

Meeting Minutes of the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Courts and Justice-Involved Populations Subcommittee Tuesday November 12, 2024, Approved

Attendees:

Subcommittee Members Attending: Amber Blankenship, Stephanie Bond, Candace Facemyer, Cindy Hill, Judge Rowe, Stephanie Thornton (chair)

Members Not Attending: Sam Hess, Tom Plymale

ODCP Staff: Justin Smith

Marshall University Staff: Bradley McCoy

Opening:

Stephanne Thornton (chair) provided welcome and opening remarks of this meeting of the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment, Courts and Justice-Involved Populations Subcommittee. The meeting was called to order on Tuesday November 12, and was conducted by Zoom conference. A quorum was present to approve the second October 2024 meeting minutes. Judge Jim Row made a motion to approve without changes, and Amber Blankenship seconded with all in favor, and none opposed, and the minutes were approved. The purpose of this meeting was to finalize the 2025 State Plan.

Agenda Items:

2025 State Plan (Final Draft Due November 15, 2024)

- The Subcommittee actively worked on drafting the 2025 Plan. Stephanie Thornton created a draft from the previous brainstorming sessions and the Subcommittee edited and/or added KPI under each Goal and Strategy. The final draft is included below.
- The Subcommittee discussed how resource guides need continuously updated. They need to be online to remain as a living document and will continue to discuss.
- The Subcommittee would like to partner with multiple Subcommittees next year:
 - Recovery Community Subcommittee to understand family peer support specialists
 - Treatment, Research, and Health Systems Subcommittee and Recovery Community Subcommittee to identify case management resources
 - Pregnant and Parenting Women Subcommittee and Youth Subcommittee to identify specialized care for target populations
 - Pregnant and Parenting Women Subcommittee and Public Education Subcommittee to discuss specialized stigma reduction training for court officials and providers
 - Pregnant and Parenting Subcommittee to identify obstetrics providers to care for justice-impacted women in treatment and recovery and make jails aware of them
 - Employment and Transportation Work Subcommittee to identify second-chance employers

Reconfirm Subcommittee Membership

- This will be addressed at the next meeting.

Additional Discussion

- None.

Adjournment:

Stephanne closed the meeting by thanking all Subcommittee members for their attendance and participation. The Subcommittee will meet again on Tuesday December 10, 2024.

Courts 2025 State Plan Draft

Goal 1: Provide criminal justice-involved and civil child abuse and neglect-involved persons access to evaluation and effective treatment for substance use disorder.

Strategy 1: Identify existing policies and work to overcome barriers in making Naloxone widely available in Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation facilities.

KPI 1: By July 31, 2025, identify policies and potential liability or other concerns that act as barriers and inhibit Naloxone accessibility in Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation facilities.

KPI 2: By November 30, 2025, create pathways and/or recommend broadening of policy to make Naloxone available and accessible to correctional officers and detained correctional inmates in jails and prisons and upon release to increase life-saving actions.

Strategy 2: Determine availability and accessibility of treatment options for non-detained female (youth) status offenders who are at high risk of detention, overdose, and other health-risk behaviors associated with unaddressed substance use disorder.

KPI 1: By May 31, 2025, partner with groups serving this population and the Youth Subcommittee.

KPI 2: By October 31, 2025, map available treatment options for this population.

Strategy 3: Identify and provide information to the judiciary on alternative sentencing options that could result in treatment in lieu of incarceration.

KPI 1: By July 31, 2025, create a jurisdiction-specific resource guide based on type of SUD treatment (IP, OP, sober living) available in each new judicial circuit.

KPI 2: By July 31, 2025, promote treatment provider awareness and fidelity in completing open bed list maintained and disseminated by the Office of Drug Control Policy.

KPI 3: By August 31, 2025, partner with the Recovery Subcommittee and Treatment Subcommittee on available case management resources for this population.

KPI 4: By September 30, 2025, identify case management resources that link incarcerated individuals from the jail to treatment in the community.

Strategy 4: Identify ways in which the whole family affected by an individual family member's SUD and criminal justice and/or child abuse and neglect involvement can receive substance use support services.

KPI 1: By March 31, 2025, partner with the Recovery Subcommittee related to their development of a Family Peer Support Specialist to serve affected families.

KPI 2: By October 31, 2025, identify pathways to family treatment options to reduce stigma and interrupt the intergenerational risk cycle of substance use disorder for returning citizens directly impacted by substance use disorder and legal and/or child abuse and neglect involvement.

Strategy 5: Advocate for expansion of Family Treatment Courts in West Virginia.

KPI 1: By April 30, 2025, advocate for funding resources needed to expand Family Treatment Courts across West Virginia.

KPI 2: By October 31, 2025, promote opportunities to increase and enhance partnerships between local stakeholders and Family Treatment Court staff in new and proposed Family Treatment Court locations

Strategy 6: Identify gaps in quality treatment availability for specialized populations (youth, pregnant women) with SUD and justice-involvement or at-risk of justice involvement because of SUD.

KPI 1: By April 30, 2025, partner with the Youth Subcommittee.

KPI 2: Through December 31, 2025, partner with the Pregnant and Parenting Women Subcommittee quarterly

KPI 3: By June 30, 2025, utilize information from Behavioral Health Providers Association about gaps and barriers in available services.

KPI 4: By September 30, 2025, identify best practice-level of care and services for specialized populations to determine feasibility of implementation in West Virginia.

Strategy 7: Partner with Pregnant and Parenting Women Subcommittee to increase awareness of the importance of prenatal care for mothers who use drugs with criminal and/or civil legal involvement.

KPI 1: Through December 31, 2025, hold quarterly meetings with the Pregnant and Parenting Women Subcommittee to increase awareness that seeking prenatal care while using drugs is not criminal in West Virginia.

KPI 2: By September 30, 2025, partner with Public Education Subcommittees to promote a stigma-reduction campaign regarding prenatal care for pregnant women with criminal and/or civil legal involvement and stigma reduction for court officials.

KPI 3: By March 31, 2025, identify obstetric provider resources available to this population to share with jail medical for dissemination to women returning to the community.

Goal 2: Construct pathways to employment, housing, transportation, health, and behavioral health services for individuals with substance use disorders and criminal records.

Strategy 1: Integrate social determinants of health assessment checklists into point of contact with justice-involved persons who use drugs.

KPI 1: By June 30, 2025, partner with Public Defender Services and local public defender offices to provide social determinants of health assessment checklists that can be incorporated into jail (first intake) interviews.

KPI 2: By November 30, 2025, determine gaps in resources and linkage across jurisdictions for making referrals to services that bolster social determinants of health.

Strategy 2: Promote available educational and employment resources to persons returning to the community with criminal and/or civil legal involvement.

KPI 1: By February 28, 2025, partner with Jobs and Hope to promote available resources is promoted to persons returning to the community with criminal and/or civil legal involvement.

KPI 2: By July 31, 2025, partner with the Transportation and Employment Work Subcommittee to identify and expand on employers who have a second chance hiring policy.