

Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention

Recovery Work Group Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2021 via Zoom

Present:

Carly Larson, Co-chair
Rica Rodriguez, Co-chair
Angie Bertrand, Peer 180
Chris Conn, Spero Recovery
Coreen Braden, Young People in Recovery
Duke Rumely, Sober AF Entertainment
Joan Holtz, Illuminate Colorado
Michelle Ryan, Behavioral Health Group
David Huff, Community Member
Ernest Bilinski, CDPHE
Stephanie Salkin, OBH
Darin Valdez, CAiR
Jenny Loth Hill, City and County of Denver
Susanna Velie, Christlife Ministries
Racquel Garcia, Hard Beauty Foundation
Victor King, State Opioid Response Grant
Rachel Fowler, Recover Simply
Wendy White, Face it Together
Julia Deziel, AmeriCorps
Erik Borell, Western Slope Recovery Network
Advocates for Recovery: Tonya Wheeler, James Gannon, Laura Allem
Signal Behavioral Health: Amber Nicoletti, Kristy Jordan
Consortium: Jen Place, Jessica Eaddy, Jamie Feld
Absent: See attached roster.

Rica Rodriguez, Work Group Co-chair, called the meeting to order at 4:45 p.m. Co-chair Carly Larson reviewed the work group norms and focus areas.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made to approve the July 2021 meeting minutes. Motion passed.

ED-RSS Updates:

Memorial Hospital has concluded their pilot program; the Swedish pilot is ongoing through March 2022. James Gannon and Laura Allem provided an update of activities at Swedish Hospital. The summary is attached to the minutes. Laura just recently assumed the position of Peer Support Specialist.

The Evaluation Center Year Two Evaluation Report: Jen Place gave a brief history of the evaluation purpose. A copy of the report is attached to the minutes.

Jen also provided a brief BRFSS update.

RCO Organizing:

Work group participants discussed the possibility of establishing a framework to foster communications and networking among RCOs. Jen suggested that time could be devoted to this subject at future meetings.

Comments:

Victor King said there is a lack of culturally-conscience recovery services in the SW part of Colorado (the Durango/Cortez area). Funding is lacking and assistance in forming new RCOs focused on the indigenous population is needed.

Jessica Eaddy has contacts in the SW area that could be of assistance.

Darin Valdez asked about measuring event impact. Tonya Wheeler said her organization uses the Recovery Data Platform created by Faces & Voices of Recovery. Racquel Garcia mentioned she has been able to obtain a greater response regarding events by sending a link via text.

The work group discussed putting together a directory of RCOs and other support services. Jen will look into this further.

Stephanie Salkin has a listing of SOR-funded RCOs. She provided the following links:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/publish?EQBCT=8fbaf12457814a0b870523bcdd87fb58>

<https://cdhs.colorado.gov/behavioral-health/find-behavioral-health-help>

Funding Announcements/Updates:

Kristy Jordan, Signal Behavioral Health, gave an update of upcoming funding available through MSOs for recovery support services. She also asked for participant feedback regarding the funding process response time (currently five weeks). Statewide funding sources available: SB 137 Behavioral Health Recovery Act (\$1.6 million for recovery-oriented support services), the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (\$1.7 million from OBH), and the expansion of SB 202 within the SOR Grant. All of the funding is being combined into one source. Submissions will have to be submitted to respective MSOs regions. Signal will be posting their RFP within the next few weeks: <https://signalbhn.org/>
For additional information and to be added to the RFP email listing: kjordan@signalbhn.org

Jen reminded meeting participants of the assistance available from the Consortium's grant-writing program. The process takes approximately 25 days.

Link: <https://corxconsortium.org/grant-assistance/>

Grant Writing Program questions can be directed to pm@corxconsortium.org with "Grant Writing Assistance" noted in the subject line.

Grant-Writing Application:

https://ucdenverdata.formstack.com/forms/grant_writing_assistance_copy_2

Jessica Eaddy has information on Rural Development Grants available for organizations located in rural areas of the state as well as a Colorado loan program: <https://climber-colorado.com/>
Email: Jessica.eaddy@cuanschutz.edu

Public Relations:

The one-page recovery infographic is now available on the Consortium website. Posters are available from Embark Recovery. The Consortium external relations staff will be disseminating the posters statewide.

Content for posting on the Facebook page can be sent directly to the work group co-chairs or Jen Place:

Carly Larson: carlyl@rmcrisispartners.org
Rica Rodriguez: Promotores5280@gmail.com
Jen Place: Jennifer.place@cuanschutz.edu

Guest & Member Announcements/Updates:

- International Overdose Awareness Day Events: Rockies Game & Sober Tailgate Event at The Phoenix on August 22nd. Naloxone will be distributed.
- Castle Rock Candlelight Vigil evening of August 30th.
- Rally for Recovery Saturday, September 18th.
- Advocates for Recovery will be conducting recovery messaging training on August 14th.
- A movie and music event will be held in Grand Junction Lincoln Park on September 11th.
- August is Naloxone Month.
- JCPH is sponsoring a virtual 5K for International Overdose Awareness Day from August 22-31 (August 31 is IOAD). To register: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeLP9wnAzIKXBhyeeckn-vzANodSeV6LsXmoYVuP0GqjAY6fg/viewform>. For questions, email Julia Deziel: jdeziel@jeffco.us
- CAiR will be holding online and in person workshops. Creative Meditation is a virtual event for up to 100 participants. Flyers are available at the following link: <https://www.coloradoartistsinrecovery.org/workshops> CAiR is also planning a Kickball Tournament September 5th. For information contact Darin Valdez: coloradoartistsinrecovery@gmail.com

Employment Opportunities:

The Behavioral Health Group Denver location has a peer position available. All other BHG locations have openings for counselors and nurses. For information: <https://www.bhgreccovery.com/>

OBH has a job opening:

<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/colorado/jobs/3172224/opioid-response-grant-program-assistant-i?sort=PostingDate%7CDescending&page=4&pagetype=jobOpportunitiesJobs>

Adjournment/Next Meeting:

The meeting adjourned at 6:14 p.m. The next work group meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 14, 2021 from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

Attachments: Work Group Roster, Final EDRSS Year Two Report, Swedish Hospital Report, Upcoming CAiR Programs

Other links noted in the Chat:

- Recovery Community Organization (RCO) was created by William "Bill" White:
www.willamwhitepapers.com
- SB 21-137 Behavioral Health Recovery Act
https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/2021a_137_signed.pdf
- For listing events:
<https://www.endoverdoseco.com/community-events>

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