

Opioid Governance Settlement Board Meeting Minutes

October 2, 2024

Present: Janet Rowland (Mesa County), Jill Calvert (DHS), Keira Auld (United Way), Dan Bunnell (District 51), Care' McInnis (Town of DeBeque),

This meeting was to obtain further information from 2 of the organizations requesting 2-year funding (2025/2026) from the Region 13 Opioid Settlement Funds.

This meeting was recorded on Zoom.

- WC Native American Resource Center - [Recording](#)
- Lighthouse Program - [Recording](#)

Western Slope Native American Resource Center (Susie Richards, Jose' Chavez)

- **Can you clarify the specific services your center provides and the target population?** ● Just about anything people ask, especially Medicaid, SNAP, job searches, resumes, health equity; provide food, clothing, and DME. Assist with housing, vouchers, help people find additional services and work with them through the application process for those services. Work in collaboration with The Joseph Center.
 - Starting a youth program for substance abuse and mental health and will offer both group and individual therapy; Wellbriety treatment, using cultural stories to guide therapy.
- **Could you explain your approach to connecting the Native American and Clifton populations, and how your curriculum is integrated into that effort? Is this partnership already established?** ○ Clifton Youth Wunderclub: 90-95% Latino population which is also considered Indigenous in this area; will use Wellbriety and the Sons of Culture curriculums at Clifton. Need to build trust long-term and through Indigenous social media.
 - Want to focus on prevention among youth whose parents have an addiction, stop the lifestyle.
 - 6 youth currently, expect to have 75 in 12 months
 - Training taking place now
 - Care' asked about outreach services available in outlying areas such as DeBeque. ○ Wunderclub's focus would be based on both cultures (Native American and Latino), utilizing the Sons of Culture curriculum.

The Lighthouse Program (Jacque Berry, Dan Rubinstein)

- **How is your work specifically tied to opioid or drug use prevention?**
 - Drug use is the result of the inability to cope with stressors. Seeing an increase across all WASI domains including anxiety and depression. This results in a higher risk of substance abuse.
 - Services are provided based on WASI results. Family sessions will be done across the board.
 - Has a strong relationship with CMU, 9 students are being trained to assist with program. ○ Does both mentoring and case management.
- **What is your plan to engage outlying Mesa County communities, particularly the De Beque and Plateau Valley School Districts?**
 - Performed visits to the school districts early on and has a few Collbran cases. ○

Will be handling cases within Lighthouse, not through the courts.

- Plan on establishing relationships and traveling to outlying areas versus making them come to GJ.
- 60 in Lighthouse program, 83 in diversion.
- Lighthouse has had 300 children in 3 years and is NOT diversion, which is a different program.
- Focus is on coping.
- Will now plan on performing an exit WASI interview to try to quantify results between the entry WASI and exiting the program.