

ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE

ARIZONA OPIOID USE DISORDER REVIEW COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting
December 18, 2019
2:00 p.m., Senate Hearing Room 1**

Members Present:

Senator Kate Brophy McGee, Co-Chair
Dr. Cara Christ
Doray Elkins
Tad Gary
Kim Humphrey
Chris Jacques
Dr. Annette Lusko

Dr. Daniel Ranieri
Dennis Regnier
Dr. Flora Sadri-Azarbayejani
Jami Snyder
Dr. Nirali Soni

Members Excused:

Representative Nancy Barto, Co-Chair
Representative Regina E. Cobb

Staff:

Cherie Stone, Senate Research Analyst
Alanna Bendel, Senate Assistant Research Analyst
Ingrid Garvey, House Research Analyst
Ahjahna Graham, House Assistant Research Analyst

Co-Chair Brophy McGee called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. and attendance was noted.

Senator Brophy McGee asked the Council members to introduce themselves and offered comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Senator Brophy McGee stated that if there are no corrections, without objection, the Council minutes of November 13, 2019 are approved as distributed.

OPENING REMARKS

Senator Brophy McGee briefly announced that this will be the last meeting of the Arizona Opioid Use Disorder Review Council this year and gave opening remarks.

Cherie Stone, Senate Research Analyst, answered questions posed by the Committee.

PRESENTATION:

SAS Platform: 360-Degree Data Integration to Improve Outcomes

Steve Kearney, PharmD, Medical Director, SAS, distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation entitled "SAS, The Power To Know" (Attachment A). Mr. Kearney answered questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee discussed their concerns and shared comments for the presentation mentioned above.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Senator Brophy McGee opened discussion on the recommendations for the consideration of the Council.

Ms. Stone answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

The Council discussed their concerns, shared comments and suggested changes to the language on the recommendations.

Senator Brophy McGee requested a motion on the approval of the recommendations.

Mr. Regnier recommended that the Council adopt the following recommendations as it reads in full (Attachment B):

- 1. Adoption of the output metrics advanced at the Council meeting on November 13, 2019.**
- 2. AHCCCS convene a data and outcome measures workgroup that includes members of the Council or their designee. The workgroup will develop outcome measures based on current data collection and the output metrics presented by AHCCCS. Outcome measures must consider the following:**
 - barriers to treatment experienced by patients**
 - types of behavioral health services including psychosocial treatments and support services used by patients and the impact these services have on patient's long-term recovery**

- **treatment efficacy by type and location:**
 - **Outpatient Treatment Program (OTP)**
 - **Office Based Opioid Treatment provider (OBOT)**
 - **patient recovery based on the Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) markers of recovery**
3. **AHCCCS must collect and analyze data regarding:**
 - **the clinical determination processes used to prescribe methadone, buprenorphine, vivitrol and other medications to treat opioid use disorder**
 - **the effectiveness of patients' transitions in treatment from methadone to other modalities.**
 4. **Adoption of community engagement reporting requirements for 24/7 access points.**
 5. **AHCCCS must develop a process and set of standards for designating 24/7 access points that are inclusive of all treatment modalities, including monitoring and evaluation of providers who receive the designation and requires re-certification at least once every two years.**
 6. **AHCCCS must develop coordination to interface with the Department of Health Services (DHS) regarding treatment facility licensure and compliance with SAMHSA guidelines.**
 7. **AHCCCS must use available analytics to ensure treatment facilities are developed in strategic locations.**
 8. **AHCCCS must review patient treatment options and policies to ensure the least restrictive treatment options are available in proximity to patients' homes and workplaces and to ensure that patient privacy is protected.**
 9. **AHCCCS shall develop additional funding recommendations necessary to ensure that the critical work to support patients in need of services will continue and be enhanced through:**
 - **The evaluation and improvement of quality of care through outcomes measurement, evaluation of capacity and scope of services.**

- The use of technology, in partnership with DHS, the Department of Child Safety and other relevant parties, to record and analyze data related to the opioid crisis in order to further the work of each agency and minimize the negative impacts of opioid use disorder on the citizens and communities across Arizona.
- The requirement that the providers offer, make available and encourage, as clinically appropriate, psychosocial treatment; and
- The development of minimal staffing standards for MAT treatment facilities.

10. AHCCCS shall provide an analysis of the costs associated with the implementation of SB 1535 to ensure that the required annual oversight and review of existing treatment facilities will happen expeditiously.

The motion CARRIED by voice vote.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Senator Brophy McGee called for public testimony and offered comments.

Danielle Russe, representing herself, testified in opposition to the recommendations of required treatment and shared her successes and experience with Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT). Ms. Russe further commented on privacy concerns for those taking Medically Assisted Treatments.

Jeff Taylor, representing himself, testified as neutral to the recommendations of required treatment. Mr. Taylor commented on the Arizona Recovery Housing Association stating that less than ten percent of homes accept people on Medically Assisted Treatments and this needs to change. Mr. Taylor further commented on the continued need for data collection and spoke in support of the DCS efforts to help young mothers.

Anne Ender, representing her son, testified on her son's successful experience with methadone treatment and in support of the recommendations for requiring treatment. Ms. Ender further commented on the need for gathering data sets to determine successful outcomes regarding treatment.

Jeff Spellman, representing himself, testified as neutral to the recommendations of required treatment. Mr. Spellman commented on the ADHS hotspot maps within the state of Arizona and the need for a better solution. Mr. Spellman further

commented on the idea that Medically Assisted Treatments should not be the only option for treatment.

Senator Brophy McGee stated that staff would be writing the report on the Council activity and recommendations for submittal and distributions to the Governor, Speaker of the House, the President of the Senate, the Council members and the interested members of the public.

Senator Brophy McGee made closing remarks and publicly thanked the Council members for their time and providing their expertise and care to help vulnerable patients within the state.

Attached is a list noting the individuals who registered their position on the agenda items (Attachment C).

Attached are forms noting the individuals who submitted a Speaker Slip on the agenda items (Attachment D).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Imee L. Andrew
Committee Secretary

(Audio recordings and attachments are on file in the Secretary of the Senate's Office/Resource Center, Room 115. Audio archives are available at <http://www.azleg.gov>)