

District 4 Opioid Settlement Fund Learning Collaborative

707 N. Armstrong Pl, Boise, ID 83704
Huckleberry Room 1

Thursday, October 3, 2024
10:00 am – 11:00 am

Meeting Minutes

Call Meeting to Order

Courtney Boyce called the meeting to order after brief introductions at 10:04am. Courtney discussed future meetings will be under Open Meeting Law, utilizing a modified Robert's Rules of Order.

Motion: Shondi made a motion to approve the agenda as written. Kendall and Jackie seconded. The motion passed.

Introductions

Individuals introduced themselves, and shared what city or county they were representing and their favorite board game.

In-person

- Jackie Riggs (Boise County from Boise County Community Justice)
- Courtney Boyce (Substance Use and Behavioral Health Program Manager, Central District Health)
- McAllister Hall (Lead on Opioid Environmental Scan from Idaho Policy Institute at Boise State University)
- Shondi Lott (Elmore County Prosecutor)
- Tiffany Belt (City of Mountain Home, Deputy City Clerk)
- Alexa Vork (Grants Administrator for the City of Mountain Home)

Online

- Hannah Lang (Supporting Opioid Environmental Scan from Idaho Policy Institute at Boise State University)
- Kendall Nagy (City of Meridian, Meridian Police Department and Meridian Anti-Drug Coalition)
- Shelly Hitt (Valley County Opioid Response Project, Project Director, Central District Health)
- Jared Empey (City Treasurer, City of Kuna)

Opioid Settlement Fund Environmental Scan

Central District Health and the Idaho Policy Institute at Boise State are partnering to complete a regional, opioid settlement fund environmental scan. This project will determine future funding priorities for CDH while conducting a gaps and needs assessment of our jurisdiction. This process will include the facilitation and recruitment of individuals with lived or living experience with opioid use

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disorder to participate in focus groups, to share their experiences and to contribute to our understanding of how funding should be allocated. Individuals who participate in a focus group will be provided with a gift card and the assurance that their privacy will be protected in all reporting. We are hoping to hear from people who use drugs, their family, friends, community members, professionals and people in recovery spaces, across Ada, Boise, Elmore, and Valley Counties. Courtney shared this is also an opportunity to hear from peer recovery support specialists, addiction medicine specialists, law enforcement, and folks in correctional spaces.

McAllister shared that they are also reviewing background, publicly available, quantitative data. McAllister is hoping to speak from representatives from cities and counties, similar to the folks represented at this meeting, for interviews. She is hoping to schedule meetings in October and will send folks a list of the questions prior to the interviews.

City/County Updates on Funding

Kendall Nagy represents the City of Meridian and shared that funding was allocated to the Meridian Anti-Drug Coalition (MADC). This supports two staff members (director, coordinator) to assist with substance use prevention efforts. Kendall discussed that they are focused on partnership building to assist with education in schools, youth prevention program initiatives, and participation in up to seventy (70) prevention education events reaching anywhere from 20 to 30,000 people. Kendall shared that MADC also works on cannabis policy working to maintain state statutes. They also assist with prescription drug take back events, and have prescription drop boxes at both of their locations. Kendall has also supported officers in carrying Narcan and acquiring data from overdose response events. Kendall said they focus on data-driven, evidence-based prevention strategies. Kendall said there has been enough opportunity with the partnerships they have developed to work on approved strategies within Exhibit A, so funding will continue to support MADC. Kendall discussed that whenever there have been barriers, they focus on partnerships to alleviate these challenges. She described the family toolkit with the parent's prevention packets as an example.

Jared Empey from the City of Kuna said they initially had a hard time spending funds as they initially did not have a champion for the work. Historically, they supported a seminar through the school district, but that was a one-time event. Jared shared that a new partnership with Ada County Sheriff's Office has supported them in finding their community champion, through a deputy who is spearheading efforts. Jared shared that they did a Fentanyl Summit in middle and high schools a couple of weeks ago. Jared also shared that they are doing a red ribbon week through Drug Free Idaho, that they are working on. Jared shared that future funding will depend on what programs the Ada County Sheriff's Office wants to implement, and they are in the early stages of program planning and development, aiming to have a consistent plan so future funding plans will be forthcoming.

Shelly Hitt works as the Project Director for Valley County Opioid Response Project (VCORP). VCORP received funding from HRSA to start, initially focusing on opioid overdose prevention with continued funding on behavioral health initiatives. Shelly shared that VCORP is consortium made up of community members and community partners, in different fields, and they fund several programs, including prevention work through the Youth Advocacy Coalition, and Ignite Idaho's family resource center that does substance use and mental health treatment services including mobile. Shelly shared the initial

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challenges with opioid settlement funds is that folks were approaching VCORP requesting a letter of support. She shared that they now have a protocol in place to review those funding requests as a Consortium, that ensures that services aren't duplicative, they are evidence-based and fills a gap in community resources and needs, and where there are outcome measurements. They have revised the protocol several times and it has worked really well, so now when folks go to the Board of County Commissioners they have a letter of support and the board makes the decision whether or not to fund the request. Shelly described previous funding efforts have included supporting the peer recovery center in McCall, and Rise Up to Thrive for their domestic violence services that support people with substance use. There are two potential funding opportunities such as the Youth Coalition for them to continue to do their youth survey, that supports prevention efforts, and McCall Mobile Medicine to support mobile medication-assisted treatment services. Shelly said that this collaboration with the County Commissioners has made this process much easier, as they act as more of an advisory committee.

Alexa Vork represents the City of Mountain Home. Alexa shared that their opioid settlement funds supported a speaker to share an evidence-based prevention education for junior high and high schools. They also have an online tool that can be accessed from the city website that provides mental health support, titled 'Drivers Ed for the Brain. Alexa shared that their barriers were similar to Kuna where they were struggling on how to spend funds and the capacity challenges of finding people to organize and conduct outreach. She shared that they are working collaboratively to get momentum and reach provide mental health support and substance use prevention education to folks.

Jackie Briggs represents Boise County. She shared that they have an opioid settlement fund work group, that includes the prosecutor, Boise County Ambulance District, Boise County Community Justice, and one of their volunteer fire departments. Jackie discussed that there are several needs in terms of medical equipment such as medical supplies and AED machines, in schools, the Sheriff's Office and probation and parole. Jackie said that they reached out to the Attorney General's Office to receive guidance on whether these supplies would be considered allowable expenditures under opioid settlement funds. Jackie also shared that they are interested in doing a problem-solving court, that would be a specialty court for misdemeanors and felonies because they see a lot of DUIs and substance use. They are in the early phases of discussing that as a potential funding strategy under opioid settlement funds. Jackie shared that they are also in the process of developing a form to assist with funding projects under opioid settlement funds. Jackie stated that the Boise County Commissioners ultimately decide on how those funds are utilized.

Shondi Lott represents Elmore County. Shondi discussed the opioid settlement funds have supported one of the positions in drug court for community and schools outreach and education. Shondi shared the barrier for smaller jurisdictions is concern that either the activity is not allowable under opioid settlement funds or that they are not impactful with funding where they miss a gap. Shondi state that the Board of County Commissioners has to approve the expenditures and the only thing that has been proposed to them was the position with the Drug Court. Shondi said they are looking to enhance Drug Court services to reduce recidivism, as city, county, and ISP cases all go through their Drug Court. Shondi said they would be interested in knowing if basic medical supplies such as AED machines are considered an allowable expense under opioid settlement funds. They are also wondering about purchasing a

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vehicle for outreach and education efforts under Section D of Exhibit A activities. Shondi shared that this could potentially include funding post-overdose response team or behavioral health and law enforcement responder model. Shondi said they would also be interested in learning about models for school education that they can consider funding. Shondi said they were interested in developing a steering committee that would include the city, the county, and Drug Court.

Survey Results/Strategic Planning

Courtney shared the opioid settlement fund learning collaborative survey results, where we heard from most respondents however we did not hear from Ada County, Boise City, and Garden City. Courtney said that Garden City responded to the survey but said that they did not have enough funds to expand program positions or programmatic efforts and decided to pass through funding to the Allumbaugh House. More information on the Allumbaugh House is available through Terry Reilly Health Services [here](#).

Courtney shared how the highest number of responses on activities for the learning collaborative, was on partnerships and collaboration, best practices and lessons learned, and innovative approaches. Due to time, we will discuss this further at the next meeting as we do strategic planning for the collaborative.

Adjourn

The group discussed that the early morning meetings on the first Thursday of the month, will currently work for this group. At the January meeting, that will be discussed again to see if schedules have changed in the new year. Courtney adjourned the meeting at 11:02am.

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