



Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership

February 3, 2022

1:00 PM

State Capitol Executive Tower

2nd Floor Conference Room

1700 W. Washington St., Phoenix, AZ 85007

A general meeting of the Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP) was convened on February 3, 2022. The public meeting was hosted virtually via Zoom, notice having been duly given.

Members Present (17)

Sheila Polk, Chairperson, Yavapai County Attorney's Office

Sara Salek, Vice-Chairperson, Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System

Kim Brooks, Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family **[Proxy for Director Maria Cristina Fuentes]**

Dawn Mertz, High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area

Charles Manning, Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry **[Proxy for David Shinn]**

Lawrence LaVeque, Business Community

Sheila Sjolander, Arizona Department of Health Services

Andy LeFevre, Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

Douglas Sargent, Arizona Department of Juvenile Justice

Alberto Gutier, Governor's Office of Highway Safety

Merilee Fowler, Matforce

Thomas Kelly, Apache Junction Police Department

Zora Manjencich, Arizona Attorney General's Office

Jean Ajamie, Arizona Department of Education **[Proxy for Kathy Hoffman]**

Kathy Grimes, Graham County Substance Abuse Coalition

Deborah Jones, Substance Abuse Epidemiology Work Group

Tobi Zavala, Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners

Members Absent (8)

David Klein, US Department of Veteran Affairs

Mike Faust, Arizona Department of Child Safety

Leah Landrum-Taylor , Arizona Department of Economic Security
Wanda Wright , Arizona Department of Veterans Services
Ed Gilligan , Arizona Department of Adult Probation
Heston Silbert , Arizona Department of Public Safety
Vanessa Bustos , Pascua Yaqui Tribe
Lee Pioske , The Crossroads

Call to Order

- **Sheila Polk, Chair** called the Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP) meeting to order at 1:06 PM with 17 members present. **Ms. Polk** reviewed virtual meeting platform procedures.

Welcome/Introductions

- **Sheila Polk, Chair**, welcomed everyone to the February ASAP meeting.
- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair**, conducted roll call of the ASAP members in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

- **Sheila Polk, Chair**, requested a final review of the December 2, 2021 meeting minutes.
- **Andrew LeFevre** motioned to accept the December 2, 2021 minutes without revision.
- **Douglas Sargent** seconded the motion. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections' Role in Prevention and Treatment

- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, invited **Douglas Sargent** to give a presentation of Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections' (ACJC) Role in Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment.
- **Douglas Sargent** introduced the agency's Clinical Director, **Dr. Raymonda Matheka**. **Dr. Matheka** shared that of the 120 youth in the community on parole, 48 youth are from Adobe Mountain School, 72 youth are from other states, and are currently living in Arizona under the Interstate compact.
- **Dr. Matheka** provided an overview of the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections' youth facility, Adobe Mountain School. **Dr. Matheka** shared details of the two-week intake process at Adobe Mountain School called RAC (Reception, Assessment, and Classification). **Dr. Matheka** explained that the intake process is performed by mental health professionals and medical staff to determine the individualized treatment needs of the youth. **Dr. Matheka** shared that the screenings utilize a trauma informed care approach. **Dr. Matheka** stated that the Adobe Mountain School has 2 housing units that are designated for the treatment of significant substance use disorders and is partially funded by the Arizona Residential Substance Abuse Treatment program grant (RSAT), granted by the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission. **Dr. Matheka** provided specific details about the RSAT program.

- **Dr. Matheka** shared details about The Seven Challenges evidence-based treatment program that was designed specifically for adolescents. **Dr. Matheka** explained that substance use among youth is very different from adults who abuse substances, and that The Seven Challenges programs helps to address the needs of youth who abuse substances, more effectively. **Dr. Matheka** explained that the program creates a climate where youth can feel comfortable to express themselves in a climate of mutual respect. **Dr. Matheka** shared that the program has seen a lot of success based on participant exit surveys. Participants reported that participating in the program helped them to reach their treatment goals. **Dr. Matheka** described the specialized trauma treatments that are used at Adobe Mountain School and how they work. **Dr. Matheka** provided a brief overview of Adobe Mountain School's on-site medical clinic and treatment modalities. **Dr. Matheka** shared that the Adobe Mountain School has two board-certified pediatric doctors on staff that are currently working on becoming certified in addiction medicine. **Dr. Matheka** provided an overview of the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections' Naloxone Training and Distribution Program as well as the goals of the initiative.
- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair**, thanked **Dr. Matheka** for her public service and presentation.
- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair**, shared that the naloxone program was based on a conversation at a previous ASAP meeting, and that the discussions are making a difference. **Dr. Salek** explained that **Jeff Hood** previously shared his concerns about losing youth to opioid overdose after returning to the community, prompting the discussion.
- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair**, commended ACJC and the Department of Health Services on their work with leveraging free naloxone to the community through the State Opioid Response Grant. **Dr. Salek** also acknowledged **Merilee Fowler** and her efforts in providing training to the community.
- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair**, also commended the ADJC medical staff for their work in adjusting the narcan training and language to be more relatable to youth.
- **Andrew LeFevre** thanked **Dr. Salek** for her statement about the RSAT program, and also thanked ACJC for providing funding and would like to continue the long-standing partnership.
- **Dr. Salek, Vice-Chair**, thanked **Dr. Matheka** for her presentation.

Graham County Substance Abuse Coalition's Role in Prevention and Recovery

- **Sheila Polk, Chair**, introduced **Kathy Grimes** to provide an overview of the Graham County Substance Abuse Coalition's role in prevention and recovery.
- **Ms. Grimes** provided an overview of the coalition, their mission and goals. **Ms. Grimes** shared information on several partnerships and projects throughout Graham County. She provided information on a partnership between the coalition and the DUI Taskforce to provide awareness about the importance of utilizing designated drivers. The coalition will also be hosting a prescription drug take-back day in April. The event will include law enforcement, the fire department and several other community organizations. Another program created is called, "Who's Watching the Punch." This was established to remind parents to have clear expectations about underage drinking. Banners and flyers with prevention messaging have been disseminated throughout the community. **Ms. Grimes** stated that funding provided by the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family has allowed the Graham County Substance Abuse Coalition to provide additional resources

and programming, which include ACEs training, sharing that she has recently received reports of children as young as 3rd grade vaping at school. The coalition is working on a project geared towards 6th graders, in collaboration with the probation department and school districts. The Graham County Substance Abuse Coalition has a partnership with the Substance Abuse Coalition Leaders of Arizona (SACLAZ), to provide narcan and fentanyl training to adults and youth, reaching over 800 youth so far. Information on a pilot project was shared, in collaboration with ACJC and Mohave County and Yavapai County. This project will address trauma among youth. The Graham County Substance Abuse Coalition opened a sober living home in April 2021 called House of Hope, to help provide recovery support and that the coalition was awarded a grant from the Graham County United Way, which funds the Recovery Angels support program. The program provides support and resources for those going through rehabilitation.

- **Sheila Polk, Chair**, commended **Ms. Grimes** and the work of the coalition.
- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair**, asked if there have been any concerns from community members regarding narcan programs in schools. **Ms. Grimes** states that initially there were some concerns, but that some schools have gained more information and are now more receptive.
- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair**, asked if the reason that the coalition has been able to overcome the initial obstacles with working in the schools is because of the relationships that have been established through the coalition work in the community. **Ms. Grimes** stated that the relationships that have been built with schools over the last 18 years has helped garner trust. **Dr. Salek** thanked **Ms. Grimes** for the work of the coalition.
- **Sheila Polk, Chair**, reiterated the importance of building relationships and trust.

Work Group Updates

- **Sheila Polk, Chair**, moved on to the next agenda item of the ASAP Work Group Updates. **Ms. Polk** asked **Deborah Jones** to provide an update on the Program Inventory Workgroup. **Dr. Deborah Jones** provided a brief history of the workgroup and its current project. **Dr. Jones** reported that the workgroup is currently focused on gathering and organizing data about evidence-based programs and practices, as well as outcomes and outputs, in an effort to create consistent measures that will help determine the effectiveness of funded programs. This will help to determine if the programs are measuring the intended effects.
- **Sheila Polk, Chair**, thanked **Dr. Jones** for the presentation and stated that she is looking forward to progress reports, as well as the information obtained upon completion of the project.
- **Sheila Polk, Chair**, invited **Dr. Salek** to provide updates on the Epidemiology Workgroup. **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair**, shared that the workgroup meets monthly and the current work includes the completion of a data inventory. **Dr. Salek** explained that the project is in collaboration with AHCCCS, ACJC and ADHS. **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair**, shared that Dr. Runger of Arizona State University presented an initial analysis of data pertaining to psychostimulant overdose rates. The workgroup will receive updates on the findings. Also, Dr. Runger is cross-referencing overdose data across substances, as well as comparing overdose rates of persons receiving Medicaid versus those that don't

receive Medicaid benefits. He is currently seeking approval to share data. **Dr. Salek, Vice-Chair**, shared that the ASU analysis is funded by the State Opioid Response Grant. **Dr. Salek, Vice-Chair**, shared that ADHS recently launched an updated opioid dashboard on their website (azhealth.gov/opioid).

- **Sheila Polk, Chair**, thanked **Dr. Salek** for her leadership and work with the workgroup.
- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair**, shared how leveraging work with the state universities have helped to inform the work.
- **Andy LeFevre** mentioned the possibility of utilizing funding to work with ASU in creating new data dashboards, looking at how student data and health data intersect. **Dr. Salek** agreed and stated that it is beneficial to leverage the existing capacity of the state through the research institutions like Arizona State University.
- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair** stated that the next Epidemiology Workgroup meeting is scheduled for February 10, 2022 at 2 p.m.

2022 Meeting Dates

- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair**, announced that the next ASAP meeting is Thursday, May 5, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. **Dr. Salek** stated that is was the consensus to meet virtually for todays' meeting, and that we will let everyone know if the next meeting will be hybrid or virtual closer to the meeting date.

Adjourn

- **Chairperson Polk** requested a motion to adjourn the meeting.
- **Andrew LeFevre** asked what the process is to making a request to get on a future agenda.
- **Sheila Polk, Chair**, invited members to reach out to her if they have ideas for the next agenda.
- The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Dated the seventh day of February, 2022
Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership
Respectfully Submitted By:
Alfreda Moore
Program Administrator
Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family