

Butler County Drug & Alcohol Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

DATE: January 17, 2023
TIME: 7:30 a.m.
PLACE: Butler County Human Services Conference Room - and also via Zoom

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Shawn Pugh	Mark Lope
Kristan Semmler	Alicia Beighley
John Johnson	Joshua Hakeem

OTHERS PRESENT:

Damian Gurner, Butler County Community College
Ruthane Durso, Butler Health System
Anna Shuster, Gaiser Center

Donna Jenereski, Beth Ehrenfried-Neveux, Lisa Gill, Tori Reagle, Grace Abbruzzese,
Butler County Human Services

Call to Order

Due to technical difficulties on zoom, Vice Chairperson, Kristan Semmler, called the meeting to order at 7:40 a.m.

Review and Approval of Minutes (November 2022)

Kristan Semmler made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mark Lope seconded.

All in Favor	6
Opposed	0
Abstentions	0

Public Comment Regarding Agenda Items

There was no public comment.

Unfinished Business

There was none.

New Business

There was none.

Program

Due to the technical difficulties, Beth Neveux will give the presentation at a future meeting.

REPORTS

Director's Report

SCA: Case Management/Treatment/Prevention Updates:

- Agency update-

At the end of December we said good-bye to one of our case managers. Deb McCloskey retired after 17 years with the D&A Program. Deb was the first and only case manager to work full time with the grant funded Day Reporting Center (DRC)/Restrictive Intermediate Punishment Program through Butler Co. Adult Probation. This position is 100% funded by a PCCD grant.

We are pleased to announce that Ralph Patrick, a current case manager with the D&A program, will be officially transitioning into this position effective January 30th. We are also pleased to announce that Elisha Coast has been hired to fill the vacant case manager position within our office effective January 30th. Ms. Coast comes to our office from the Center for Community Resources, where she has worked as a D&A Case Manager providing case coordination services and as the dedicated D&A Intensive Case Manager (ICM) for Butler County Drug Treatment Court.

- SRU Institute for Nonprofit Leadership: Recovering Life Initiatives update-

A sober New Year's Eve party was held at the Butler SUCCEED office on Dec. 31st. Approximately 60 individuals rang in the New Year with food, games, prizes, and fellowship.

Upcoming programs/events in January include:

A "HeART for Sobriety" art classes will take place from 3:00-4:30 pm on January 20th & 27th. Impacting Together (IT) advocacy meetings will be held from 4:00-5:00 pm on January 17th & 31st

- Opioid Settlement Plan/Funding update-

We participated in a small meeting with the commissioner's last week to discuss the Opioid Settlement Plan and funding. The commissioners reported that they spent a good bit of time reviewing and discussing all of the proposals submitted. They have categorized the proposals into three distinct buckets consisting of criminal justice, housing, and community recovery efforts and they identified the individuals expected to take the lead over each of the buckets. Our office will be taking the lead over the community recovery efforts bucket. This bucket includes a proposal for a recovery center and a proposal from BC3 to fund the empowerment trainings as well as the Hope is Dope initiative. With respect to the proposed recovery center, the commissioners have indicated that the first bucket of funding should be used to secure the use of a consultant to work with the recovery community to provide insight and training related to building a sustainable center.

- County Overdose update-

The number of confirmed overdose deaths for 2022 stands at 57 with 10 cases still pending. We hope to be able to report the final number at the February meeting.

For comparison purposes: the final number of confirmed overdose deaths for 2021 was 66

Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP) Updates:

● **DDAP Leadership-**

Last week our office received confirmation that a new Secretary of DDAP has been appointed. Governor-elect Josh Shapiro announced the appointment of Dr. Latika Davis-Jones as secretary of DDAP. The announcement also included the names of the individuals appointed as secretary for the Departments of Aging, Human Services, Health, and Insurance.

● **Mid-year request for additional funding-**

As discussed at the November D&A Advisory Board meeting, DDAP announced that they would be accepting requests for additional funding for FY 2022-23. On November 30th, our office submitted a request to DDAP for \$606,206.00 in additional funding. The additional funding was requested for treatment services, MAT services, treatment related services, and the SOR housing & housing focused case management services program.

The majority of SCA's across the commonwealth have not received Subsequently Available Funds (SAFs) amendments from DDAP for FY 2022-23 which include base SOR allocations as well as SOR funding for special initiatives such as housing, case management, and recovery support services. As a result, we have had to tap into alternative funding streams and juggle funding in order to maintain ongoing services and programs. Our request for additional funding included the base funding and funding for special initiatives that we should be receiving as part of the first round of SAFs for FY 2022-23.

On January 13th, DDAP notified the SCA's that the process of executing SAFs for FY 2022-23 will begin the following week. The first round of SAFs will include base SOR allocations as well as SOR funding for applicable special initiatives. The SAF may also include some of the additional funds requested by the SCA, if DDAP is able to approve the requests as submitted.

Once the first SAF is received, SCA's have been asked to evaluate their status of funds and if additional funds are needed, those funds will be awarded on a subsequent SAF, as appropriate based on funding availability.

● **Grant Initiative Funding Application for Regional Recovery Hubs-**

Last week DDAP released a Grant Initiative Funding Application (GIFA) for the establishment of regional recovery hubs to enhance recovery supports and promote recovery within communities across Pennsylvania. DDAP has placed counties into six distinct regions and the counties of Allegheny, Erie and Philadelphia have each been identified as their own region. One entity within each of the nine counties will be awarded funding to provide technical assistance to the recovery community and organizations providing recovery supports within the region. The awarded entity will collaborate with a variety of community entities, sectors, and systems to enhance a recovery-supportive community, facilitate service delivery, educate and raise public awareness about recovery from substance use disorders, as well as conduct ongoing regional recovery support needs assessment surveys or focus groups.

● **Recovery House Licensure update-**

As of the end of December, there are currently four (4) pending Butler County recovery house applications. DDAP is awaiting revised documentation and policies from three of the recovery houses and the fourth house must make physical plant corrections.

State Updates: None

Financial Report

Beth Ehrenfried-Neveux reviewed the allocations and expenditures through December 31, 2022.

Case Manager Report

Beth Ehrenfried-Neveux reviewed the statistics for the Monthly Assessment Services, the Information/Referral Services (IRS), and the Client Location graph for the months of November and December 2022. She reviewed the 2nd Quarter Assessment Statistics, the Drug of Choice Statistics, the Top Drugs of Usage, the Quarterly Referrals, and the Client Location Graph for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

Prevention Report

Beth gave an overview of upcoming Drug & Alcohol prevention events and trainings. She reviewed the Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Second Quarter Prevention Service Data, including the Prevention/Intervention: Number of Services, Number of Individuals Served, and the Prevention Demographic Data. She reviewed the Second Quarter Number of Prevention Services by Age Group, and by Location. Beth spoke about the upcoming Strengthening Families Program and announced the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs Compulsive and Problem Gambling Annual Report for 2022 is now available.

Nominating Committee

No report.

PCCD Update

Kristan Semmler reported there are eleven (11) individuals participating in the program. One person is in BCT waiting to get into the treatment, four individuals are in the community, with one getting ready to close, and there are six in a halfway house.

Drug Treatment Court Update

Donna reported that there are currently fourteen (14) individuals participating in the program, all are in some level of treatment and there are 1-2 pending referrals for the program. Several individuals are in the final phase of the program but we do not anticipate any graduations until late spring/early summer.

Council Members' Concerns/Comments/Announcements

There were none.

Providers' Concerns/Comments/Announcements

There were no provider comments.

Public Comment Regarding General Items

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

As there was no further business to discuss, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 a.m.

APPROVED AS TO FORMAT:



Shawn Pugh, Chairperson

Kristan Semmler, Secretary

SUBMITTED BY:

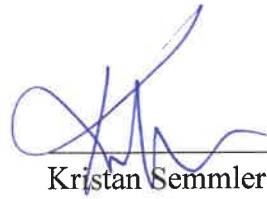


Grace Abbruzzese

Cc: Advisory Board Members

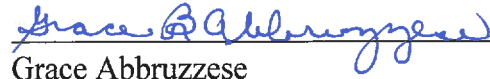
APPROVED AS TO FORMAT:

Shawn Pugh, Chairperson



Kristan Semmler, Secretary

SUBMITTED BY:



Grace Abbruzzese

Cc: Advisory Board Members