoinfo.coag.gov/portal/apps/sites/#/settlement-distributions>

Jose Esquibel asked about how people will be educated in the use of the new strips.

Sophie indicated that, as far as she knows, the instructions have not changed.

Sam mentioned the recent a recent request from the Colorado Center for the Blind to provide technical assistance regarding prevention training. A recent Harm Reduction Conference mentioned a few different Braille resources. This will be discussed further in a sub-group.

Sam said grant funding for harm reduction will be announced either later this month or in early December. The Fentanyl Accountability and Prevention Act allocated six million more to the fund. A webinar will be scheduled once the grant funding is announced.

Geena Rupp said The Yarrow collective is hiring a part time peer support advocate to help develop a peer support group. Link:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_4DhII4uMet_WGLNIF5awmHNlu9sWEvM/view?usp=sharing

Sam said she could publish job openings in her overdose prevention newsletter and suggested sending job postings to the Consortium: rosemarie.macdowell@cuanschutz.edu

Jessica Eaddy said that La Plata County opened a syringe access program.
San Juan Basin Public Health SAP: Ashley Gonzalez AGonzalez@sjbpublichealth.org

Kiryn Lake said the Springs Recovery Connection is starting a peer group for individuals actively using substances and asked work group members for any helpful information they could provide. Work group members mentioned transparency and the importance of documenting all resources provided to participants in the peer group.

Geena Rupp said The Yarrow Collective works with a partner for clinical oversight

Breakout Sessions:

Work group members met in selected sub-groups and reported the group's discussion.

Hilary Bryant reported for Education & Advocacy. The discussion included education regarding the purpose of harm reduction and the distinction between enabling and prevention. They also discussed educating businesses and schools, identifying existing education gaps, and overlapping with the Provider Education Work Group.

Jessica Eaddy reported on Policy and Innovation. Topics discussed included drug checking and state and federal level policies and guidelines as well as a review of international policies and guidelines.

Jennifer Mackender suggested that it might be helpful for new work groups members to be given a summary of the work group's purpose, history, and goals.

Jessica Eaddy mentioned extending sub-group invitations to others who may not be current members of the Harm Reduction Work Group.

Adjournment/Next Meeting:

The meeting adjourned at 2:12 p.m. The next meeting will be held in January 2023.

Attachment: Work group roster