



**Coast to Cascades Community Wellness Network (CCCWN)  
Regional Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder Coalition  
Meeting Summary  
Held virtually – Microsoft Teams  
October 13, 2025  
10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

**Participants:** Heidi May-Stoulil, Chair, Shelagh Baird, Emma Deane, Stephanie Dreiling, Robert Fallows, PsyD, Marcia Harnden, Albany Chief of Police, Andy Hertel, Ian Howarth, Danette Killinger, Lalori Lager, Rocio Munez, Thien Nguyen, Nike Neuenheim, James Page, Tanya Pritt, Catherine Rupkus, Blue Valentine, and Shelley Hazelton

**Welcome/Introductions:**

Heidi May-Stoulil, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting and led introductions.

Everyone welcomed, Nike Neuenheim, who is the new Manager, Community Wellness Network.

**Meeting Minutes:**

The committee reviewed the minutes from the September 8, 2025, meeting of the Regional Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder Coalition. **Shelagh Baird moved to approve the meeting minutes as presented, with Stephanie Dreiling seconding. Members present unanimously approved the motion.**

**Zero Suicide Presentation:**

Catherine Rupkus, Behavioral Health Program Coordinator/Suicide Prevention Coordinator presented information on the program – Zero Suicide. She also Chairs the Linn-Benton-Lincoln Suicide Care Coalition.

- **Why are we talking about suicide as a medical group?**
  - a. **45% of patients** who died by suicide saw a healthcare provider **in the month before** the event.
  - b. **30%** had a healthcare visit **7 days** before suicide and patients who died by suicide saw their primary care physician (PCP) twice as often as they saw a mental health clinician.
  - c. Primary care providers and their staff are often well trusted and liked by their patients, leading them to feel like they can call and ask for help when in a crisis.
  - d. When primary care physicians (PCPs) added suicide care practices to routine visits, **suicide attempts dropped by 25%** in 3 months after the visit.
  - e. **Safety planning interventions**, when implemented through the VA emergency departments, **led to a 26% decrease in all-cause mortality.**

- f. Ultimately, individuals can be “low risk” but there is no such thing as “no risk for suicide” – important to bear in mind as we consider suicide in physicians and medical residents.
- **Why Zero Suicide:**
  - a. Reduction in suicides.
  - b. Safer suicide care in policy and workflow.
  - c. Ongoing improvement.
  - d. Access to Zero Suicide implementers across the country.
- Shared a control chart for system performance.
- **Linn-Benton-Lincoln Suicide Care Coalition:**
  - a. Established the coalition to reduce stigma, raise awareness, and promote understanding that we can reduce suicide when communities come together.
  - b. Shared who was involved with this Coalition:
    - Benton County Public Health.
    - Linn County Public Health
    - Linn-Benton-Lincoln Education Service District (LBL ESD).
    - Samaritan Health Services.
    - Western University.
    - Trillium Family Services.
    - Linn County School District.
    - InterCommunity Health Network (IHN).
  - c. Shared that her position was created a year ago and transitioned into Chairing the Coalition. Working on outreach and improvement.
  - d. Shared the current structure of the Linn-Benton-Lincoln Suicide Care Coalition, which is now divided into three subgroups – 1) Focus on prevention; 2) focus on intervention; and a 3) focus on post-intervention efforts. These subgroups will start meeting next month and the broader Linn-Benton-Lincoln Suicide Care Coalition will meet quarterly.
- Catherine Rupkus shared her email – [crupkus@samhealth.org](mailto:crupkus@samhealth.org) or [lblscc@samhealth.org](mailto:lblscc@samhealth.org)

### Update – Regional Overdoses:

Discussions followed around regional overdoses.

- **Shelagh Baird and Nike Neuenheim, Samaritan Health Services** – Reported that information from the Samaritan Health Services (SHS) Individual Overdose Report for Reporting Period: September 1, 2025 – September 30, 2025, year-to-date data from January 2025 through September 2025, and SHS overdose data from 2022 to September 2025 was all distributed with the agenda packet prior to the meeting. Looking at the September 2025 SHS report, numbers are as follows:
  - a. Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center (GSRMC) – 4 overdoses.
  - b. Samaritan Albany General Hospital (SAGH) – 7 overdoses.
  - c. Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital (SLCH) – 6 overdoses.
  - d. Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital (SNLH) – 2 overdoses.
  - e. Samaritan Pacific Communities Hospital (SPCH) – 5 overdoses.

### **Samaritan Health Services – Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS)/Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome (NOW) numbers:**

- a. Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center (GSRMC) – 0.
- b. Samaritan Albany General Hospital (SAGH) – 3.
- c. Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital (SLCH) – 0.

- d. Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital (SNLH) – 0.
  - e. Samaritan Pacific Communities Hospital (SPCH) – 0.
- Year to date for 2025 for overdoses, we are at 267, compared to 2024 at 387.
- **Shelagh Baird** – For SHS, we do show year to date totals for 2025 for hospitals, by gender, age, patient race, patient ethnicity, and year to date NAS and NOW births for 2025. Do you want additional information on 2022-2025 data such as age? We could also show year to date totals for both 2024 and 2025 that has the additional information listed (by hospital, gender, age, patient race, patient ethnicity, and year to date NAS/NOW information).
    - a. **Heidi May-Stoullil** – Will table and can discuss further.
  - **Marcia Harnden, Albany Chief of Police:**
    - a. Is reporting for Benton County as well.
    - b. **Benton County** - Numbers are down. There has been a total of 88 overdose year to date for 2025 compared to 106 overdoses last year. There were 4 deaths this year opposed to 2 last year. Fentanyl is the top substance.
    - c. **Albany** – Report does not include prescription substances and alcohol.
    - d. **Linn County** – Has slowed down as well with overdose cases and deaths. There have been 7 deaths in Albany with 16 county wide-Linn County and 5 with the Sheriff’s Office. They have responded to 108 overdose calls to date for 2025 with the 16 deaths. Fentanyl is the leading substance. They have used more Narcan in 2025 – 90 doses on 59 cases. Last year was 82.
    - e. Received a report from DEA that there is a substance – Nitazenes that is more Narcan resistant.
    - f. **Blue Valentine** – Can you share more about the Narcan resistant substance?
    - g. **Marcia Harnden – Albany Chief of Police** - Nitazenes can be hundreds or even thousands of times more potent than morphine. There are types that are stronger than Fentanyl, which is already 25 to 50 times more powerful than heroin. They are in the synthetic category.
    - h. **Blue Valentine** – Shared a link noting that Nitazenes are opioids and do respond to Naloxone - <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0196064425010406>
    - i. **Marcia Harnden, Albany Chief of Police** – What they are hearing is the latest ones are Narcan resistant.

### **Behavioral Health Resource Networks (BHRN) Update:**

Coalition members provided Behavioral Health Resource Networks updates.

- **Thien Nguyen – Linn County:**
  - a. Family Tree Relief Nursery peer support training program continues to see high attendance, with upcoming classes at capacity.
  - b. Emergence has partnered with United Way and are now able to offer limited resources for up to one year of a post office box, storage unit assistance, and hotel or rental assistance for short term stays. These resources are for Emergence clients who are actively engaged in treatment and demonstrating a commitment to sobriety.
  - c. Emergence has begun hosting “Help for Helpers,” a closed Alcoholics Anonymous group geared towards professionals in the behavioral health field. Meetings are Sundays at 4:30 p.m.
  - d. September was National Recovery Month. Had resource tables at different events, distributing educational materials to Linn County community members.
- **Rocio Munez – Benton County:** They continue to meet every other month.

### **Partner Updates/Additional Business/Announcements:**

Coalition partners provided updates, additional business, and announcements.

- **Heidi May-Stoullil:**

- a. Karla Clem had posted prior to the meeting – There will be a **grand opening celebration at the Samaritan Treatment and Recovery Services facility** being held a week from today, **Monday 10/20/25 at 3:30 p.m.** All are welcome to attend with an RSVP to Mary Jo Kerlin, [mkerlin@samhealth.org](mailto:mkerlin@samhealth.org) within the next day or two. Only those with disabled permits are invited to park near/onsite. All others will need to park at the movie theatre across the highway and to ride shuttle bus provided by Thompson's Sanitary Service from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Carpooling is encouraged.

- **Tanya Pritt** – Milestones in opening an additional women's and children's residential program. Posted and shared a flyer prior to the meeting. A **ribbon cutting ceremony** for the "Inspire Recovery" program will be **October 15, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.** at 438 NW 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Corvallis, OR. They will be officially open for clients on October 20, 2025.

- **Blue Valentine** – Oregon ECHO Network is starting methadone. Shared the link – <https://www.oregonechonetwork.org/methadone> - They are starting this week and will go through June 2026.

### **Next Meeting:**

Next meeting – November 10, 2025, at 10:30 a.m.

### **Adjourn:**

With no further business to discuss, adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Shelley Hazelton  
Grants and Sponsored Programs

*(These meeting minutes are the true and accurate record of the meeting.)*