

Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund (ORRF) Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

June 4, 2025

10:30 am to 12:00 pm

Date of meeting: June 4, 2025

Start time: 10:30 am

End time: 11:20 am

Location: Virtually (Zoom)

Members participating remotely		Vote 1	Vote 2	Vote 3
1	Kiame Mahaniah (<i>non-voting chair</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	x
3	Marci Bailey – North Reading Substance Use Prevention	x	A	x
4	Matilde Castiel, MD – Worcester Dept. of Health and Human Services	x	x	x
5	Michele Clark – Boston Mayor’s Office of Recovery Services	-	x	x
6	Gabrielle Dean, LICSW – Brookline Health Dept.	x	x	x
7	Lisa Golden – City of Lowell Dept. of Health and Human Services	-	-	x
8	Lindsay Hackett – City of Springfield Admin & Finance Dept.	x	x	x
9	Vaira Harik – Barnstable County	x	x	x
10	Erika Hensel – Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office	-	-	x
11	Adrian Madaro – MA House of Representatives	-	-	-
12	Candice McClory – Lynn Department of Public Health	-	-	-
13	John McGahan – Gavin Foundation	x	x	x
14	Carla B. Monteiro, MSW, LICSW – Grayken Center Boston Medical Center	x	A	x
15	Patrick O’Connor - Massachusetts Senate	-	-	-
16	Jeffery Olmstead – Amherst Fire Department	x	x	x
17	Andy Ottoson – Berkshire Regional Planning Commission	x	x	x
18	Alyssa Peterkin, MD – Grayken Center Boston Medical Center	x	x	x
19	David Rosenbloom, PhD – Boston University School of Public Health	x	x	x
20	Stephanie Sloan – New Bedford Health Department	-	x	x
21	LaToya Whiteside – Prisoners’ Legal Services	x	-	x

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

Proceedings

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

Introduction: Undersecretary Mahaniah welcomed Marci Bailey from the North Reading Youth Substance Use Coalition to the ORRF Advisory Council.

Vote to Approve June 4, 2025 Meeting Minutes: Undersecretary Mahaniah asked if anyone had any edits to the draft minutes. Hearing none, he asked for a motion, made by Matilde Castiel and seconded by David Rosenbloom to approve the minutes. Motion carried (see detailed record of votes above – Vote 2).

Important Announcements: Undersecretary Mahaniah notified the Advisory Council that the Bureau of Substance Addiction Services (BSAS) released new data for July 2023-2024 and noted that Massachusetts had a 36% decrease in overdose deaths. He also shared that the next ORRF regional listening session will be held on Thursday, June 12th at the Plymouth Public Library.

Additionally, BSAS Director of Opioid Abatement Julia Newhall shared feedback from the ORRF's first regional listening session at Lynn City Hall. Undersecretary Mahaniah added that many people at the event mentioned the need for additional family-based supports. BSAS Epidemiologist Casey Leon noted that the team also received feedback on the format of the listening session and will be incorporating this feedback into future listening sessions.

Julia Newhall also shared information on the Municipal Guidance Document that BSAS released with CareMass. See [meeting slides](#) for details on the guidance document.

Lastly, Casey Leon provided an update on the CareMass Municipal Conference, stating that 300 people attended and over 140 municipalities were represented.

ORRF Mission & Vision: EHS Health Policy Manager Millie Bhatia reviewed the ORRF's mission and vision.

Overview of ORRF Strategic Priorities and Update on Ongoing Initiatives: BSAS Director Dee Calvert provided a detailed update on two of the seven strategic priorities: social determinants of health and data collection and analysis. See [meeting slides](#) for details on the two initiative updates.

Initiative Spotlight: Mobile Addiction Services Model: Ben Plant, BSAS Harm Reduction Services Coordinator presented on Mass General Brigham's Mobile Addiction Services (MAS). MAS provides low-barrier, low-threshold harm reduction services and clinical care using a mobile health vehicle to populations who are at high risk for overdose. Craig Regis, Director of Community Health Innovation at the Kraft Center for Community Health, also presented on the program and added that they first launched their pilot program in 2018 in partnership with the Boston Public Health Commission and the Boston Healthcare for the Homeless Program. Since then, the model has expanded to six mobile sites. Allyson Pinkhover, Director of Substance Use Services at Brockton

Commented [BM(1): @Leon, Casey L (DPH)] can you fact check me on this? Want to be sure this was recorded correctly in the minutes.

Commented [CL2R1]: Should be 36%

Commented [BM3R1]: Beautiful, thank you!!

Commented [BM(4): @Newhall, Julia (DPH)] would you mind sharing Ben Plant's official title with MGB? I'm only seeing that he's at DPH. Is that accurate?

Commented [NJ5R4]: @Bhatia, Millie (EHS) Ben is a BSAS employee. His title is Harm Reduction Services Coordinator

Commented [BM6R4]: Thank you!

Neighborhood Health Center, also shared more on the day-to-day operations of the mobile health services. See [meeting slides](#) for details on MAS.

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

Commented [BM(7): @Newhall, Julia (DPH)] can we confirm this title as well please?

Commented [NJ8R7]: @Bhatia, Millie (EHS) This is the correct title.