

Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund (ORRF) Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes
December 3, 2024
11:00 am to 12:30 pm

Date of meeting: December 3, 2024

Start time: 11:03 pm

End time: 12:25 pm

Location: Virtually (Zoom)

Members participating remotely or in person		Vote 1	Vote 2	Vote 3
1	Kiame Mahaniah (<i>non-voting chair designee</i>) – Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EHS)	N/A	N/A	N/A
2	Charles Anderson, MD, MPH, MBA – The Dimock Center	-	x	x
3	Matilde Castiel, MD – Worcester Dept. of Health and Human Services	x	x	x
4	Maureen Cavanagh – Magnolia New Beginnings	-	-	x
5	Michele Clark – Boston Mayor's Office of Recovery Services	x	x	x
6	Abby Dean, LICSW – Brookline Health Dept.	x	x	x
7	Lisa Golden – City of Lowell Dept. of Health and Human Services	-	-	-
8	Lindsay Hackett – City of Springfield Admin & Finance Dept.	x	x	x
9	Vaira Harik – Barnstable County Department of Human Services	x	x	x
10	Erika Hensel – Massachusetts Attorney General's Office	x	x	x
11	Adrian Madaro – MA House of Representatives (<i>notetaker present</i>)	-	-	-
12	Candice McClory – Lynn Department of Public Health	-	-	-
13	John McGahan – Gavin Foundation	-	-	x
14	Carla B. Monteiro, MSW, LICSW – Grayken Center for Addiction at Boston Medical Center	x	A	-
15	Jeffery Olmstead – Amherst Fire Department	x	x	x
16	Andy Ottoson – Berkshire Regional Planning Commission	x	x	x
17	Alyssa Peterkin, MD – Grayken Center for Addiction at Boston Medical Center	x	x	x
18	David Rosenbloom, PhD – Boston University School of Public Health	x	x	x
19	John Rosenthal – Police Assisted Addiction and Recovery Initiative (PAARI)	x	x	x
20	Stephanie Sloan – New Bedford Health Department	-	-	x
21	LaToya Whiteside – Prisoners' Legal Services	-	-	-

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

Proceedings

Vote to Call to Order: EHS Undersecretary Kiame Mahaniah called the meeting to order with a roll call vote (see detailed record of votes above – Vote 1).

Opening Remarks & Staff Introductions: Undersecretary Mahaniah welcomed members and asked the ORRF staff to introduce themselves. Undersecretary Mahaniah noted two ORRF staff members were unable to attend the meeting.

Introducing New Council Members: Undersecretary Mahaniah thanked outgoing member Joanne Peterson for her service on the ORRF Advisory Council, and welcomed new member Erika Hensel, who serves as the Program Manager for Opioid Response at the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office.

Vote to Approve September 10, 2024, Meeting Minutes: Undersecretary Mahaniah asked if anyone had any edits to the September 10 minutes. Hearing none, he requested a motion, made by Matilde Castiel and seconded by Carla B. Monteiro, to approve the minutes. Motion carried (see detailed record of votes above – Vote 2).

Important Announcements: Undersecretary Mahaniah provided updates on the Mosaic Opioid Recovery Partnership, the ORRF's Community Grantmaking initiative, including that the second round of grant applications were due on November 15. ORRF Epidemiologist Casey León informed the Advisory Council that municipalities submitted their second annual report on October 30th and provided a summary of preliminary municipal expenditure reports.

ORRF Mission & Vision, Guiding Principles, and Timeline of Council Activities: Bureau of Substance Addiction Services (BSAS) Director of Opioid Abatement Julia Newhall provided an overview of the ORRF Strategic Framework, including the ORRF's mission and vision, seven guiding principles, and work accomplished by the ORRF Advisory Council since its inception in 2021. See [meeting slides](#) for a detailed overview of these topics. Director Newhall also shared that the ORRF team is planning regional listening sessions to take place throughout the state in 2025 and will be holding the second annual Massachusetts Municipal Opioid Abatement Conference in the spring of 2025.

Overview of ORRF Strategic Priorities and Update on Ongoing Initiatives: BSAS Director Dee Calvert provided a detailed update on the ORRF initiatives, which include Equity, Service Expansion/Enhancement, Workforce Development, Supporting Families, Social Determinants of Health, and Data Collection & Analysis. See [meeting slides](#) for details on each strategic priority and updates regarding corresponding initiatives.

ORRF Revenues and Expenditures: Undersecretary Mahaniah presented a snapshot of the ORRF's funds received and expended on strategic priorities and related initiatives in FY23, FY24, and FY25. See [meeting slides](#) for details on ORRF revenues and expenditures.

Initiative Spotlight: Redefining Community Wellness: Andrea Macone, BSAS Director of Office of Community Health and Equity, presented on the Redefining Community Wellness Grants Program, which centers BIPOC voices throughout the grantmaking and capacity building process. Highlights from the ensuing discussion are summarized below:

- Carla B. Monteiro: Asked whether voices from the LGBTQ community were included in the process.
- Director Macone: Confirmed that voices from the LGBTQ community were included.
- Alyssa Peterkin: Applauded the program and asked how many of the attendees of the workshops were awarded, and whether there is data on how the workshops helped applicants prepare.
- Director Macone: Replied affirmatively and offered to follow up with specific data.
- Erika Hensel: Requested information on what types of interventions are being funded.
- Director Macone: Shared several examples of interventions that are being funded.

Vote to Adjourn: Undersecretary Mahaniah requested a motion to adjourn, made by John Rosenthal and seconded by Carla B. Monterio. Meeting adjourned (see detailed record of votes above – Vote 3).