

Meeting Minutes of the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Prevention Subcommittee Thursday, October 16, 2025, Approved

Attendees:

Subcommittee Members Attending: Tahnee Bryant, Tammy Collins, Stephanie Hayes (co-chair), Nancy Hoffman, Jenny Lancaster, Amy Saunders (co-chair), Elizabeth Shahan

Subcommittee Members Not Attending: Michele Bowles, Christina Chill, Lori Garrett-Bumba, Greg Puckett, Gig Robinson,

Guests Attending: Nicole Blevins, Kasey Forsell, Jessica Whitmore

Office of Drug Control Policy (ODCP) Staff Attending: Dora Radford

State Opioid Response (SOR) Staff Attending: Renee Harris

State Opioid Response (SOR) Regional Coordinators Attending: Christina Adkins, Barbra Masih, Raj Masih

Marshall University Staff Attending: Bradley McCoy

Opening:

Stephanie Hayes provided welcome and opening remarks of this meeting of the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment, Prevention Subcommittee. The meeting was called to order on Thursday, October 16, 2025, at 9:00 AM and was conducted by Google Meet conference. Stephanie Hayes and Amy Saunders approved of the September 18, 2025 meeting minutes and there was no further discussion. The minutes were distributed to the Subcommittee members on October 13, 2025. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss general key performance indicator (KPI) updates and priorities for the 2026 State Plan.

Agenda Items:

Community Conversations and Priorities for the 2026 State Plan

- Bradley McCoy provided a brief overview of the Community Conversations. Many others on the meeting facilitated virtual breakouts or attended the in-person meetings.
- While vaping was brought up in virtual breakout sessions, Elizabeth Shahan and Tahnee Bryant discussed how parents and community members see vaping as "a problem but not our biggest problem." This was something discovered during the Community Readiness Assessments. Parents are more concerned about overdoses and do not see the significant harm in nicotine and marijuana vaping products. Some counties did follow-up focus groups to learn more about this after their Community Readiness Assessments. Magistrates, law enforcement, and fines do not have the desired effect on enforcing the law for vape shops. There is a need for parent education on what vaping is and its effects so that things can start in the home combined with policy change.
- There needs to be education around links between opioid and cannabinoid receptors.
- Raj Masih gave an overview of Delta-8, Kratom, 7-hydroxy, medetomidine (a veterinary sedative unaffected by naloxone), and nitazenes. There needs to be education around the effects of these lesser-known substances.
- There is concern for cocaine and club drug resurgences on college campuses. Amy Saunders has good connections to address this at state campuses. Test strips are available on most campuses

unless they have chosen to opt out. There are initiatives to get test strips into college bars and other access points as well.

- Elizabeth Shahan gave an overview of WiseBatch, which allows for bulk purchases of test strips at a discounted rate. This allows Prevention Lead Organizations (PLOs) to respond to spike alerts. Not all test strip brands have the same clear instructions, which can be confusing. WiseBatch is consistently reliable, has good instructions, and is cost-effective.
- Law enforcement need to be educated on how to use test strips so that they can in turn explain it to community members.
- Marshall University's data dashboard will inform priorities for next year as well.
- Dr. Stephen Loyd sees prescriber education as a priority for next year.
- The Subcommittee would like to seek tobacco funding next year and may develop a KPI around this. They may partner with ODCP to seek legislative help in acquiring funding.
- Amy Saunders and Stephanie Hayes will work to draft KPIs over the next month so that they can be finalized by the Subcommittee in November.

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

- Bradley McCoy shared the performance management spreadsheet, and the Subcommittee discussed general updates related to each goal.
- Goal 1: Elizabeth Shahan
 - This goal is complete. PLOs are in the process of getting this information back to their communities. An executive summary document with highlights will still need to be made.
- Goal 2: Christina Chill and Jenny Lancaster
 - There were no updates for this goal.
- Goal 3: Amy Saunders and Stephanie Hayes
 - The survey is being conducted with schools around the existing resources and evidence-based practices for substance use, suicide, and body safety.
- Goal 4: Lori Garrett-Bumba
 - This goal is complete. The Prevention Specialist Application and Recertification Application have been updated and streamlined and are now available through an online portal.

Additional Discussion

- None.

Adjournment:

Stephanie closed the meeting by thanking all Subcommittee members for their attendance and participation. The Subcommittee will meet again on Thursday, November 20, 2025, at 9:00 AM.