

## Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention

### Affected Families & Friends Work Group Meeting Minutes

March 8, 2021 via Zoom

#### **Present:**

Sarah Werner, Co-chair

Tracey Ritter, Co-chair

Jessica Triplett, CDHS

Michelle Stecher, Mountain Youth

Kathleen Morgan

Adina Hogue

Consortium Staff: Gina Olberding, Jen Place, Jessica Eaddy, Judy Solano, Rosemarie MacDowell

#### **Absent:**

See attached list.

Work group Co-chair, Sarah Werner, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

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

A motion was made to approve the November 2020 meeting minutes. Motion passed.

#### **Co-chair Announcements:**

Sarah Werner and Tracey Ritter were welcomed as the new work group co-chairs by Program Manager Jen Place.

#### **Mission Statement:**

Sarah presented the current draft mission statement and asked for work group comments:

*The Affected Families & Friends Work Group focuses on raising public awareness among Colorado citizens regarding the crisis of prescription drug misuse and promoting the safe use, storage, and disposal of prescription medications.*

Possible additions to the draft statement:

*The substance use crisis impacts not just victims but also friends and family. The Affected Friends and Family Work Group provides opportunities to raise public awareness by publicly/creatively sharing experiences and finding resources for healing.*

Scope of work: creating/promoting Beyond the Numbers stories and a resource list.

## Comments

- Public awareness is an important part of the work group mission; it does not function primarily as a support group.
- Existing projects will be continued by the work group, including interviews currently being conducted. Three interviews have been completed.
- Individuals seeking therapeutic support groups can be directed to local resources.

The draft mission statement will be reviewed and discussed further at the next work group meeting.

## **Resource List:**

Possible additions to the resource list were discussed, including references to treatment resources, literature, and events. The issue of keeping events up to date was also addressed. Events may be more appropriate to list on a Facebook page.

Events could be submitted to the Consortium newsletter distributed to over 800 Consortium members. Events could also be listed on the work group's page on the Consortium website. The website page could also include a link to the resource list.

Other resource listings could include family support groups for people who have lost a loved one as well as treatment resources. Both Al-anon and Nar-Anon were mentioned as was the CRAFT Program, Strengthening Families Program, and Circle of Parents (Illuminate Colorado) Program.

Jessica Triplett provided information regarding the Community Reinforcement and Family Training (CRAFT) Program. There are currently 22 groups in Colorado. Most groups meet online.

Tracey mentioned that she has a contact at Strengthening Families and will obtain additional information to share with the work group.

The resource list and draft mission statement are included with the minutes.

## **Beyond the Numbers:**

The Public Awareness Work Group will be providing funding for video editing. Funding in the amount of \$12-\$15,000 will need to be expended by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Jessica Triplett will be providing an interview from the CRAFT perspective; Jessica Eaddy has a Canon City contact (Young People in Recovery) providing another interview.

The work group discussed the importance of interview diversity, including subject matter, various geographic areas, and interviews in Spanish.

Michelle Stecher mentioned interviews she worked on related to a local campaign. The interviews were 60 to 90 seconds in length and rotated on social media over a period of one month.

Jen reviewed the costs associated with editing and the work group's experience with the Story Center, the organization that worked on the Beyond the Numbers 1.0 videos. The Story Center provided two facilitators and a workshop. They can also provide Spanish interpretation.

Link to Beyond the Number 1.0: <https://corxconsortium.org/projects/beyond-the-numbers-echoes-of-the-opioid-epidemic/>

Work group members discussed meeting next month in order to develop the interviews in a timely manner or to meet separately prior to the regularly scheduled work group meeting. Jen mentioned that the meeting survey indicated most people prefer a Friday morning or lunch hour.

Sarah, Tracey, and Jen will discuss the next meeting dates.

**Member Announcement:**

Adina Hogue announced a Candlelight Vigil that will be held on March 28<sup>th</sup> from 7 – 9 p.m. at Kendrick Lake Park in Lakewood. A copy of the flyer is attached to the minutes.

**Adjournment and Next Meeting:**

The meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m. The next work group meeting will be held on Monday, May 10, 2021 unless it is decided to hold a meeting in April.

Attachments:

Work group roster  
Mission statement draft  
Resource list  
Candlelight Vigil flyer