

final minutes

Opioid Advisory Commission (OAC) Meeting

10:00 a.m. • September 12, 2024

Legislative Conference Room • 3rd Floor Boji Tower Building
124 W. Allegan Street • Lansing, MI

Members Present:

Ricardo Bowden
Katharine Hude
Mona Makki
Patrick Patterson
Dr. Cara Poland
Kyle Rambo
Jamie Stuck

Members Excused:

Judge Linda Davis (Ret.)
Sheriff Charles Heit
Paula Nelson
Dr. Sarah Stoddard
Representative Mary Whiteford (Fmr.)

Ms. Jennifer Dettloff serving as ex-officio to the Commission was in attendance.

Dr. Stoddard and Representative Whiteford (Fmr.) joined virtually; therefore, was unable to be counted present for the purposes of quorum or act on voting items before the Commission per the Open Meetings Act.

I. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

II. Roll Call

The Chair asked the clerk to take roll. The clerk reported a quorum was present. The Chair asked for absent members to be excused.

III. Approval of the July 11, 2024 Meeting Minutes

The Chair directed attention to the proposed minutes of the July 11, 2024 meeting and asked if there were any changes. **Mr. Rambo moved, supported by Mr. Patterson to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2024 meeting minutes. There was no further discussion and the Chair asked for a roll call vote. The motion failed and the minutes were not approved.**

IV. Public Comment

The Chair asked if there were any comments from the public. There were none.

V. Community Engagement and Planning Collaborative (CEPC) Updates

The Chair directed attention to Mr. Dominick Gladstone for an update of the Community Engagement & Planning Committee.

Mr. Gladstone provided materials for his report of the Community Engagement & Planning Committee.

Mr. Stuck suggested to include traditional healers in tribal communities.

Mr. Patterson and Mr. Bowden expressed appreciation for the CEPC update and its work.

VI. Key Activities of the Opioid Advisory Commission (OAC)

- General Updates

The Chair reported interviews for the OAC coordinator are in process.

- Legislative Engagement

The Chair reported she met with House Minority Leader Matt Hall which resulted in his office's assistance with facilitating a quarterly meeting with leadership offices that will assist with an open line of communication between the OAC and leadership offices.

- October Report Discussion

The Chair directed attention to the draft report for discussion. At the conclusion of the commissioner's discussion, the Chair will make additional edits. Ms. Hude offered assistance with editing the draft in preparation for its release in early October.

VII. Workgroup Member Comment

The Chair asked if there were any comments from workgroup members.

Mr. Gladstone emphasized the importance of CEPC representation when the Commission works on drafting reports. Mr. Gladstone referenced the Commission's draft report and suggested making it easier for entities without grant writers to access funding options. Mr. Gladstone also reported attending the recent Opioid Task Force meeting and stressed the need for collaboration between the OAC and the Opioid Task Force. Mr. Gladstone recommends the Commission create a liaison role to facilitate communication between the OAC and the Opioid Task Force.

Dr. Poland stated the OAC Coordinator will fulfill that duty as well as attend Opioid Task Force meetings.

VIII. Commission Member Comment

The Chair asked if there were any comments from Commission members. There were none.

IX. Next Meeting Date: Thursday, October 10, 2024

After discussion and with unanimous support the October 10, 2024 meeting is cancelled.

The Chair directed the clerk to follow up with Commissioners to confirm availability on November 14, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Stuck reported the United Tribe of Michigan quarterly meeting takes place in October indicating he is on the agenda to speak.

X. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Commission the Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:07 a.m. with unanimous support.

September 12, 2024

Community Engagement and Planning Committee – REPORT

From: CEPC

To: OAC

Ref: CEPC Ongoing Work

The Community Engagement and Planning Committee met August 15th for our regular meeting. Our committee did not split into groups or subcommittees. Currently we are functioning as one group.

We discussed the current state and status of the Opioid Advisory Commission, expressing concern, as we lack communication with legislators and commissioners. We are also concerned that we have no budget available for any of the required activities.

Without a Commission Coordinator, we are moving very slowly as we wait for a new coordinator to onboard. The Commission Coordinator is a key position with great value and great responsibility.

Our group recommends the following –

- The CEPC recommends a needs assessment that requires financial support to determine the needs of underserved populations and the agencies that serve them.
- The CEPC recommends that we continue to explore ways to provide detox to more of our citizens who need it most.
- The CEPC further recommends that we explore ways to expand a continuum of care that includes recovery coaches, the development and employment of recovery coaches.
- The CEPC encourages all decision-making bodies to consider making Recovery Coaches a billable profession, compared to Social Workers, or other professionals that are able to start a practice and bill for their time.
- NOTE: One of our original tasks was to identify barriers to communication and engagement. The largest barrier is a lack of true collaboration, with great concern for duplicative efforts rather than combining and utilizing the incredible amount of experience available if we had funding and open communication.
 - *"It is amazing what you can accomplish if you don't care who gets the credit." Harry S. Truman.*

We plan to reconvene in October, and we appreciate the opportunity to be of service.

Respectfully submitted,

Dominick Gladstone, Team Lead for CEPC

Opioid Advisory Commission Interim Report:

According to the statute that created the OAC, PA84 of 2022, the Opioid Advisory Commission is required to “provide a written report to the governor, the attorney general, the senate majority leader, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the chairs of the senate and house of representatives appropriations committees that includes all of the following: (i) A statewide evidence-based needs assessment that includes at least all of the following: (A) A summary of current local, state, and federal funding used to address substance use disorders and co-occurring mental health conditions. (B) A discussion about how to prevent overdoses, address disparities in access to health care, and prevent youth substance use. (C) An analysis, based on quantitative and qualitative data, of the effects on this state of substance use disorders and co-occurring mental health conditions. (D) A description of the most common risk factors associated with substance use disorders and co-occurring mental health conditions. (ii) Goals and recommendations, including the rationale behind the goals and recommendations, sustainability plans, and performance indicators relating to all of the following: (A) Substance use disorder and co-occurring mental health conditions prevention, treatment, recovery, and harm reduction efforts. (B) Reducing disparities in access to prevention, treatment, recovery, and harm reduction programs, services, supports, and resources. (iii) An evidence-based assessment of the prior use of money appropriated from the Michigan opioid healing and recovery fund, including the extent to which such expenditures abated the opioid crisis in this state. (iv) Recommended funding for tasks, activities, projects, and initiatives that would support the objectives of the commission. (v) If applicable, recommended additional legislation needed to accomplish the objectives of the commission.”

The Commission has provided two annual written reports along with multiple quarterly updates and both written and verbal testimony to inform and advise the Governor, the Legislature, and the Attorney General concerning opioid remediation and abatement strategies. Unfortunately, all of these reports lacked the necessary representation that a statewide evidence-based needs assessment could provide. In order to provide a more comprehensive report in the future, the Commission is recommending the following supplemental request to the FY25 budget. This supplemental request will put in place the necessary assessment tools to allow the Commission to build a thorough, comprehensive annual report. Once implemented this statewide needs assessment will generate reports that provide Michigan communities a greater voice and clearer vision into the opioid healing and recovery fund planning, implementation, reporting.

To accomplish this statutory requirement, the OAC recommends the following:

1. \$6,000,000.00 to a nonprofit, state-based University with the capacity in all 83 counties to provide community engagement to perform a detailed gap analysis founded in community perspective and aligned with publicly available national and state data sources that would provide individual reports to each county and a statewide report to the OAC with annual funding of \$3,000,000.00 to update annual reports.

2. \$5,000,000.00 to establish an endowment within the Michigan Department of Treasury. This endowment, to be funded annually at no less than \$5,000,000, is intended to support ongoing gaps in resources beyond the term of the settlement.
3. \$5,500,000.00 to an entity with (i) a presence in and/or engagement with all 83 counties of the state; (ii) proven experience administering competitive grant opportunities to community entities/providers; and (iii) capacity to administer competitive grant opportunities on a recommended quarterly basis for FY 2025.

Examples of appropriate entities include statewide health endowment funds, community foundations, and universities/colleges. The entity awarded with these funds should be identified through a competitive bid process to assess administrative costs. In addition, prioritization should be given to an entity with existing knowledge of and experience in the state and local opioid settlement space and existing coordination with state and/or community entities.

These recommendations are intended for both a supplemental request for FY25 and to engage the legislature and the executive office in early discussions for FY26 collaboration on the opioid settlement. Without a statewide-evidence-based needs assessment, we cannot fully make informed, evidence-based, regional or statewide recommendations to support reducing the devastation of the opioid, addiction and broader mental health crisis on Michiganders.

We look forward to discussions with MDHHS, the EOG, Treasury, and the Legislature on how the OAC can continue to serve Michiganders.

We humbly submit this interim report to the governor, the attorney general, the senate majority leader, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the chairs of the senate and house of representatives appropriations committees.

Respectfully,

The Opioid Advisory Commission