

Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

June 21, 2021

12:00-1:30 pm

Date of meeting: Monday, June 21, 2021

Start time: 12:05 pm

End time: 1:30 pm

Location: Virtual Meeting (WebEx)

Members participating remotely		Vote I*
1	Marylou Sudders (<i>non-voting chair</i>) – Executive Office of Health and Human Services	N/A
2	Jennifer Almonte – Lynn Department of Public Health	X
3	Charles Anderson MD, MPH, MBA – The Dimock Center	X
4	Gina Armstrong – Pittsfield Health Department	-
5	Jason Ball – Framingham Police	-
6	Koren Cappiello – Brockton Health Department	-
7	Matilde Castiel, MD – Worcester Department of Health and Human Services	X
8	Maureen Cavanagh – Magnolia New Beginnings	X
9	Damon Chaplin – New Bedford Health Department	X
10	Denise Garlick – Massachusetts House of Representatives	X
11	Lindsay Hackett – City of Springfield	X
12	Suzie Hauptmann – Falmouth Department of Human Services	X
13	Brendan Little – Granada House	X
14	John McGahan – Gavin Foundation	X
15	Mary Beth Ogulewicz – Amherst Department of Senior Services	X
16	Joanne Peterson – Learn 2 Cope	X
17	David Rosenbloom, PhD – Boston University School of Public Health	X
18	John Rosenthal – Police Assisted Addiction and Recovery Initiative (PAARI)	X
19	Elsie Taveras, MD, MPH – Mass General Brigham	X
20	Jennifer Tracey – Boston Mayor's Office of Recovery Services	X
21	LaToya Whiteside – Prisoners' Legal Services	X

* (X) Voted in favor; (O) Opposed; (A) Abstained from vote; (-) Absent from meeting or during vote

Proceedings

Secretary Sudders called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm. She welcomed members and noted that all votes taken during the meeting would be conducted via roll call. Secretary Sudders reminded members that she serves as a non-voting member of the group.

Council members briefly introduced themselves and their respective affiliations.

Vote to approve minutes from the 5/14/2021 meeting: Secretary Sudders requested a motion to approve the minutes from the Council's previous meeting on May 14, 2021. Professor Rosenbloom introduced the motion, which was seconded by Director Chaplin and approved by roll-call vote (see detailed record of votes above).

Deirdre Calvert, Director of the Bureau of Substance Addiction Services (BSAS) at the Department of Public Health (DPH); Hermik Babakhanlou-Chase, Director, Office of Statistics and Evaluation, BSAS; Sarah Ruiz, Director of Planning and Development, BSAS; Brian Jenney, Director, Office of Youth and Young Adult Services, BSAS; and Rebecca Butler, Assistant Director, Office of Youth and Young Adult Services, BSAS, presented selected data on opioid overdose deaths in the Commonwealth, BSAS treatment and service utilization data, and an overview of BSAS youth and young adult services programming. For additional details, refer to the BSAS team's presentation posted to the Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund Advisory Council's [Meeting Materials webpage](#).

During the BSAS team's presentation, Council members requested additional data on opioid use, treatment, and opioid-related overdoses. Specific questions were raised regarding the location of overdose deaths; the demographic makeup of individuals who had experienced an overdose and those in treatment; the extent to which decedents were justice-involved or recently decarcerated; and the extent to which treatment providers in Massachusetts are Minority Business Certified.

Undersecretary Peters provided an update on the status of the Opioid Recovery and Remediation Trust Fund, highlighting new revenues received from McKinsey and the Injured Worker's Pharmacy that were recently deposited into the Trust Fund. She explained that the State Procurement Law applies to expenditures from the Trust Fund and reminded Council members that they are subject to the Conflict of Interest Law and are encouraged to contact the State Ethics Commission regarding any matters that might require the filing of a written disclosure.

Undersecretary Peters outlined key principles and metrics that the Council might consider in developing recommendations for the Trust Fund expenditures. She provided the example of using HMCC regions to guide distribution, opioid use disorder prevalence data and fatal and non-fatal overdose rates, and racial equity. For additional details, refer to the Council's presentation posted to the Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund Advisory Council's [Meeting Materials webpage](#).

Secretary Sudders proposed that the Council utilize the majority of the July 19 meeting to discuss the Council's recommendations related to taking the data to action in developing recommendations for Trust Fund dollars.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm.