

Colorado Substance Abuse Trend and Response Task Force

February 11, 2022, 10:00 a.m.—11:30 a.m.

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Attorney General Weiser, Matthew Baca, Wendy Buxton-Andrade, Rick Brandt, George Dingfelder, Jessica Sandgren, Matt Holtman, Stazi Snelling, John Kellner, Peggy Heil, Michael Angel, Claudia Zundel, Brandon Davis, Andrés Guerrero, Liz Hickman, José Esquibel, Jaime FitzSimons, Tonya Wheeler, Melissa Divido, Elizabeth Weishaupl, Leslie Schaefer

Guests: Heidi Williams, Jamie Feld, Allison Rosenthal, Jenny Wood, Kevin Hughes, Shaina Riciputi (Colorado SEOW Co-Chair), Henny Lasley, Annie Klein, Jade Woodard (SEN Steering Committee Co-Chair), Sydney Chaves, Peter Rumbach, Janet Robertson, Michael Davison, Jessica Eaddy, Avani Dilger

Review and Approval of Minutes

George Dingfelder made the motion to approve minutes, Wendy Buxton-Andrade seconded the motion. Minutes approved unanimously.

Welcome and Introductions

AG Weiser provided a welcome to new members, new Deputy Director of Opioid Response, Jamie Feld, provide comments about the fentanyl and opioid crisis, possible legislation and began the Task Force meeting.

Taskforce Priorities for 2022

Presented by Vice Chair Matthew Baca

Director Matthew Baca proposed the 2022 taskforce priorities, which the Task Force adopted:

- Opioid Settlement Funds Distribution
- Fentanyl Public Awareness Campaign
- Strengthening Links to Schools and other practitioners

Update on Opioid Settlement Funds

Presented by Director of Opioid Response Heidi Williams

Director of Opioid Response Heidi Williams discussed the \$400M settlement that will be distributed over the next 18 years. The settlement funds will be distributed as follows:

- 20% Local Governments (can opt-out and send their portion to their region)
- 60% Regions (19 total Opioid Response Regions)
- 10% Infrastructure

- 10% State

Colorado was the first state of its size to receive 99% of the counties and municipality's signatures to the Colorado MOU and settlement releases from future lawsuits to Johnson and Johnson and the three large drug distributors.

The funds will be used for treatment, recovery, prevention and education, harm reduction, and criminal justice. Please see coag.gov/opioids for more information.

Discussion on Fentanyl Awareness Campaign

Presented by Director of Opioid Response Heidi Williams

Framing discussion with members and guests related to the urgency of fentanyl awareness. The following other state agencies and organizations indicated they are considering awareness and are interested in collaboration:

- Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention
- CDC and Office of Behavioral Health
- Song for Charlie Campaign (Seattle)
- Rise Above Colorado

Breakout Groups

Vice Chair Chief Rick Brandt and Dr. Liz Hickman

- Members were directed to different breakout rooms after framing remarks from Vice Chair Brandt and Dr. Hickman.

Adjournment – 11:36 am