Meeting Minutes of the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment
Recovery Community Subcommittee
Wednesday, October 7, 2026, Approved

Attendees:

Subcommittee Members Attending: Amber Blankenship (co-chair), Joe Deegan, Heather Gregory, Kenny Jordan, Dan McCawley (co-chair), Coty Long, Raj Masih, Liz Neal, Phil Shimer, Sara Smith
Subcommittee Members Not Attending: Brandy Blatt, Trenton Clem, Ardella Cottrill, Elly Donahue, John Smith
ODCP Staff Attending: Olivia Fox
State Opioid Response (SOR) Staff Attending: Stephanie Frazer
Marshall University Staff Attending: Bradley McCoy

Opening:

Amber Blankenship (co-chair) provided welcome and opening remarks of this meeting of the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment – Recovery Community Subcommittee. The meeting was called to order on Wednesday, October 7, 2026, and was conducted by Microsoft Teams conference. Amber Blankenship and Dan McCawley approved the September 2, 2026 meeting minutes. There was no further discussion. The purpose of this meeting was to review key performance indicator (KPI) updates and priorities for the 2027 State Plan.

Agenda Items:

Key Performance Indicator (KPI) Updates

- **Goal 1, Strategy 1, KPI 1**: There are still only 41 responses to the survey. Kenny Jordan is disseminating it again.
- **Goal 1, Strategy 1, KPI 2**: Kenny Jordan presented at the West Virginia Association of Addiction Professionals (WVAAP) conference about national supervision criteria. Dan McCawley is presenting at First Choice on peer supervision and Liz Neal is presenting at First Choice on ethics.
- **Goal 1, Strategy 1, KPI 3**: The Housing Workgroup has provided the update that they have fully migrated from Behave Health to Recovery Capital Management System (RCMS) as of August 1, 2026.
- **Goal 2, Strategy 1, KPI 1**: Dan McCawley attended the Marion County Sequential Intercept Mapping meeting.
- **Goal 2, Strategy 1, KPI 2:** The Youth Subcommittee will submit their own assessment.
- **Goal 2, Strategy 1, KPI 3:** The Subcommittee will look at barriers addressed in the Town Hall Meeting Summary Report. Someone can reach out to Josh Barker for information from the round tables he hosted.
- **Goal 3, Strategy 1, KPI 1:** Informed Consent training will carry over into next year.
- **Goal 3, Strategy 1, KPI 2:** Informed Consent training will carry over into next year.
- **Goal 3, Strategy 1, KPI 3:** This is dependent on the completion and approval of the Informed Consent training module.
- **Goal 4, Strategy 1, KPI 1:** This KPI was completed in September.

- **Goal 4, Strategy 1, KPI 2:** Amber Blankenship is awaiting for policy approval from the Division of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DCR) that will approve contact visits by peers in carceral settings.
- **Goal 4, Strategy 1, KPI 3:** This KPI was completed in Quarter 3 by standing existing meetings.

2027 State Plan

- The Subcommittee will meet again in the last week of October to develop the 2027 State Plan.
- 2027 State Plan Goals and Strategies are due Monday, November 2, 2026.
- Chairs will present their Goals and Strategies on the November 18, 2026 virtual Governor's Council meeting.
- The final draft of 2027 State Plan with key performance indicators (KPIs) is due Friday, November 20, 2026.
- Bradly McCoy shared a brief summary of the Town Hall Meeting Summary Report that is still under internal approval.
- Priorities discussed for next year included:
    - Helping stakeholders understand the continuum of care.
    - Supporting and disseminating information about additional peer training courses that function as exam preparation.
    - Supporting the certification board in their creation and rollout of the youth peer credential over the next two years.

Additional Discussion

- Only one state has a peer pay scale, and it is because all peers are employed by the state.
- Kenny Jordan finished his fiscal year report of trainings that occurred in 2026 and will send it to Bradley McCoy for KPI documentation.

Adjournment

Amber closed the meeting by thanking all Subcommittee members for their attendance and participation. The full Subcommittee will meet again on October 22, 2026, at 10:00 AM.