

SWORD Meeting Minutes Approved 4/12/23

December 14th, 2022

Zoom

Attendees:

Voting members	Attendance	Proxy
(Chair) Justen Goodall, Mancos Marshall	present	
(Vice Chair) Steve Garchar, Dolores County Commissioner	present	
(Treasurer) Marsha Porter-Norton, La Plata County Commissioner	X	Erin Hyder
(Secretary) Andrea Phillips, Pagosa Spring Town Manager	present	
Annie Diaz, Montezuma County Human Services	X	
Austin Lashley, San Juan County Commissioner	X	
Bob Brammer, Durango Police Chief	present	
Bobbi Lock, Montezuma County Public Health Director	present	
Chauncey McCarthy, Rico Town Manager	present	
Erin Hyder, Durango Assistant City Manager	present	
Jessica Thurman, Montezuma County Community & Economic Development Coordinator	present	
Laurel Shafer, Montezuma County Public Health Assistant Director	present	
Malynda Evans, Dolores County Social Services Director		
Martha Johnson, La Plata County Department of Human Services & San Juan County Department of Social Services Director	present	
Nathaniel Baca, Dolores County Court Judge	X	
Ronnie Maez, Archuleta County Commissioner	X	Erin Hyder

Advisory Members	Attendance
Breeah Kinsella	X
Ed Fields, Ph.D.	X
Donna Mae Baukat	X
Dr. Amanda Mullen	X
Dr. Kent Aikin	present
Dr. Jacob Anderson	X
Dr. Will Finn	present
Father Augustine Nellary	present
Haley Leonard	present
Imo Succo	present
Kelly DiGiacomo	present
Martha Tinsley Minot	X
Mary Bono, Mothers Against Prescription Drug Abuse Board Chair	X
Stacie Russell	present

Facilitator & Guests
Heather Otter & Laura Lewis Marchino, Region 9 EDD, SWORD Facilitators
Presenters:

Rebecca Kellenberg, Principal, HMA
Shannon Breitzman, HMA
Margot Swift, HMA
Caitlin Dye, 6th Judicial District
Candice Seay, Advocates for Recovery Colorado
Christal Dye, Mothers Against Prescription Drug Abuse
Helen Katich, Senator Hickenlooper's Office
Jessica Eaddy, CO Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention
Kate Hartzell, Southwest Colorado Area Health Education Center
Paul Reich, Axis Health System

I. Chairman Justen Goodall called the meeting to order at 2:31pm.

II. Approve October and November minutes – Chair Justen Goodall made the motion and Commissioner Steve Garchar seconded that the October minutes be approved without changes. Approved unanimously. Chair Justen Goodall made the motion and Commissioner Steve Garchar seconded that the November minutes be approved without changes. Approved unanimously.

III. Updates from the Group

- Helen Katich from Senator Hickenlooper's office updated the group on Congressionally Designated Funding.
- Will Finn updated the group on Southern Ute Indian Tribe's opioid funding. Nothing formal has been approved yet by Tribal Council for a substance use treatment facility but it is under review.

IV. Presentations - Health Management Associates (HMA) Meet and Greet

- Rebecca Kellenberg and Shannon Breitzman, Principals with HMA, walked SWORD through the feasibility study timeline, HMA team members who will be working with SWORD, followed by a Q & A with the group. The group had discussion about what success looks like as well as concerns or risks for the project. Project initiation has been completed to establish work plan guidelines and document requests. A needs assessment has begun to collect data, conduct research, surveys, interviews (Feb-March), local market and related data analysis (March-April). This will be followed by financial modeling to assess economic viability of behavioral health treatments options and prepare projections for financial sustainability. The final steps will include summarizing findings across all assessment data sources (May), preparing the final report and conducting discussions with SWORD. (June). HMA asked what SWORD members to comment on goals for this feasibility study and to express what success looks like. Topics brought forward included:
 - Looking at the full continuum of care around SUD, not only in-patient treatment as the solution.
 - Addressing issues around sustainability and workforce issues (for providers) that impact this work.
 - Possibility of establishing healthy pathways from already existing healthcare providers in the community.
 - To see organizations TARGET health equity and diversity and not only talking about it, for example through hiring practices.
 - Addressing how the Axis Health System merger will impact solutions.
 - An actionable plan that SWORD can agree on and work from is provided. A concern is that this study is covering a broad landscape (solutions for sustainable continuum of treatment and care) so it might need financial prioritization so it can be addressed in phases. HMA commented that this is part of the project and the study results will include options that are independent of reimbursement as well as options that depend on reimbursement.
 - That neighboring regions are consulted on their plans to ensure conversations are being had to explore solutions that might be more sustainable if we partner. Jessica Eaddy with Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention can be a liaison to SWORD and HMA for this purpose. Laura Lewis Marchino commented that these connections have been made and initial conversations had with counties in Region 10 but will need to be followed up on.

V. Next Steps/Other Information

- HMA team will be in the region the second week of March to conduct interviews.
- Protocol for HMA team and SWORD members will be to utilize Heather Otter and Laura Lewis Marchino at Region 9 as points of contact to streamline communication between HMA and SWORD.
- Some SWORD members may be outreached by HMA for interviews.
- Heather Otter reminded the council of action items for SWORD: SWORD will review its membership in January 2023 to appoint new officers as needed and determine if the council has the representation it requires per the bylaws.
- A review of meeting frequency and committee work – change as needed.
- Establish any new needs for education segments. Consider terms and topics brought up by SWORD members.
- Next meeting is on Jan. 11th 2:30pm via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30pm

Minutes prepared by Heather Otter