



**Coast to Cascades Community Wellness Network (CCCWN)
Regional Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder Coalition
Meeting Summary
Held virtually – Microsoft Teams
May 16, 2022
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

Participants: Jennifer Beckner, McKaila Allcorn, D.O., Shelagh Baird, Stephanie Cameron, Bryan Decker, Christine Felt, Molly Gelinias, Albany Chief of Police – Marcia Harnden, Joanna Kubes, Lalori Lager, Avalon Mason, Michelle Means, Liz Merritt, LaMonte Morgan, Jolynn Meza Wynkoop, JoAnn Miller, Josh Pankau, Tanya Pritt, Mara Sargent, Michelle Shannon, Benton County Sheriff - Jef Van Arsdall, Gayle Woodworth, and Shelley Hazelton

Guest: Sharon Dursi Martin

Welcome/Introductions:

Jennifer Beckner welcomed everyone to the meeting and led introductions.

Presentation: Harmony Academy Recovery High School:

Sharon Dursi Martin presented information on Harmony Academy, which is a recovery high school.

- Sharon Dursi Martin noted that she is in long-term recovery – 26 years in recovery. She is the Principal at Harmony Academy that provides safe, sober, and supportive education for youth in recovery.
- Harmony Academy Recovery High School:
 - a. Serves students in the tri-county area of Portland. Portland provides transportation to their school. They currently serve students in 17 public school districts.
 - b. The school is in Lake Oswego and was founded in 2019.
 - c. They are a tuition-free public charter school.
 - d. Serves kids up to the age of 21. The oldest kid that has graduated to date was 20 years old. Last year they graduated 11 kids and they have an 80% graduation rate. Kids show up to classes.
 - e. The school doesn't require kids to already be in treatment.
 - f. The school is not a treatment center. They provide recovery supports embedded in a public school.
 - g. They have instructional and recovery staff and each student has an individual recovery plan. They also have school mentors.
 - h. A common misconception is this must cost a lot for kids to participate in this school. As noted above, it is a tuition free school and they have no enrollment cap. There is no wait list.

- i. Another misconception is that “all kids party, do they really need this?” These kids stopped having fun a while back. They try to find solutions to substances to help kids recover and to become successful in their communities.
- j. There are students at the school that have been there since they first opened and they are living with continuous sobriety.
- k. 85% of current youth misuse opiates. 67% identify opiates as a serious problem.
- l. Sharon Dursi Martin noted that one kid worked in connection with a teacher and provided an overdose reversal training and other kids learned how to administer Naloxone. Worked with Oregon Health Authority with the event and kids provided and were trained and taught each other how to save a life. The whole school was there.
- m. Almost all students at the school have experienced significant trauma and almost every kid that has come through this year has made at least one suicide attempt.
- n. The kids in the program are successful and graduate with a diploma. The kids receive a standard diploma.
- o. It is hard work and they have had staff turnover. Burn out is real. It is also rewarding to see these kids succeed.
- p. She is a member of the Board of Directors for the Association of Recovery Schools which was funded in 2002.
- q. The definition of a recovery school was read.
- **Sharon Dursi Martin** – Was a presenter at the recent Opioids +Other Drugs, Pain + Addiction (OPAT) conference.
- **Stephanie Cameron** – What does it take to get a recovery high school started? She works with Family Tree Relief Nursery. They have funding for youth services. She met with a rural school Superintendent and they had a conversation around the lack of youth services. Are the recovery schools able to expand in our area?
 - a. **Sharon Dursi Martin** – The Association of Recovery Schools doesn’t open new schools, but they do support every step along the way. The community needs to find people who care about this project to get it going.
 - b. Oregon Recovery High School Initiative has funding to create a workgroup on how to govern schools across the state.
 - c. Sharon Dursi Martin noted she has start up materials and can be a resource. They helped launch a school.
 - d. It does take people from all different sectors to come together and it needs someone to sponsor and oversee and be willing to take the risk.
 - e. Sharon Dursi Martin noted that her school is a charter school. It would be helpful if the state would take the initiative.
 - f. There is information and resources with Oregon Recovery High School, Harmony Academy, and Association of Recovery Schools.
 - g. You will need to figure out the funding sources. It does cost around \$25,000 per student to operate. They received \$8,900 from the state.
- **Jennifer Beckner** – How do you handle marijuana? They had a program, but it stopped.
 - a. **Sharon Dursi Martin** – It has been hard. Kids get mixed messages. Kids have told her that they have been told it helps them sleep. They talk with kids on the relationship with substances and moving toward abstinence. They do motivational interviewing.

They had a Board retreat and the number one topic was discussions around treatment centers and how they have collapsed with cannabis. Need to look at policies on harm reduction for youth. She did have a presentation with speakers on what cannabis does to the brain. It is important to have those conversations with the kids.

- **Jennifer Beckner** – Their Harm Reduction Worker is on a leave of absence so she has been doing some of her duties. She is shocked at how many kids are reviving their parents who are using opioids. How are kids supported by families?
 - a. **Sharon Dursi Martin** – They try to help kids understand what power they have. They may not have control over different layers. It is not up to them. They try to be honest with kids on how drugs affect them and have discussions on what the student wants to do and their family support. It's tricky when dealing with parents. They think the recovery process should go quick if there are no other problems. Many of these youth are dealing with trauma and mental health and things catch up to them. This is an area for growth.
 - b. They have a partnership with the Alternative Peer Group. They work hand in hand with the recovery high schools. Activities happens after school and the weekends. They also try to get family members and other kids that are sober involved to work together to aid kids in their recovery.
- **Josh Pankau** – These recovery schools sound amazing. If he had this support, it would have been highly beneficial. This is amazing work. Early intervention is the best.

Meeting Minutes:

The April 11, 2022, meeting minutes of the Regional Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder Coalition was presented. **Molly Gelin** made a motion and **Shelagh Baird** seconded the motion to approve the April 11, 2022, meeting minutes as presented. The motion was voted upon and unanimously approved.

Federal/State Grants Reports and Updates:

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Regional Assessment and Implementation Disaster (RAID) Plan Update:

Joanna Kubes reported on the RAID grant. The Work Plan Summary and Progress Updates written report was noted.

- Held the Emergency Response Preparedness Drill on May 3, 2022, at Boulder Falls Conference Center in Lebanon. There were approximately 20 participants. The drill will help complete the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) Annex.
- Will meet with Joseph Hutchinson to update the EOP Annex and will then be presented to leadership at Samaritan Health Services (SHS). Brandan Kearney, Consultant, will also help edit and put together the final document and once completed we will send to partners.
- Will request a more specific Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) by organizations and their leaders by the end of June or first part of July 2022.
- The grant ends August 2022.

HRSA Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP) Implementation Grant – Bridges to Recovery Project Update for Lincoln County:

Michelle Means and Shelagh Baird reported on the Bridges to Recovery Project. A written report was provided.

- Working with Brink Communications in developing the regional media campaign. Media content will include billboards, social ads, radio spots, and posters in English and Spanish. There was a photo session with two community members. The media campaign is scheduled to go public in June 2022.
- The HRSA Performance Improvement Measurement System (PIMS) report is due May 31, 2022.
- The Registered Nurse (RN) position with the Lincoln County Community Health Clinic has been hired to help with the Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) program.

HRSA Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP) Implementation III Rural Communities Supporting Women and Youth (RC-SWAY) Grant:

Jolynn Meza Wynkoop reported on the RC-SWAY Grant. A written report with Work Plan Highlights was noted.

- The first PIMS report will be due May 31, 2022. Have been collecting data for the report.
- Will continue to work on the media campaign. Will partner on the media campaign with the Bridges to Recovery Grant, this RC-SWAY Grant, and the Measure 110 Access to Care Grant.
- Attended the OPAT conference May 9-11, 2022.

Samaritan Treatment and Recovery Services Update:

HRSA STARS Rural Health Opioid Program (RHOP) Update:

Molly Gelinis reported on the HRSA Rural Health Opioid Program serving Sweet Home and Brownsville. A written report was noted.

- Our X-Waivered physicians has grown from 3 to 10.
- We have contracted with Family Tree Relief Nursery for Peer Support Specialists. They will be integrating into a new office space at the Nazarene Church across from Sweet Home Family Medicine..
- Narcan distribution is at an all time high. Helped Jennifer Beckner get a supply out into the community.
- Narcan distributed since the beginning of March has included 32 kits to the Brownsville Clinic, 64 kits to Sweet Home Family Medicine, 64 kits to the Recovery Clinic, and additional kits disbursed throughout the community.
- Molly Gelinis shared a story of a community member actively using that was given a dose of Narcan and felt they needed 1-2 additional doses. Molly Gelinis noted that she rushed over to provide them additional Narcan and asked the person why they wouldn't go to the hospital and the person indicated with Narcan on hand they were more willing to go that route. They indicated if they went to the Emergency Department they would be left to be uncomfortable and would have to withdraw in the hospital. They had resources at home and were more comfortable at home. This individual called again and Molly Gelinis was able to provide additional boxes to them. This story gives an opportunity to see things from a user's perspective.
- There is currently one Peer Support Specialist and there will be another one coming on board. There has not been a lot of referrals.

Measure 110 Access to Care Grant Report:

Jolynn Meza Wynkoop provided a Measure 110 Access to Care Grant update.

- The grant was set to end at the end of June 2022 and has been extended to September 2022. A meeting has been scheduled for May 26, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. to review this and discuss additional items.
- Sent out a template for data collection.
- LaMonte Morgan – Has a new Peer Support Specialist that will start on May 23, 2022, that was hired as part of the grant.

Molly Gelinias made a motion and Shelagh Baird seconded the motion to approve the RAID Grant report, Bridges to Recovery Report, RC-SWAY Report, the STARS Report, and the Measure 110 Access to Care Grant report, along with the written reports as presented. The motion was voted upon and unanimously approved.

Dr. Mckaila Allcorn – Met with Dr. Dan Hoover, addiction medicine at OHSU and head of the Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO) program, which coordinates learning modules related to addiction medicine for different types of providers. He is speaking at their Medical Staff Quarterly meeting next week to try to entice some enrollment from providers. She can send an invitation if interested. He also let her know of some online telehealth offering for Medication Assisted Treatment.

County Challenges and Updates – Overdose Discussion:

County challenges and overdoses were discussed. 2020 and 2021 data from SHS along with individual overdose reports from SHS for January 1, 2022, through March 31, 2022, and April 1, 2022, through April 30, 2022, were shared. Data also showed babies born with Neonatal abstinence Syndrome (NAS)/Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome (NOWS).

- **Jennifer Beckner** – Fatal overdoses are increasing.
- **JoAnn Miller** – We need to come up with a more coordinated data collection system. Met with Albany Chief of Police, Marcia Harnden, and additional law enforcement officials to discuss overdoses and data collection. Will also be discussing with the CCCWN at their meeting in May. We might want to look at having a summit to discuss this further. We can obtain hospital data, but we need to look at what additional data is currently being collected and for what, discuss our gaps and needs, and figure out a process for sharing data.
- We need to look at ways to work with people such as providing education in schools, working with law enforcement, and coming up with a solution(s).
- **Jennifer Beckner** – Knows law enforcement in Linn County is getting ODMaps in place and Lincoln County will also be getting this in place. If we could get all law enforcement in our area to use it would be helpful. They are using the software all over the State of Oregon and the bigger Metropolitan areas.
 - a. **Marcia Harnden, Albany Chief of Police** – Albany Police Department is now active on ODMaps.
 - b. **Jef Van Arsdall, Benton County Sheriff** – Benton County Sheriff's Office will be looking into ODMaps.
- **Jennifer Beckner** – We have a lack of medical examiners in our region or there are very few autopsies being performed related to substance use disorders so we are not seeing a lot of data in this area.

- **Lalori Lager** – Reconnections Counseling had an event Friday with 150 people present. They did hand out Narcan. The District Attorney’s Office requested Narcan. We need to be able to go to the people and get out into the community. Is being asked by other communities for Narcan. Eugene and the Oregon Country Fair is looking for Narcan.
- **Jennifer Beckner** – We no longer get Narcan through a state grant and they no longer provide funding for this. She encourages people to go to the Oregon Health Authority Clearing House to request Narcan.
- **Molly Gelin**as – Seconds Lalori Lager’s comment regarding getting out into the community and providing outreach. Has brought Narcan to stores, barber shops, etc. We need to not be scared and ask organizations and businesses if they have Narcan on hand. ODMaps could be a great tool for collaborative tracking and working with others. This has been a challenge. Had an email from the state lead and they are looking at tracking with ODMaps. This may be an opportunity for collaboration.
- **Jennifer Beckner** – ODMaps could help us identify cluster overdoses. Glad to hear that the Albany Police Department is using.
- **JoAnn Miller** - Staff levels and peer support – Josh Pankau trained Faith, Hope and Charity with peer support and there is still opportunities to train others. Josh Pankau will be doing an additional training in August/September 2022.
- **JoAnn Miller** –We submitted a workforce training proposal to the State of Oregon who provided some funding to train for Peer Support Specialists and Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor-CADC. The Oregon Health Authority Accelerated CADC 1 program is being offered to Benton, Lincoln, and Linn County residents. The proposal was to increase the CADCs in our 3-county region by at least 22 and increase the number of Peer Support Specialists in our region by at least 20. The Peer Support Specialists training is available through Family Tree Relief Nursery. Marty Cahill has expressed his desire to be able to hire from these programs. Northwest Oregon Works also has a CADC 1 and Qualified Mental Health Associate Program that still has some openings. They will be do another cohort for Benton, Lincoln, and Linn Counties.
 - a. **Molly Gelin**as – Is there a process in place for clinical hours for the Qualified Mental Health Associate?
 - b. **JoAnn Miller** – Northwest Oregon Works is working on this.
- **Stephanie Cameron** – Works with Northwest Oregon Works on internships in the community. Training for peer wellness. Oregon Health Authority peer support curriculum is getting approved.

Behavioral Health Resource Network Grants:

JoAnn Miller and Jennifer Beckner reported on Measure 110 Behavioral Health Resource Network grants.

- **JoAnn Miller** – SHS STARS was funded for the Behavioral Health Resource Network grant for Lincoln and Linn Counties. It wasn’t funded for Benton County. We have appealed for Benton County since STARS is the main residential treatment facility for our three counties, and we are waiting to hear back. We are excited that we were funded for the other two counties.
 - a. The Linn County Health Department wasn’t funded either.
 - b. Grant applications for the Behavioral Health Resource Network were due in December 2021 and we were just notified of the award. The review process did change a couple of weeks ago.

- c. Reconnections Counseling applications were also denied.
- **Jennifer Beckner** – Received permission to submit one proposal for Lincoln County Health and Human Services and subcontracting with partners. One of those partners was Reconnections Counseling. They were funded, but as noted Reconnections Counseling didn't receive funding. Has reached out to Oregon Health Authority and hasn't heard back. Feels there was a conflict of interest. One partner has requested all the allocation for their program. The application was written by professional grant writers. By not awarding one partner that was part of the application, it is dismantling the collaboration that has been built. Exited to have and add the different partners that will be part of the grant. The grant they received was in the amount of \$4,650,000. Will need to now sit down and negotiate the budget. Will pull partners together after she meets with Oregon Health Authority.
- **Avalon Mason** – The same thing is happening in Benton County. We are hoping they will consider appeals.
- **Stephanie Cameron** – Sits on meetings with Benton County. Asked Oregon Health Authority if they expect agencies to negotiate budgets together. They were told that they negotiate the budget with Oregon Health Authority directly. This is different than what was said.
 - a. **Jennifer Beckner** – Oregon Health Authority did say to negotiate separately. Lincoln County Health and Human Services did one application for Lincoln County with partners. Yes, Oregon Health Authority is ultimately responsible. Their hope is agencies will come together.
- Calls with Lines for Life – Law enforcement are not issuing that many citations and people aren't engaging in services. In Lincoln County they are issuing more citations. Linn and Benton Counties are as well.
- The state is saying they want funding out by 20 days, but if you look at the timeline they have until October to get the funding out.
 - a. **Bryan Decker** – Spoke with Oregon Health Authority/Oversight and Accountability Council last Wednesday and asked the question around how funding will work. They didn't know yet when he had talked to them.
 - b. **Jennifer Beckner** - Not aware of yet. Will finish watching session.
- **JoAnn Miller** – MOU assignments aren't clear. Not sure if it is a confirmed MOU process.
 - a. **Bryan Decker** – The state confirmed they will provide a template MOU. With Benton County – One MOU – All providers will sign.
- **Jennifer Beckner** – The Counties Health Departments are taking the lead. Did Linn and Benton Counties put in a position for someone to do?
 - a. **Bryan Decker** – *Will send presentation they gave for Benton County to Jennifer Beckner.* Believes that Benton County got fully funded and believes there will be additional discussions around who heads up the grant.
 - b. **Stephanie Cameron** – Oregon Health Authority expectations for reporting – Is a 4-step process. Would be helpful if an agency has a way to track. Step 2 involves an aggregate Excel data base system and collection system. Would be beneficial if Benton County Health was funded for the Behavioral Health Resource Network and those partners below to have written in to have a dedicated person to coordinate data collection, meetings, etc.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for June 13, 2022, at 10:30 a.m.

Adjourn:

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Hazelton

Community Health Promotion