

## Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention

### Affected Families & Friends Work Group Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2023 via Zoom

#### **Present:**

Sarah Werner and Tracey Ritter, Co-chairs

Jessica Triplett, CDHS

Crystal Goodiel, Rocky Mountain Poison & Drug Safety

Sahiba Tandon, AG's Office

Hard Beauty Foundation: Raquel Garcia, Prescillia Wells, Amy Walker

Consortium: Hilary Bryant, Jessica Eaddy, Jennifer Mackender, Eric Barker, Rosemarie MacDowell

**Absent:** See attached roster.

Work group Co-chair, Sarah Werner, called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. She reviewed the work group mission statement.

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

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

#### **Hard Beauty Life Presentation:**

Raquel Garcia is a certified addiction counselor and founder of Hard Beauty, a recovery, coaching, therapy, and counseling organization. Raquel is also executive director of the Hard Beauty Foundation as well as Co-chair of the Behavioral Health Administration's Opioid Abatement Council.

Hard Beauty employs 26 recovery coaches, including a bi-lingual Spanish speaking coach and a coach specialized in working with individuals who have been involved with the judicial system. The organization offers in-person and virtual recovery coaching and counseling. Certifications and credits are available for recovery coaches through the organization. The organization plans to establish a professional development training program for Colorado in partnership with the Colorado Providers Association (COPA). The organization has also partnered with the Naloxone Project and both Douglas and El Paso counties.

Raquel will be the keynote speaker at the Colorado Rural Peer Conference in Glenwood Springs. The conference will be held at the Hotel Colorado July 26 through July 28.

For additional information:

<https://www.hardbeauty.life/>

Racquel Garcia: [racquel@hardbeauty.life](mailto:racquel@hardbeauty.life)

#### **Member Updates & Announcements:**

Tracey, Sarah, and Hilary created three podcasts for "Veterans Voice," a radio program/podcast produced by the Mt. Carmel Veterans Service Center. The podcasts are now available on the Consortium website Affected Families & Friends webpage: <https://corxconsortium.org/work-groups/affected-families-friends/>

The work group co-chairs hosted a Q & A panel after a screening of "Anonymous Sister" at the Denver Sie Film Center on June 20<sup>th</sup>

The "Into Light" exhibition highlighting original portraits and personal stories of people in Colorado who have lost their lives to substance use will be held on the DU Campus. Opening night is Overdose Awareness Day August 31<sup>st</sup> from 5-7 p.m.

The "Keep the Party Safe" campaign has been partnering with the Anschutz Entertainment Group (AEG) to distribute naloxone at concerts in the Denver area. Anyone interested in volunteering to help can contact Hilary Bryant at [hilary.bryant@cuanschutz.edu](mailto:hilary.bryant@cuanschutz.edu)

**Adjournment/Next Meeting Date:**

Adjournment/next meeting date: The August 18<sup>th</sup> meeting may be cancelled due to Overdose Awareness events. The next regularly scheduled work group meeting will be held on Friday, September 15, 2023 from 12-1 p.m.

Attachment: Work group roster