

Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention

Prescriber & Provider Work Group Meeting Minutes

July 17, 2025 via Zoom

Present:

Josh Blum, MD, and Kaylin Klie, MD, Co-chairs
Jess Angleson, Colorado Pharmacist Society
Delaney MacMath, CDPHE
Jackie O'Hara, Jet Marketing
Stephanie Stewart, MD, CU Anschutz
Betsy Craft, Drug Policy Coalition
Margaret Rich, Crossroads Turning Point
Kenny Maestas, The Colorado Cross Disability Coalition
Amber Quartier, Common Spirit Health
Peer Assistance Services: Hannah Nibauer, Jarae Bustillos
Consortium: Jose Esquibel, Jennifer Place, Jessica Eaddy, Shayna Micucci, Rosemarie MacDowell

Absent: See attached roster

Co-chair, Josh Blum, called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made to approve the January 2025 work group meeting minutes. Motion approved.

Consortium Updates (Jose Esquibel):

Legislative Summit: The Consortium will be conducting a meeting with Colorado legislators on July 29th to review policies mainly related to harm reduction, treatment, and recovery. While there won't be any funding from the legislature, there are opioid settlement funds available for the next 15 to 17 years. Meeting participants will be discussing policies at the state level to ensure the best use of this funding. Issues pertaining to harm reduction include the banning of syringe access programs. There is still a lot of work to do to make sure that individuals with substance use disorder are connected to treatment services and continuity of care.

MOUD; Overdose Statistics: Jose said that in his review of the 1115 waiver extension request, he noted that many trained providers are not offering MOUD. He asked work group members to consider if anything can be done to increase provider participation. Kaylin Klie suggested that additional education and a contact that providers can easily be referred to for support and questions would help.

The 2024 decrease in overdose deaths reported does not indicate that overdoses aren't still occurring. There are still a number of people suffering from substance use disorders. Court data has indicated that most arrests are generally in the 35- to-45 age group. Overdose deaths for individuals aged 55 plus are occurring nationwide. Treatment service gaps exist in areas where populations of color reside. Allyson Gottsman is doing good work with some providers serving the Native American population.

Leadership Transition (Kaylin Klie): Kaylin announced that she will be stepping down as work group co-chair by the end of summer due to other professional commitments, including the development of the first rural addiction medicine fellowship. Potential sites include Alamosa, Monte Vista, and Salida. Kenny Maestas asked about the southeast area of the state. Kaylin provided her contact email in the event work group members have suggestions for other geographic areas: kaylin.klie@cuanschutz.edu Jose, Josh and Jessica thanked Kaylin for her contributions to the work group.

Upcoming Events:

- Lunch & Learn: Translation Services in Healthcare Settings - August 27th from 12-1 p.m. on Zoom (announcement forthcoming).
- Proposed Fall Lunch & Learn Series collaboration with COTOD/COSAM beginning late September. Speakers include Dr. Don Stader. Topics include transitioning patients on high dose opioids, psychedelic treatments for SUDs, novel buprenorphine inductions, emerging research in the treatment of alcohol disorder.
- Colorado Pain Society Annual Conference - October 10-12th.
- Dr. Don Stader Roots Program in Rural Colorado: <https://www.coloradoroots.us/>
- Winter Lunch & Learn sessions are online at Compass Healthcare Collaborative and iCompass platform: <https://education.compasshcc.org/content/colorado-consortium-prescription-drug-abuse-prevention#group-tabs-node-course-default4>

Jessica asked work group members to let her know if they have suggestions for other educational topics or speakers: Jessica.eaddy@cuanschutz.edu

Betsy Craft mentioned an upcoming MOUD treatment educational session that will include the role of peers in hospital settings and healthcare clinics.

Member Updates:

Jet Marketing (Jackie O'Hara): Over the past three years, Jet Marketing collected CME training participant emails and used them to build a 4,500-provider database. The database serves as a mailing list for upcoming lunch and learn sessions. Jackie described the education advertising program, which targets the entire State of Colorado. It was originally planned to target more rural and frontier communities; however, the Denver metro area has the highest response rate, followed by Colorado Springs.

Adjournment and Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 12:46 p.m. The next work group meeting will be held on Thursday, October 16, 2025 from noon to 1 p.m. via Zoom.

Attachment: Work group roster