

Meeting Minutes of the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Prevention Subcommittee

Thursday, September 18, 2025, Approved

Attendees:

Subcommittee Members Attending: Tahnee Bryant (acting chair), Christina Chill, Lori Garrett-Bumba, Nancy Hoffman, Jenny Lancaster, Gig Robinson,

Subcommittee Members Not Attending: Michele Bowles, Tammy Collins, Stephanie Hayes (co-chair), Greg Puckett, Amy Saunders (co-chair), Elizabeth Shahan

Office of Drug Control Policy Staff: Dora Radford

State Opioid Response (SOR) Regional Coordinators: Barbra Masih, Jamie Styons

Marshall University Staff: Bradley McCoy

Opening:

Tahnee Bryant (acting chair) provided welcome and opening remarks of this meeting of the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment, Prevention Subcommittee. Amy Saunders and Stephanie Hayes were both unable to attend the meeting and asked Tahnee Bryant to lead in their place. The meeting was called to order on Thursday, September 18, 2025, at 9:00 AM and was conducted by Google Meet conference. Bradley McCoy will email the co-chairs, Amy and Stephanie, to approve the August 21, 2025 meeting minutes by email. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss general key performance indicator (KPI) updates.

Agenda Items:

Meeting Minutes Process

- Bradley McCoy provided an update from Rick Dempsey that Subcommittee chairs can approve meeting minutes. Since Amy Saunders and Stephanie Hayes were both unable to attend this meeting, he will send them the August meeting minutes for approval by email.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) Progress and Goal Leader Report Outs

- Bradley McCoy shared the performance management spreadsheet for general discussion about KPI completion. The 2025 Quarter 3 Progress Report is due on September 26, 2025. Goal Leaders will send their individual KPI updates and percentages of KPI completion to Stephanie and Amy who will then send Bradley a final draft to include in the Quarter 3 Report.
- **Goal 1, Strategy 1, KPI 2:** Community Readiness Assessments have been shared with coalitions, but the Subcommittee is unsure of the status of each region sharing them back with their community. Jamie Styons added that their region's community roundtables have not occurred yet.
- **Goal 1, Strategy 1, KPI 3:** Tahnee Bryant discussed the Partnership for Success grant's ongoing work in providing resources to coalitions.
- **Goal 2:** The Subcommittee generally discussed tobacco prevention. There is a growing need for education around hemp and Kratom. This includes both consumers and merchants. The state needs to work on this quickly and should look at evidence-based education that may already exist in other states. The Subcommittee also discussed cuts to tobacco funding at the federal

and state levels. The state is using remaining funds to keep the Help Line open, but there is no funding for the training and prevention events originally planned for by the Subcommittee.

- **Goal 3:** Amy and Stephanie normally report on this goal but were absent. They will include updates in the Quarterly Report.
- **Goal 4:** Lori Garrett-Bumba shared that these KPIs are now complete, and she has already submitted updates to the Subcommittee chairs. Brooklyn Johnson, a Marshall University medical student, has become the youngest Certified Prevention Specialist in the nation. She intends to integrate this with her future medical practice. Additionally, another student leader who graduated from Marshall University went on to the West Virginia Osteopathic School of Medicine and got the administration to change stigmatizing language in their curriculum.
 - <https://www.marshall.edu/news/2025/09/marshall-university-student-becomes-youngest-certified-prevention-specialist-in-the-nation/>

Community Conversations

- Bradley McCoy provided an update about the Community Conversations and the process of creating the forthcoming report that will help to inform the creation of the 2026 State Plan. The Subcommittee will work on this during their October meeting.
- Attendees who participated in the Community Conversations shared their experiences. Tahnee Bryant brought up that stigma, youth treatment, and transportation were common themes; however, it was also interesting how little vaping and marijuana use was brought up which may indicate people do not see it as a problem at all.

Additional Discussion

- Gig Robinson shared information about the West Virginia Alcohol Beverage Control Administration's No School Spirits PSA Contest
 - <https://abca.wv.gov/page/no-school-spirits-psa-contest>

Adjournment:

Tahnee closed the meeting by thanking all Subcommittee members for their attendance and participation. The Subcommittee will meet again on Thursday, October 16, 2025, at 9:00 AM.