



**Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership**  
**September 3, 2020**  
**1:00 PM**  
**State Capitol Executive Tower**  
 1700 W. Washington St., Phoenix, AZ 85007  
 Virtual Meeting

A general meeting of the Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP) was convened on September 3, 2020. The public meeting was hosted virtually, notice having been duly given.

<b>Members Present (23)</b>
<b>Sheila Polk</b> , Chairperson, Yavapai County Attorney's Office
<b>Sara Salek</b> , Vice-Chairperson, Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System
<b>Alberto Gutier</b> , Governor's Office of Highway Safety
<b>Andy LeFevre</b> , Arizona Criminal Justice Commission
<b>Angela Paton</b> , Arizona Attorney General's Office
<b>Beth Broeker</b> , Arizona Department of Education
<b>Brenda Cochran</b> , Pure Heart Church
<b>David Shinn</b> , Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation, and Reentry
<b>Dawn Mertz</b> , High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area
<b>Deborah Jones</b> , Substance Abuse Epidemiology Work Group
<b>Jeff Hood</b> , Arizona Department of Juvenile Justice
<b>Kathy Grimes</b> , Graham County Substance Abuse Coalition
<b>Kathy Waters</b> , Administrative Office of the Courts
<b>Lawrence LaVeque</b> , Business Community
<b>Leah Landrum-Taylor</b> , Arizona Department of Economic Security
<b>Lee Pioske</b> , The Crossroads
<b>Maria Cristina Fuentes</b> , Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family
<b>Merilee Fowler</b> , Matforce
<b>Sala Webb</b> , Arizona Department of Child Safety <b>[Proxy for Mike Faust]</b>
<b>Sheila Sjolander</b> , Arizona Department of Health Services <b>[Proxy for Cara Christ]</b>
<b>Tony Mapp</b> , Arizona Department of Public Safety <b>[Proxy for Heston Silbert]</b>
<b>Vanessa Bustos</b> , Pascua Yaqui Tribe
<b>Wanda Wright</b> , Arizona Department of Veterans Services
<b>Members Absent (4)</b>
<b>David Klein</b> , US Department of Veteran Affairs
<b>John Cocca</b> , Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control
<b>Tobi Zavala</b> , Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners
<b>Thomas Kelly</b> , Apache Junction Police Department

### Call to Order

- **Sheila Polk, Chair** called the Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP) meeting to order at 1:00 PM with 23 members present. **Polk** reviewed virtual meeting platform procedures.

### Welcome/Introductions

- **Sheila Polk, Chair, welcomed** everyone to the first ASAP meeting of 2020 and conducted roll call.

### Approval of Minutes

- **Sheila Polk, Chair** requested a final review of the February 6, 2020 meeting minutes.
  - **Andy LeFevre** motioned to accept the February 6, 2020 minutes without revision.
  - **Merilee Fowler** seconded the motion.
    - The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

### The Crossroads Role in Prevention, Treatment and Recovery

- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair** introduced the first agenda item and invited **Lee Pioske** to provide an overview of Crossroads Inc and their role in prevention, treatment and recovery.
- **Lee Pioske** provided the history of the organization and the services they currently provide to the community. **Mr. Pioske** noted that Crossroads believes that treatment programs that are longer in duration have stronger engagement and a higher success rate.
- **Lee Pioske** noted Crossroads is a 12-step based recovery program which provides MAT services and women's health. The organization keeps the focus on all of the different components of a person's treatment and recovery to encourage successful participation. **Mr. Pioske** further noted the organization is expanding their outpatient and after care services by partnering with Pure Heart Church and **Brenda Cochran's** counseling team.
- **Lee Pioske** further noted the success of Crossroad's program culture by highlighting about ninety percent of Crossroads employees are former residents and further highlighted the success of Crossroad's pretrial program with a hundred percent completion rate. **Mr. Pioske** stated Crossroad's goal is to keep treatment at a lower cost and that they often contract at a rate lower than the standard.
- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair** thanked **Lee Pioske** for his presentation and inquired about how individuals who have relapsed are reintegrated back into treatment if they choose to leave early. **Mr. Pioske** stated relapse can be part of recovery and so Crossroads does their best to reintegrate about seventy percent of clients who voluntarily discharge back into the program if they choose to return.
- **Sala Webb** asked **Mr. Pioske** if Crossroads has considered expansion into youth treatment including IOP and MAT for adolescents. **Mr. Pioske** stated he is very interested in expanding into youth treatment: however, the licensing requirements for youth treatment can be difficult and he would welcome any further assistance.
- **Andy Lefevre** inquired about the Health Information Network and he was provided with the State's HIE website in the Zoom chat (<https://healthcurrent.org>.)
- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair** thanked **Mr. Pioske** again for his presentation.

### Graham County Substance Abuse Coalition Role in Prevention

- **Sheila Polk, Chair** again thanked **Mr. Pioske** for his presentation and introduced **Kathy Grimes** to provide an overview of the **Graham County Substance Abuse Coalition**.

- **Kathy Grimes** provided an overview of the Graham County Substance Abuse Coalition and the role they play to support substance abuse prevention throughout Graham County.
- **Ms. Grimes** reviewed the coalition's mission statement, geographic area target area and the community demographics. She further highlighted the community education provided by Graham County Substance Abuse Coalition including the 6th grade substance abuse prevention project which was completed in partnership with the county probation department.
- **Kathy Grimes** further highlighted the work of the Graham County Substance Abuse coalition by sharing photos from a back to school resource fair, a radio recording of overdose PSAs and the recent community wide Dump the Drug event. **Ms. Grimes** noted there are benefits to living in a small community and stated the first community wide Dump the Drugs occurred in the local Home Depot parking lot in 2005.
- **Kathy Grimes** noted the upcoming coalition's focus will be a re-entry project through the support of a grant received from Matforce. For the past three years, the coalition has diligently worked on the launch of a sober living house. This project will further support the work of Gila Valley Coalition in partnership with Graham and Greenlee Counties.
- **Sheila Polk, Chair** thanked **Kathy Grimes** for her presentation.

#### **Methamphetamine within Arizona**

- **Sheila Polk, Chair** introduced the next agenda item and invited **Sergeant Deborah Stoks** to present the product of the May ASAP workgroup. **Polk** explained that in lieu of a full Partnership meeting in May, ASAP members came together to discuss the impact of Methamphetamine within Arizona. This workgroup was formed as a pilot to support the commission's on-going work to continue raising awareness around substance abuse in the state and provide meaningful guidance. As a result of this pilot, **Sergeant Stoks** has compiled a tangible, easily digestible resource for stakeholders across the State.
- **Sergeant Stoks** reviewed the sections of the publication and highlighted the five websites on the left side of the publication. She further explained how the publication was divided into three sections: Arizona Data Trends; Interdiction and Prevention; and Recommendations for Arizona.
- **Sheila Polk, Chair** thanked **Sergeant Stoks** again for her attention to detail and organization of the publication. **Polk** further reviewed the recommendations noted in the publication: increase in reporting among state agencies and data sharing agreements; ICD-10 code specific to methamphetamine for proper reporting at medical facilities and health care agencies; statewide campaign on methamphetamine awareness, education, and resources; flexibility in substance use/misuse prevention funding; and further support for displaced youth whose parents have a methamphetamine substance use disorder, i.e. youth who are in foster care, children of incarcerated parents, etc.
- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair** mentioned ASU CHIR in regards to data sharing as their datasets include information from ADHS and AHCCCS.
- **Sheila Polk, Chair** expressed the need for a statewide Methamphetamine campaign as she continues to see a rise in Methamphetamine in Yavapai County. **Dawn Mertz** further highlighted the Methamphetamine toolkit on the HIDTA website which could further support **Sergeant Stoks** publications.
- **Sheila Polk, Chair** thanked **Sergeant Stoks** again for all her hard work on the Methamphetamine publication.

#### **Fentanyl in Arizona: Impact, Trends, and Next Steps**

- **Sheila Polk, Chair**, shared with the Partnership that there will be a continuation of identifying a new substance each quarter to gather data and discuss recommendations

for the state. **Polk** explained Fentanyl would be the most appropriate next choice and the partnership will continue with the same pattern of a small workgroup meeting in the coming weeks and then a publication for the Partnership to review at the December 3, 2020 meeting.

### **Opioid Dashboard Updates and Fentanyl Specific Data**

- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair**, introduced the next agenda item and invited **Sheila Sjolander** to provide a presentation and overview of the Arizona Department of Health Services Opioid Dashboard and Fentanyl Specific Data.
- **Sheila Sjolander** began her presentation by noting there is good news with the decrease of heroin deaths during 2019 but noted during the summer of 2019, the number of fentanyl overdoses began exceeding 100 per month, reaching a peak of 208 during March 2020. **Sjolander** noted the number of overdoses started increasing before the pandemic
- **Sheila Sjolander** explained the increase of polysubstance use and noted that within the overdose data, there continues to be multiple drugs at play with Fentanyl being the most common drug in opioid overdoses. **Sjolander** reviewed the demographic data of overdoses within Arizona - mentioning males are disproportionately overrepresented and there continues to be spikes in the younger age groups, including individuals 25 to 44 years old.
- **Sheila Sjolander** continued to note the most commonly combined drugs were oxycodone, methamphetamine and benzodiazepines. She also explained to the Partnership that overdoses include accidental and intentional, with suicides accounting for fifteen percent.
- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair**, thanked **Sheila Sjolander** for her presentation and asked her to clarify how ADHS receives their overdose information. **Sjolander** confirmed the department receives data from EMS, law enforcement, medical examiners, and other medical providers as they are mandated to report. This information includes hospital discharge data and death certificate data. The reports include demographics but are only mandated to report on opioids as it was mandated during the opioid epidemic.
- **Wanda Wright** asked if the overdose data can be organized by subpopulation including veteran status. **Sheila Sjolander** stated she will have to double check with her team and follow up.
- **Sala Webb** asked if ADHS counts and specifies both "intentional" and "accidental" ingestions as overdoses. **Sheila Sjolander** said that yes, reports specify suicide or unintentional.
- **Dawn Mertz** stated there should be fentanyl prevention education in high schools and colleges as the data shows higher use in those young adults. **Dawn Mertz** further recommended that the council recommend ADHS collect overdose information on all substances, not just opioids.
- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair** thanked **Sheila Sjolander** again for her presentation and mentioned the work group invitations for the Fentanyl discussion will be sent out in the next week.

### **Work Group Updates**

#### **Arizona Substance Epidemiology Work Group**

- **Deborah Jones, Ph.D.** reported the Epidemiology Work Group work has been working on establishing the Statewide Data Profile to determine the correlation between Substance Abuse and Trauma by collecting state agency data and introduced **Dr. Wendy Wolfersteig** from the Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center at the Arizona State University.

- **Dr. Wolfersteig** further explained the Epidemiology Work Group elected to adopt a broad scope when looking at data and reviewing all state agency data provided. The group used a simple methodology that is easy to read and use by the general public. Analysis will include information on the relationship between trauma and substance abuse, prevalence of ACEs within this population, and a gap analysis on agency data. **Wolfersteig** stated they will present a final report at the December 3, 2020 meeting.

#### **Program Inventory Work Group**

- **Merilee Fowler** reported the Program Inventory Work Group has finished the funding inventory for state and federal dollars supporting substance abuse prevention services within Arizona. With the support of the Arizona National Guard and workgroup members, the Program Inventory Group had established eight findings and recommendations.
- **Merilee Fowler** first defined the different types of prevention including primary, secondary, tertiary, universal, selective and indicated prevention. **Fowler** then reviewed the details of each finding and the correlating recommendations which the workgroup established through analyzing state and federal prevention funding.
- **Sheila Polk, Chair**, thanked **Merilee Fowler** and the Program Inventory Work Group for their diligent work on the Findings and Recommendations.

#### **Next Steps for Program Inventory Work Group**

- **Sheila Polk, Chair**, next asked for the Partnership to provide further feedback on the findings and recommendations.
- **Lawrence LaVeque** also thanked the Program Inventory Workgroup for a great consolidation of these findings and recommendations. **LaVeque** suggested the Arizona Chamber of Commerce would benefit from hearing this presentation because the health of their workers is a priority.
- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair**, mentioned the state should continue to look at evidence based published research to support the substance abuse prevention strategies.
- **Andy LeFevre** stated he would like the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission to partner with the AZ National Guard Civil Operations Unit to partner on the heat mapping project if possible. **Andy LeFevre** asked if it possible to access the HIE system for data sharing and heat mapping. **Dr. Salek** referenced coordinating with ASU CHIR for their data sets.
- **Sheila Polk, Chair** thanked the partnership for their feedback and thanked the Program Inventory Workgroup again for all their hard work.

#### **2020 Meeting Dates**

- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair**, asked participants to mark their calendars for the final 2020 meeting of ASAP and thanked everyone who assisted with the 2020 ASAP Annual Report and further mentioned the report will be posted on the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family website.

#### **Adjourn**

- **Sheila Polk, Chair** requested a motion to adjourn the meeting.
  - **Kathy Waters** made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
  - **Andy LeFevre** seconded the motion.
  - The meeting adjourned at 3:03 PM.

Dated the eighth day of September, 2020  
Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership  
Respectfully Submitted By:

Emily Uline-Olmstead  
Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family

DRAFT