

Meeting Minutes of the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Public Education Subcommittee Wednesday April 16, 2025, Approved

Attendees:

Subcommittee Members Attending: Keigan Aabel-Brown, Tahnee Bryant, Carolyn Canini, Jonnie Kifer, Jenny Lancaster, Anne Martin, Jay Phillips, Greg Puckett, Tina Ramirez

Subcommittee Members Not Attending: Cathy Capps-Amburgey, G. Backer, Sarah Barton, Lori Garrett-Bumba, , Kimberly Chiaramonte, Dr. Dumas, Michelle Hermann, Paige M., Ashley May, Crystal May, Heather McDonell-Stalnaker, Gwyn McGee, B. McGinty, Ashley Murphy, Dr. Susan Murphy, Lyn O'Connell (chair), T. Poling, Jan Rader, Amy Saunders, Elizabeth Shahan, Amy Snodgrass, Lee Storrow, J. Vance, Crystal Welch, S. Whaley, S. White, S. Wright

ODCP Staff: Jessica Smith

Marshall University Staff: Rachel Bledsoe and Bradley McCoy

Opening

Jessica Smith provided welcome and opening remarks of this meeting of the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment, Public Education Subcommittee and led the meeting at the request of the Chair (Dr. Lyn O'Connell) who was unable to attend. The meeting was called to order on Wednesday, April 16, 2025, and was conducted by Zoom conference. There were nine subcommittee members in attendance. A quorum was not present to approve previous meeting minutes. The objective of this meeting was to work on the 2025 State Plan.

Agenda Items

Quarter 1 Goals, Strategies, Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

- The Subcommittee discussed edits to the current stigma training and how to edit it to focus it on youth.
- The group provided an update for the current training.
 - SPF Rx grant and Partnerships For Success or PFSX grants have allowed several stigma trainings to be conducted across the region. As the stigma training continues, Jenny Lancaster has reminded groups to report their training to The Stigma Free WV website via the available form for evaluation and tracking. They record the trainer, number of attendees, scores on the pre- and post- survey and which version of the training they provided based on time allotted.
- WorkForce WV made a request for stigma training with a centralized focus on employers. The Subcommittee has contacted Coalfield Development to proceed with this request. Additionally, this Subcommittee is working with CORE and Ashley Shaw to develop employer-specific versions of the training in the future.
- The Subcommittee is developing a survey for youth input to the youth stigma training. The questions should be mental-health focused and mindful to attention spans of teens ages 16-18. Several evidence-based programs already existing in the Clearinghouse were identified by the group. If these programs already address mental health stigma in some way, the group would like to find a way to tweak it so they can become part of the youth stigma training.
 - Signs of Suicide <https://clearinghouse.helpandhopewv.org/program/signs-of-suicide/>

- Mental Health First Aid - Youth
<https://clearinghouse.helpandhopewv.org/program/mental-health-first-aid-youth/>
- NAMI Ending the Silence <https://clearinghouse.helpandhopewv.org/program/nami-ending-the-silence/>
- The group would like to engage other youth stakeholders as well. Tahnee Bryant is reaching out to contacts that work in Extended School Mental Health (ESMH) to talk about mental health stigma resources that already exist.
- Anne Martin forwarded the existing list of youth survey questions to others for feedback.
- The Dunbar mural, among others, has been delayed due to severe weather. There are currently two more murals approved in the Dunbar region. Eleanor, West Virginia, is partnering with the teen drug court for installation. Hannan High School in Mason County has moved their athletic facility and will be putting up a mural on the new building upon completion.
- Greg Puckett has successfully gotten the first middle school partnership for a mural.
- As mural installations are added, there is need to create a social media presence by using hashtags. Suggested hashtags included: #WVHealthy #WVRecover #StigmaFree #WVHealthyCommunity #StigmaFreeWV(location). QR Codes might be an alternative to hashtags, however visibility and feasibility pose problems. StigmaFreeWV as a hashtag would link them back to that website for a list of resources and a hyperlink back to Breaking Free From Stigma and Addiction.

Confirm Subcommittee Membership

- This agenda item was not discussed.

Additional Discussion

- The Subcommittee discussed youth and the current generation's improvements in stigma toward mental health and seeking therapy. There is a possibility the curriculum for the youth training could involve anti-bullying curriculum in relation to mental health.

Adjournment

Jessica Smith thanked the Subcommittee members for their attendance and involvement. The Public Education Subcommittee is scheduled to meet again on May 21, 2025, at 1:00 PM.