

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Name of Governmental Body: State Council on Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (SCAODA)			Attending: Kevin Florek, Christine Ullstrup, Jennifer Stegall, Autumn Lacy, Nichol Wienkes, Denise Johnson, Jessica Geschke, Michael Morgen, Paula Jolly, Faith Price, Ritu Bhatnagar, Sarah Barry, Staff to Senator Jesse James, John Achter, Marjean Griggs, Latisha Spence-Brookens, Jennifer Fahey, Paul Krupski, Chrissy Barnard, Elizabeth Salisbury-Afshar Guests: Chris Wardlow, Beth Collier, Melissa Moore, Miah Olson, Sheila Weix, Jodie Sorenson, Kathy Peterson, Maria Castillo, Saima Chauhan, Maureen Busalacchi, Brenda Scheurer, Allison Weber
Date: 3/5/2025	Time Started: 9:30 a.m.	Time Ended: 11:40 a.m.	
Location: Zoom			Presiding Officer: Kevin Florek
Minutes			

Call Meeting to Order

Kevin Florek welcomed SCAODA members and guests and called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Review and approval of the minutes of December 2024

Christine Ullstrup moved to approve the December 2024 minutes.

Kevin Florek seconded.

The minutes were approved unanimously.

Public Comment: The council will accept comments from the public relating to any SCAODA business

No public comment

Updates from the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health

Chrissy Barnard shared WCMH will be moving their discussion on the Joint Finance Committee budget recommendations to their March 19 meeting.

C. Barnard shared she has been reaching out to National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) associates and is in the process of advocating for 988 signs on the bridges that connect Superior, WI, and Duluth, MN. This initiative comes after two deaths by suicide in the Superior/Duluth area in January 2024. C. Barnard has also been in contact with representatives from the Department of Transportation (DOT) after learning La Crosse has signage on their bridge that was approved by the DOT.

C. Barnard shared construction on the Hope Haven Peer Run Respite is currently occurring to make the home accessible for all individuals in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Updates include an ADA accessible bedroom, reconstructing doorways, and staff bathrooms. C. Barnard is in the process of writing a grant to receive funding for a wheelchair lift.

C. Barnard shared the annual NAMI Wisconsin Conference registration is open. This conference takes place Friday, April 25 and Saturday, April 26, 2025.

Guest Speaker: Dr. Elizabeth Salisbury-Afshar

Elizabeth Salisbury-Afshar, MD, shared an update with SCAODA regarding the Compass Program - a UW Health walk-in care program at the 1102 S Park St Clinic for people with substance use disorder and primarily opioid use disorder, including those without health insurance. This program fills a gap in the health care system where people seeking care want help but either do not have a relationship with a medical provider or do not have insurance and cannot afford the help.

SCAODA Committee Updates and Committee Membership Discussion*Executive Committee*

C. Ullstrup shared she will be leaving her position as a SCAODA member and secretary at the end of April 2025 and asked for individuals who are interested in a leadership position to contact Kevin Florek and/or Hannah Foley.

Diversity Committee

Denise Johnson shared the Diversity Committee is currently looking for a co-chair after Christina Malone departed from the committee. D. Johnson shared the committee had two guest speakers attend their meeting, Mark Sanders and Alfredo Serrato, who shared methods on how to create a strategic plan for the committee.

Intervention and Treatment Committee

No updates were shared.

Planning and Funding Committee

C. Ullstrup shared that at the January meeting, Sarah Coyle from DCTS talked about how administrative rules are updated. S. Coyle shared there are currently three rules being created including DHS 72 that funds peer recovery coaches, DHS 41 which supports crisis, urgent care, and observation facilities (CUCOF's), and DHS 33 which is a new service for crisis to create a crisis hostel. This hostel will act as a 23 hour or less stabilization location.

Prevention Committee

Chris Wardlow shared the committee is working on a psychoactive hemp derivative initiative and recruited three new members.

Maureen Busalacchi shared an update regarding the Wisconsin Alcohol Policy Project (WAPP) and a new alcohol age compliance check grant opportunity. M. Busalacchi explained grant funding opportunities will go to local coalitions to support compliance check initiatives. Currently in Wisconsin, WAPP has found that when 18-, 19-, or 20-year-olds go to a retail establishment and attempt to buy alcohol, about 75% of retailers sell to the underage youth. M. Busalacchi shared there is research showing compliance checks drastically reduce retailer access to alcohol and reduces youth fatalities on the road.

The next committee meeting will take place April 17, 2025.

2025 Conferences

C. Wardlow shared the [Wisconsin Substance Use Prevention Conference](#) is being planned with the intention to have a SCAODA listening session at this conference on how to engage with the work SCAODA does. This conference will occur September 10-11, 2025.

M. Busalacchi shared [a link to the Wisconsin Public Health Association \(WPHA\) website](#).

Agency Reports

Department of Health Services

Paul Krupski shared updates regarding Governor Evers' proposed [State Budget](#). P. Krupski shared Governor Evers' desire to have a strong public health system and protect and promote the health of all Wisconsinites. P. Krupski shared that, on average, the State of Wisconsin invests \$69 per person in public health compared to the national average of \$129. P. Krupski continued by sharing an overview of some of the budget proposals, sharing "Governor Evers makes critical investments to protecting kids and families from harmful contaminants by removing lead from service lines, homes, schools, childcare centers and other places that are throughout communities while proposing methods to ensure that water is clean and safe from harmful PFAs. The budget also includes investments to strengthen Wisconsin healthcare safety net by supporting community health centers and funding of third critical programming and also improving dental care by investing in some low-income dental health clinics and funding efforts to grow the dental health workforce overall." P. Krupski finished by sharing listening sessions for the budget took place in December and January and the Joint Finance Committee will host listening sessions in the future.

Substance Use Initiatives

Michelle Haese shared an update on the national prescription opiate litigation settlement dollars and an update on where Wisconsin is at with their spending of the \$36 million of settlement funds.

M. Haese recommended individuals can sign up to receive notifications when new funding opportunities are announced funding opportunity notifications through DHS.

Department of Justice

Mark Rather shared that on December 7, the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) was awarded a \$7 million federal Comprehensive Opioid Stimulant Substance Use Program (COSSUP) grant. This grant will expand the DOJ's substance use treatment access and implement the Wisconsin deflection initiative. That initiative aims to connect individuals struggling with substance use disorders to treatment and support services before they experience crisis overdose for criminal justice involvement, and a couple of those key components include self-referral and officer intervention programs, active outreach to at-risk individuals, enhanced response to overdose incidents, coordination between law enforcement and treatment providers and comprehensive support services, including mental health care and recovery support.

M. Rather also shared that on January 29, the Division of Criminal Investigation at the DOJ, in collaboration with numerous law enforcement agencies in southeast Wisconsin, were able to charge 19 individuals for trafficking fentanyl, heroin and cocaine in the Greater Milwaukee area.

Last, the Drug Take Back in Wisconsin event will take place Saturday, April 26, 2025. DOJ coordinates this annually with the goal to provide safe, convenient, responsible means of disposal for prescription medications, while also educating the public about potential for abuse of these medications.

Updates from the Bureau of Prevention Treatment and Recovery

Hannah Foley introduced Brenda Scheurer, the new Performance Management and Section Manager within BPTR.

H. Foley shared that DHS will be hosting a SAMHSA site visit April 8-10, 2025. This site visit will include numerous conversations with the Department of Health Services as well as two site visits with partnering agencies that receive funding from the Mental Health Block Grant, including the Jefferson County Youth Crisis Stabilization Facility/The Matz Center and Journey Mental Health in Madison.

Call for Future SCAODA Agenda Items

K. Florek requested to have a State Opioid Response (SOR) presentation from Department of Health Services staff.

Ritu Bhatnagar shared interest in inviting speakers from the Wisconsin Opioid Overdose Recovery Center, a new endeavor funded through the Department of Pharmacy at the University of Wisconsin, to talk about their statewide effort to address the opioid epidemic from the pharmacy perspective.

Adjourn

Chris Wardlow motioned to adjourn the meeting.
Christine Ullstrup seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 AM.

Prepared by: Hannah Foley on March 9, 2025.

These minutes are in draft form. They will be presented for approval by the governmental body on: 6/6/2025