



Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership
May 8, 2024, 1:00 PM
Arizona State Capitol Executive Tower

A general meeting of the Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP) convened on May 8, 2024, in a hybrid format with notice duly given.

Members Present (17)	Members Absent (6)
Sara Salek, Vice Chair	David Klein
Andrew LeFevre	Vanessa Bustos
Celia Nabor [Proxy for Sheila Sjolander]	Jesse Torrez
Douglas Sargent	Kris Mayes
Tonya Hamilton	Ryan Thornell
Dawn Mertz	Jeffrey Glover
Dana West [Proxy for Dana Allmond]	
Merilee Fowler	
Jeremy Bloom	
Shanda Breed	
Leah Landrum Taylor	
Lindsey Cantelme	
Shannon Scheel	
Polly Knape [Proxy for Tobi Zavala]	
Dan Webb [Proxy for Ben Henry]	
Kathleen Grimes	
David Lujan	
Staff and Guests Present (4)	
Ann Carver, Staff	Alfreda Moore, Staff
Nicole Valenzuela, Staff	Chantel Hutchinson, Staff

Call to Order

- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, called the May 8, 2024, Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP) meeting to order at **1:04 PM**. **Seventeen** members and **four** staff members were present.

Welcome/Introductions

- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, welcomed everyone to the meeting and conducted a roll call for the members in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, stated reaching quorum and requested a review of the February 8, 2024 meeting minutes.
 - **Doug Sargent** moved to accept the meeting minutes.
 - **Leah Landrum Taylor** seconded the motion.
- The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

AHCCCS System of Care for Substance Use Disorder

- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, introduced Alisa Randall from the [Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System \(AHCCCS\)](#).
- **Alisa Randall** shared an overview of AHCCCS' role in substance use prevention and treatment. She explained how AHCCCS is Arizona's largest insurer, serving multiple functions through federal, state, and county funds. It is also the single state agency for behavioral health, the State Mental Health Authority, and the State Opioid Response (SOR) Authority.
- **Alisa Randall** discussed that AHCCCS is a national leader in innovation compared to other state Medicaid programs and that different states have sought guidance on best practices.
- **Alisa Randall** provided an overview of AHCCCS' Managed Care Organization (MCO) systems, which consist of 12 contracts with nine unique MCOs and two primary programs.
- **Alisa Randall** provided further details about AHCCCS' care delivery system and structure and how funding supports Title 19 and non-Title 19 programs for preventative, early intervention and treatment services.
- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, mentioned that **Ms. Randall's** role as the State Mental Health Commissioner allows her to work closely with the AHCCCS grants team to leverage grant funding better.
- **Alisa Randall** shared that there are concerns that funding for organizations that provide free Naloxone may soon run out and that efforts are in place to ensure funding continues.
- **Alisa Randall** provided details on what AHCCCS is doing, in collaboration with the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS), in combating the state's opioid crisis. Specifically, AHCCCS and ADHS have partnered to provide naloxone and training for first responders in Maricopa County.
- **Dawn Mertz** asked if she had contacted the Arizona Attorney General's Office (AG) regarding future funding for Naloxone.
 - **Alisa Randall** responded that she had not directly interacted with the Arizona AG. Still, she attends the Maricopa County Public Health Department's quarterly meetings, where she has explained the importance of continued funding.
- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, commented that there is a need to use finite resources responsibly.
 - **Alisa Randall** responded that the free Naloxone program could operate for a more extended period with block grant funding.
- **Andrew LeFevre** stated he would like to partner with **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, to use the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC)'s unspent grant funding to compensate for Naloxone availability once AHCCCS' funds run out.
- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, acknowledged the tremendous work that **Alisa Randall** is doing with AHCCCS.
- To view **Alisa Randall's** presentation, [Click here](#).

The Impact of Cross-Collaboration in Preventing Substance Use

- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, welcomed **Shannon Scheel** of the [Maricopa County Sheriff's Office \(MCSO\)](#).
- **Shannon Scheel** provided an overview of the MCSO's role in preventing and treating substance use disorder. He explained how MCSO is working to reduce recidivism rates through different substance use treatment modalities.
- **Shannon Scheel** explained that MCSO has significantly shifted towards prevention under Sheriff Russ Skinner's leadership.
- **Shannon Scheel** provided details about the updated Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program. In addition to drug education, the program has added awareness components for bullying and social media, positive alternatives to substance use, wellness, resiliency, and good decision-making skills.
- **Shannon Scheel** discussed current substances that are trending and the dangers associated with their use, sharing that 95-98% of pills currently on the street are counterfeit.
- **Shannon Scheel** continued by explaining that there have been multiple reports by law enforcement agents of carfentanyl being seized on the street recently; carfentanyl is one hundred times more potent than fentanyl and is extremely dangerous.
- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, asked how the MCSO keeps officers safe when they come into contact with unknown substances.
 - **Shannon Scheel** responded that if an officer finds any white-powdery substance, they have received training to immediately seal it and send it to the lab for further testing. No on-the-street inspections are taking place due to the associated risks.

- **Shannon Scheel** discussed MCSO's public safety initiatives, including the training all deputies receive in naloxone administration, the positive effects of 24-hour diversion centers, and the importance of community outreach.
- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, acknowledged the hard work and dedication of **Shannon Scheel** and MCSO in creating safer communities.
- To view **Shannon Scheel's** presentation, [Click here](#).

Equity Disparities and Social Determinants of Health

- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, introduced **Michelle Sambrano** from [Southwest Behavioral & Health Services \(SB&H\)](#).
- **Michelle Sambrano** discussed SB&H's continuum of care framework and the collaborative efforts between SB&H, the Arizona AG, the City of Phoenix, and South Mountain Community College in substance use prevention, education, interventions, training, and stigma reduction.
- **Michelle Sambrano** shared SB&H's core values of compassion, integrity, quality, empowerment, innovation, and trust.
- **Michelle Sambrano** gave an overview of SB&H's prevention programming, emphasizing the importance of building solid relationships in the community, understanding the specific needs of the population served, providing safe spaces, and being aware of family dynamics.
- **Michelle Sambrano** discussed how social determinants of health, such as socioeconomic factors, physical environment, health behaviors, and access to healthcare, impact health outcomes. Adverse outcomes increase when and if these social drivers are not addressed.
- **Michelle Sambrano** shared an animated video that demonstrated the importance of early interventions.
- **Michelle Sambrano** discussed how SB&H's programming addresses the three stages of prevention: primary, secondary, and tertiary.
- **Tonya Hamilton** commended **Michelle Sambrano** for her diligent community assessment and pinpointing available resources.
- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, expressed her appreciation for **Michelle Sambrano's** presentation and continuing advocacy. She praised the latter for her work, which has made her a community hero.
- To view **Michelle Sambrano's** presentation, [click here](#).

Workgroup Updates

- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, shared that the Epidemiology Workgroup will meet on May 9, 2024. She thanked the workgroup for their continued data compiling and stated Dr. Runger and his team would provide a data analysis at the next ASAP meeting.

Council Member Updates

- **Merilee Fowler** stated that the 7th Annual Arizona Drug Summit is on September 24, 2024, at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Phoenix, 2100 South Priest Drive, Tempe, AZ 85282.
- **Tonya Hamilton** announced that the Governor's Youth Commission (GYC) accepts applications for the 2024-2025 academic year from 10th, 11th, and 12th graders. The GYC currently has 55 members.
- **Andrew LeFevre** stated he would like to present the new Arizona Youth Survey data at the next ASAP meeting.

Next Meeting Date

- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, reminded members of the next ASAP meeting on **September 26, 2024, at 1 PM**. It will be offered in a hybrid format, with members able to attend in person or virtually.

Adjournment

- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, adjourned the meeting at **2:41 PM**.

Dated the tenth day of May 2024
Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership
Respectfully Submitted By: Alfreda Moore
Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family (GOYFF)