

**Butler County Drug & Alcohol Advisory Board**

**Meeting Minutes**

DATE: July 18, 2023  
TIME: 7:30 a.m.  
PLACE: Butler County Human Services Conference Room - and also via Zoom

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Nicole Thurner	Joshua Hakeem
Mark Lope	Alicia Beighley
John Johnson	

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Kenneth Clowes, Butler County Community College  
Anna Shuster, Gaiser Center  
Mark Marcus, Resolutions Recovery  
Mary Allen, Trilogy Wellness

Donna Jenereski, Tracey Hendrix, Anne Drissler, Lisa Gill, Tori Reagle, Elisha Coast,  
Bill Kepple, Grace Abbruzzese, Butler County Human Services

**Call to Order**

Nicole Thurner called the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m.

**Review and Approval of Minutes (June 2023)**

Mark Lope made a motion to approve the minutes as written. John Johnson seconded.

All in Favor	5
Opposed	0
Abstentions	0

**Public Comment Regarding Agenda Items**

There was no public comment.

**Unfinished Business**

There was none.

**New Business**

Donna Jenereski reviewed a Fiscal Year 2022-2023 contract amendment and several Fiscal Year 2023-2024 D&A contracts for the Board.

**Program**

No program was scheduled for this meeting.

**REPORTS**

## Director's Report

### SCA: Case Management/Treatment/Prevention Updates:

- SRU Institute for Nonprofit Leadership: Recovering Life Initiatives update-  
The heART for Sobriety art/craft activities continue to be offered at SUCCEED each Friday from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

- County Overdose update-  
As of last week, there have been 22 confirmed overdose deaths thus far for 2023 with 9 cases still pending.

For comparison purposes: at this time last year, there had been 28 confirmed overdose deaths and 10 cases were still pending.

### Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP) Updates:

- Recovery House Licensure update- None

- Regional Recovery Hub update-  
Armstrong/Indiana/Clarion D&A Commission will be facilitating community listening sessions in all applicable counties as part of the DDAP's Regional Recovery Hub program to empower sustained recovery.

The community listening session for Butler County will be held on August 1, 2023 at 5:00pm and it will take place at Grace Community Wellness Center located at 123 E. Diamond Street, Butler PA. The session is open to everyone within the county.

- Fentanyl Test Strips update-  
We have not received any further information from DDAP regarding the online portal and/or the availability of Fentanyl and Xylazine test strips.

### State Updates:

- FY 2023-24 State Budget-

We have no state budget in place. House Bill 611 was ultimately approved by the House of Representatives at the beginning of July. Before the bill can be sent to the Governor's desk, it must be signed by the Senate. The Senate does not have any planned session days until September and there has been nothing to indicate an intent to return before then.

A budget impasse will most certainly halt the flow of funds to the SCA. This will impact our ability to reimburse our providers for the services that they provide.

- SB 846- Adult Use Marijuana Legalization-

At the beginning of July, SB 846 was introduced to legalize adult use of marijuana in PA.

Regarding safety & law enforcement, the bill proposes to:

- ◇ Set the minimum marijuana consumption age of 21 years old
- ◇ Provide appropriate deterrence to keep marijuana out of the hand of anyone under 21
- ◇ Law enforcement would be given the means to adjudicate driving under the influence
- ◇ Give law enforcement the authority to pursue and eradicate any illicit market
- ◇ Ban any marketing directed toward children
- ◇ Set workplace requirements regarding marijuana use for all those operating in good faith

Regarding social equity, the bill proposes to:

- ◇ Grant licenses to sell marijuana to social and economic equity applicants while providing room for new and existing licensees to ensure demand in PA is met
- ◇ Expunge all non-violent marijuana convictions

SB 846 was introduced by Senator Daniel Laughlin and Senator Sharif Street. According to Senator Laughlin, “Legalized adult use of marijuana is supported by an overwhelming majority of Pennsylvanians and this legislation accomplishes that while also ensuring safety and social equity.” “With neighboring states New Jersey and New York implementing adult use, we have a duty to Pennsylvania taxpayers to legalize adult-use marijuana to avoid losing out on hundreds of millions of dollars of new tax revenue and thousands of new jobs.”

#### Financial Report

Bill Kepple reviewed the allocations and expenditures through June 30, 2023.

#### Case Manager Report

Tracey Hendrix reviewed the statistics for the Monthly Assessment Services, the Information/Referral Services (IRS), and the Client Location graph for the month of June 2023. She reviewed the Fourth 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

Lisa Gill gave an overview of upcoming Drug & Alcohol prevention events and trainings. She reviewed the Prevention Service Data: including the Prevention/Intervention: Number of Services, Number of Individuals Served, and the Prevention Demographic Data for the month of June 2023. She reviewed the Fourth Quarter Number of Prevention Services by Age Group, and by Location. She provided information on the upcoming Butler County Summer Conference. Information on registration for this event will be emailed to the Board.

#### Nominating Committee

No report.

#### PCCD Update

Donna Jenereski gave the PCCD Update in Kristan Semmler’s absence. Donna reported there are ten (10) individuals currently in the program. Primarily in lower levels of care such as intensive outpatient and outpatient. The program is doing well. Unsure if there are pending referrals to the program.

#### Drug Treatment Court Update

Donna reported that there are currently sixteen (16) individuals participating in the program. The majority are in outpatient treatment. Two are currently incarcerated on violations pending further order of the court.

#### Council Members’ Concerns/Comments/Announcements

There were none.

Providers' Concerns/Comments/Announcements

Ken Clowes said this Thursday is the annual Hope Night Cornhole Tournament. The September Hope Night will be "Stories of Hope" on September 14 from 6-8:00 p.m.

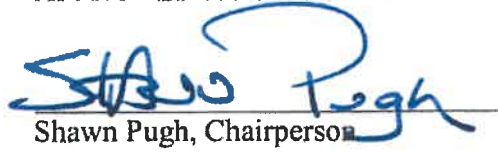
Public Comment Regarding General Items

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 8:01 a.m.

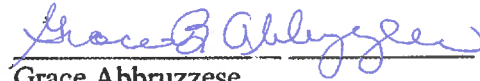
APPROVED AS TO FORMAT:

  
Shawn Pugh, Chairperson

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Kristan Semmler, Secretary

SUBMITTED BY:

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Grace Abbruzzese

Cc: Advisory Board Members

APPROVED AS TO FORMAT:

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Shawn Pugh, Chairperson

SUBMITTED BY:

Cc: Advisory Board Members



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Kristan Semmler, Secretary



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Grace Abbruzzese