

Opioid Governance Settlement Board Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2024

Present: Janet Rowland (Mesa County), Bobbie Daniel (Mesa County), Jill Calvert (DHS), Keira Auld (United Way), Cassidy Lujon (United Way), Dan Bunnell, (District 51)

Attended by Zoom: Eric Barker (Anschutz), Camille Montoya (Colorado Health Network) Anna Stout (City of Grand Junction), Care' McInnis (Town of DeBeque), Mindy Baumgardner (AGs Office), Matthew Barrett (21st Judicial District Judge), Becca Barnhart (CDC Foundation)

This meeting was to review the scoring of the applications for 2-year funding (2025/2026) and to determine funding levels for those entities that were approved. The agencies were sorted by score, with the highest score at the top of the list and the lowest score at the bottom. The board discussed each agency on the list until they reached the point that funding beyond that point was gone. The agencies listed below are the ones that scored higher and were discussed.

Loving Beyond Understanding - Recovery

Scored the highest of the applications received

Anna - Felt that the application was powerful

Dan - Good supplemental programs for students

Requested: \$115,000.00

2-year funding: Yes

Amount: Full amount requested

Counseling and Education Center

Anna - Asked for clarification that counselors being hired will be specifically for SUD services, not to build up practice

Jill - Impressed that clinical services would be provided

Keira - Other funds have been awarded to this group, will ask for clarification on how it will be spent, which Anna clarified that the City of Grand Junction granted them money to attain a new bldg.

Requested: \$100,000.00

2-year funding: Yes

Amount: Full amount requested

Mind Springs

The sustainability of this organization was questioned, Janet clarified that financial difficulties are on their hospital side, not the SUD treatment aspect.

Care' - Has heard a lot of good things from co-workers, former patients, and public

Requested: \$100,000.00

2-year funding: Yes

Amount: Full amount requested

Mesa County Behavioral Health Department

Care' - This is a small amount being asked for, to be used for a good cause

Jill - Likes that it is targeted towards provider training

Anna - Provides provider training and education, the only one that does so.

Requested: \$30,000.00

2-year funding: Yes

Amount: Full amount requested

Mesa County Sheriff's Office

Janet - The Sheriff's office is pushing the State to fund increase of MAT in facilities because it is a legislative, unfunded mandate. So this could potentially only be a request for 1 or 2 years; if the State provides funding then SO would decline any opioid funds that were not needed.

Care' - Concerned that it is a big ask and a large chunk of available funds

Anna - Could we fund them partially vs. the entire amount?

Keira will ask SO for a revised dollar amount

Requested: \$700,000.00

2-year funding: Maybe

Amount: TBD

Loving Beyond Understanding - Prevention

Janet - Suggested that we might ask them which program would be best served by funding; also our policies do not allow funding to be used for food, swag, office supplies, etc.

Anna - Asked about a partial monetary award if necessary, emphasized the strength of the application

Dan - School District 51 did a survey in conjunction with Healthy Kids of Colorado and 10,000 students took the survey; the LGBTQ population is still the highest risk for suicide

Jill - The LGBTQ population is also the highest for human trafficking, sex crime victimization

Requested: \$115,000.00

2-year funding: Yes

Amount: Full amount requested

Riverside Education Centers

Janet - have been funded the past 2 years, this year is a higher ask

Anna - Concerns that funds would be used to supplement a large amount of lost funding from other sources; has concerns about sustainability and lack of opioid-specific support

Matthew - the dollar amount asked is very high

Jill - Prevention is very difficult to rate and track

Requested: \$500,000.00

2-year funding: TBD

Amount: TBD

Western Colorado Area Health Education Center

Dr. Jackman - Acudetox needs more specific outcome data

Keira - This program partners with a lot of other agencies to do community events, including SAFE

Anna - potential for reduced funding

Dan - Likes that they are wanting to supply more bilingual resources for a growing population

Jill - Would like to interview the group to get more info; likes that they offer alternative education, there is not a lot of access to that in the Grand Valley.

Anna - Feels strongly that the person doing translating needs to be certified to do so.

Requested: \$120,000.00

2-year funding: Maybe

Amount: Partial, for development of bilingual materials. Need to confirm that translation will be done by a certified translator.

Peer 180

Keira - Had requested additional information regarding staff that will be added if funds are awarded.

Dan - provides alcohol treatment for Native American women; also focuses on young adults and teens which is needed

In previous written comments, someone questioned about expanding services beyond the criminal justice system and sustainability

Requested: \$374,807.12

2-year funding: Pending, Keira will submit a request to them for additional information

Amount: Pending

Lighthouse Program - 21st Judicial District Attorney's Office

Care' - Concerns about lack of service to the rural community

Dan - The budget is high on FTE payroll

Henry Stoffel - Written comment about the high impact of prevention on youth

Requested: \$342,000.00

2-year funding: Pending an interview; Need documentation that they will provide services to rural communities, specifically Collbran and De Beque; need clarification on number of students served in each school district; need information about how they impact prevention of drug use

Amount: Pending

Western Slope Native American Resource Center

Jill - Proposed services are not duplicated in any other groups; would like to interview

Janet - The application was scattered; Initially talked about serving native American population, then switched over to Clifton. Then talked about using a particular curriculum geared towards Native Americans, but in Clifton through the Wunder Club.

Care' - Ask them to clarify the application and request

Anna - Alarming high rate of substance use and abuse among Native American population

Requested: \$100,000.00

2-year funding: Pending an interview

Amount: Pending

Mesa County Partners

Jill - Tried and true, have been around forever and have done a good job

Anna - The evidence is clear and the plan is direct; would like more information before funding.

Care' - Also would like more information but history is strong. Request clarification on population outcomes

Requested: \$113,814.00

2-year funding: Pending additional information specific to how they prevent opioid use.

Amount: Pending

S.A.F.E. - Just set up a portal with CMU to display events available, reached out to Keira numerous times, and put in significant time; CMU wants to continue its partnership with SAFE and provided letters of recommendation

Dan - Wants assurances that monies funded will stay with CMU, not Front Range or other states.

Care' - Wants them to also focus on non-college students

Requested: \$189,994.40

2-year funding: Yes

Amount: Pending

Next dates for interviews: October 2 @ 10:30

Interviews: WSNARC and Lighthouse Program