

Opioid Steering Committee
April 9th, 2024, 1:00-3:00
Center Pointe
2202 S 11th Street
Lincoln, NE 68502

I. **Welcome:** Trina Janis opened the meeting at 1:02 pm. Janis started the meeting by welcoming everyone and gave a brief recap of the Opioid summit.

II. **Obvious Expenditure**

Mindy Anderson- Knot with Partners for Insightful Evaluation, Inc. (PIE), along with GIS and Human Dimensions, LLC, put together a needs assessment proposal. Their proposal includes collaborating with other organizations (BOSR, RDAR, the Wellbeing Initiative, and Blue Agate Collaborative) collecting data and compiling comprehensive reports that will be designed to guide Region V and its partners in identifying gaps and selecting abatement strategies.

Discussion:

- Overlap with MY Linc – duplication of work (partnership with them so there is not duplication).
- Wellbeing will do the data collection; PIE will do the analysis.
- Any existing data source (#2 of project deliverables, Secondary data compilation) will be utilized.
- The proposal can be adjusted to meet what we need, however the OSC decided that everything mentioned in the proposal was needed.
- Partner with others to share data.
 - Treatment Providers (BAART, Mission Fields, etc.)
 - Health Departments

**Sgt. Benjamin Murry made motion to approve, Laura Osborn second the motion. Vote to approve passed with a show of hands in favor. Three abstained (Jennifer Bender and Jenn Nelson of Wellbeing Initiative and Davidson Wissing of DHHS). This will be forwarded to the Behavioral Health Advisory Committee.*

III. **Status of Request for Obvious Expenditure**

Sandy Morrissey – My Lnk

Theresa Henning – Promotional Videos- we will pay \$6000 for the promotion of the videos. The committee had approved the cost of the videos, but this cost was not needed as funding was secured elsewhere.

**Both Approved by BHAC and Region Governing Board, can move forward.*

IV. **Timeline/ Discussion of Grant Release**

The strategic planning handout covers each section of the abatement strategies that were identified in the blueprint. The top three priorities in each section will be funded in the first grant cycle. Janis proposed doing two grant cycles per year: one now and the other, possibly in December.

The first cycle will be about \$625,000 and will fund a minimum of two projects.

- Grant applications
 - Deadline is May 6, 2024.
 - Applications will be scored by the Grant Review Committee (4 - Region V staff, 1 - RGB member, 1 - BHAC member, 2 - OSC members). Amy Reynoldson and Erik Delaney have volunteered to represent the two OSC members.
 - OSC members will be notified of the results at the meeting on May 21st. They will vote to move the recommendations to the BHAC and RGB.
 - BHAC recommendations will go to Regional Governing Board for final approval on June 10, 2024
 - Year 1 Grant Cycle Begins July 1, 2024

V. Flex Funds Proposal – \$25, 000 or what the committee feels is needed.

Funds would be utilized to help persons within the Region V catchment area obtain the resources necessary to meet identified treatment/rehabilitation needs that cannot be provided through other funding mechanisms or more traditional service provision modalities.

- Accessed through request to Region V Systems Opioid Program.
- Meet criteria established by Region V Systems and OSC.

Discussion:

- The thought was that \$25,000 would not be enough. OSC agreed to move forward with a recommendation of \$50,000 to start with.
- Providers will cover the initial cost and request reimbursement.
- Great resource for obtaining data.
- This will be a last resort, funding option, after other funding options are exhausted.
- How is this resource going to be communicated and shared?
 - Through network RVS network providers
 - OSC network connections
 - Outside provider groups (BAART, etc.)
 - Treatment facilities

**Sgt. Benjamin Murry made a motion to approve \$50,000. Jen Bender second the motion. Vote to approve passed with a show of hands in favor. No abstentions. This will be forwarded to the Behavioral Health Advisory Committee.*

Meeting adjourned

Upcoming Important Dates

Next Meeting

May 21, 2024 – 1:00-3:00 p.m. Location TBD

Originally scheduled for May 14th but with the timing of the ‘grant review scoring’ of applications and the vote approval from OSC to move recommendations through to BHAC and RGB approval, a meeting on May 21st is necessary.

Next Steps

Review of Grant Applications and Discussion of potential awardees.