



**Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership**  
**December 3, 2020**  
**1:00 PM**  
**State Capitol Executive Tower**  
1700 W. Washington St., Phoenix, AZ 85007  
Virtual Meeting

A general meeting of the Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP) was convened on December 3, 2020. The public meeting was hosted virtually, notice having been duly given.

<b>Members Present (23)</b>
<b>Sheila Polk</b> , Chairperson, Yavapai County Attorney's Office
<b>Sara Salek</b> , Vice-Chairperson, Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System
<b>Andy LeFevre</b> , Arizona Criminal Justice Commission
<b>Angela Paton</b> , Arizona Attorney General's Office
<b>Brenda Cochran</b> , Pure Heart Church
<b>Sheila Sjolander</b> , Arizona Department of Health Services [ <b>Proxy for Cara Christ</b> ]
<b>Dawn Mertz</b> , High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area
<b>David Klein</b> , US Department of Veteran Affairs
<b>Joseph Grossman</b> , AZ Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation, & Reentry [ <b>Proxy for David Shinn</b> ]
<b>Deborah Jones</b> , Substance Abuse Epidemiology Work Group
<b>Ed Gilligan</b> , Arizona Department of Adult Probation
<b>Tony Mapp</b> , Arizona Department of Public Safety [ <b>Proxy for Heston Silbert</b> ]
<b>Jeff Hood</b> , Arizona Department of Juvenile Justice
<b>Kathy Grimes</b> , Graham County Substance Abuse Coalition
<b>Jean Ajamie</b> , Arizona Department of Education [ <b>Proxy for Kathy Hoffman</b> ]
<b>Lawrence LaVeque</b> , Business Community
<b>Leah Landrum-Taylor</b> , Arizona Department of Economic Security
<b>Lee Pioske</b> , The Crossroads
<b>Maria Cristina Fuentes</b> , Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family
<b>Merilee Fowler</b> , Matforce
<b>Sala Webb</b> , Arizona Department of Child Safety [ <b>Proxy for Mike Faust</b> ]
<b>Tobi Zavala</b> , Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners
<b>Vanessa Bustos</b> , Pascua Yaqui Tribe
<b>Wanda Wright</b> , Arizona Department of Veterans Services
<b>Members Absent (4)</b>
<b>Alberto Gutier</b> , Governor's Office of Highway Safety
<b>John Cocca</b> , Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control
<b>Thomas Kelly</b> , Apache Junction Police Department
<b>Vanessa Bustos</b> , Pascua Yaqui Tribe

### Call to Order

- **Sheila Polk, Chair** called the Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP) meeting to order at 1:00 PM with 23 members present. **Ms. Polk** reviewed virtual meeting platform procedures.

### Welcome/Introductions

- **Sheila Polk, Chair, welcomed** everyone to the December 2020 ASAP meeting.
- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair** conducted roll call of the ASAP members in attendance.

### Approval of Minutes

- **Sheila Polk, Chair** requested a final review of the September 3, 2020 meeting minutes.
  - **Joseph Grossman** motioned to accept the September 3, 2020 minutes without revision.
  - **Leah Landrom Taylor** seconded the motion.
    - The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

### Arizona Department of Veterans' Services Role in Prevention and Treatment

- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair** invited **Colonel Wanda Wright** to provide an overview of the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services (ADVS) and their role in prevention and treatment.
- **Colonel Wanda Wright** shared ADVS's mission, as a state agency, is to serve as a catalyst in response to the evolving needs of Arizona's veterans and their families. **Col. Wright** highlighted the role of ADVS' veteran benefit counselors who assist veterans with military service pensions and compensation applications. **Col. Wright** described the role of Arizona Veteran Homes and explained two additional facilities are slated to be completed by 2021. These facilities serve as long-term rehabilitation programs for Arizona veterans.
- **Col. Wanda Wright** provided an overview of the Arizona military family relief fund, veteran toolkit, and the statewide Be Connected program. **Col. Wright** emphasized the department's role in providing Arizona veterans with trauma informed and holistic services.
- **Col. Wanda Wright** described the department's State Opioid Response Grant Program (SOR) funded services which included three OUD resource navigators, three dedicated SOR benefit counselors and an increased outreach to support warm handoffs between ADVS, the Be Connected program and community partners.
- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair**, thanked **Col. Wright** for her presentation and reinforced how important it is to have a holistic approach to ensure veterans have any necessary resources.
- **Andy Lefevere** asked if the department is partnering with the second chance center to support justice-involved veterans. **Col. Wright** explained the department provides transportation to treatment facilities and has a very close relationship with Arizona veteran courts. **Joseph Grossman** offered to follow up with **Col. Wright** to make sure justice-involved veterans have a connection to transportation and resources when leaving the Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation, and Reentry.
- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair** thanked **Col. Wright** again for her presentation.

### AZ Dept of Public Safety's Role in Prevention

- **Sheila Polk, Chair**, introduced **Captain Tony Mapp** to provide an overview of the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) and their role in prevention.
- **Captain Tony Mapp** provided a brief history and explained DPS maintains offices in more than eighty Arizona communities throughout the state's fifteen counties.
- **Cpt. Mapp** described the highway patrol division which helps fulfill the department's mission of protecting human life and property by enforcing criminal and traffic law. Last year, high patrol officers conducted 515,184 traffic stops and made 17,000 arrests with over 9,000 being drug related.
- **Captain Tony Mapp** further expounded on the role and organizational structure of the criminal investigation's division, sharing current data and seizure photos.

- **Captain Tony Mapp** described additional DPS prevention efforts including hiring a new community outreach manager; participating in the Arizona drug overdose fatality review meetings; serving on the Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership and facilitating community outreach panels.
- **Joseph Grossman** asked for an update on DPS' effort to share about the increase of trafficked fentanyl. **Cpt. Mapp** stated community panels are happening on a regular cadence and serve as an opportunity to share information.
- **Sheila Polk, Chair** thanked **Cpt. Mapp** again for his presentation.

#### **ASU Center for Health Information and Research Overview**

- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair** introduced **Dr. George Runger** to provide an overview of the Arizona State University Center for Health Information & Research (CHiR).
- **Dr. George Runger** reviewed the history of CHiR and explained the center collects identifiable health information from a variety of sources. **Dr. Runger** detailed the current data sources, how data is collected, and the different services CHiR provides to collaborative partners.
- **Dr. Goerge Runger** clarified CHiR functions on data sharing agreements and then invited CHiR team member, **Gevor Harootunian**, to highlight the current substance use studies.
- **Gevork Harootunian** explained the current Arizona studies: *Arizona State Opioid Response Data Project; Using Machine Learning to Predict Opioid Misuse & Concurrent Opioid and Benzodiazepine Use; Opioid Prescriptions & Wastewater-based Epidemiology; Assessing Variation in Opioid Prescribing Across Community Health Centers in Arizona; Targeted Investments Program Quality Improvement Collaborative and Mapping the Cost of Chronic Mental Illness.*
- **Joseph Grossman** asked for clarification on the types of justice data collected. **Gevork Harootunian** explained CHiR has access to Administrative Office of the Courts data and conducts analysis on Maricopa County Sheriff's Department mugshot data. **Dr. Runger** mentioned there is also limited data provided from AHCCCS' open enrollment information.
- **Andy Lefevre** inquired about the length of data sharing agreements. **Dr. Runger** explained that most data sharing agreements are renewed every three to five years. **Mr. Lefevre** said he would be in communication regarding the Arizona Youth Survey data.
- **Dawn Mertz** asked what is being collected around the illegal use of substances. **Dr. Runger** explained CHiR is able to compare public crime data with pharmacy prescription data.
- **Dr. Sala Webb** inquired about the level of detail being collected in the clinical practice study. **Mr. Harootunian** explained the qualitative interviews focused on clinic culture and how that impacted a patient's opinion.
- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair** asked when the opioid simulation dashboards may be available to the public domain. **Dr. Runger** stated they should be available in the new year and will follow up with details.

#### **Fentanyl within Arizona**

- **Sheila Polk, Chair** introduced the next agenda item inviting **Sergeant Deborah Stoks** to present the October ASAP workgroup product. **Ms. Polk** explained the workgroup discussed the Fentanyl's impact within Arizona.
- **Sergeant Deborah Stoks** reviewed the sections of the publication: Arizona Data Trends; Interdiction and Prevention; and Recommendations for Arizona. **Sgt. Stoks** defined fentanyl as a powerful synthetic opioid that is similar to morphine but is one hundred times more potent which has been identified as Arizona's number two drug threat by the Arizona High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area.
- **Sergeant Deborah Stoks** shared the Fentanyl data and the areas of need established: statewide fentanyl alert utilizing the business community and social media markets; provide Naloxone to treatment facilities and increase accessibility to the community; Statewide

campaign on fentanyl awareness and education; targeted campaign on fentanyl resources with direct dissemination to parents and/or caregivers.

- **Sheila Polk, Chair** thanked **Sergeant Deborah Stoks** again for her diligent work and asked for member feedback. **Merilee Fowler** asked for the term illicit to be added to the publication's front page. **Ms. Fowler** also suggested teen fentanyl overdoses be included.
- **Dr. Sala Webb** stated capturing the number of teenagers overdosing is difficult because the testing done at emergency rooms does not always capture fentanyl use. **Dr. Webb** further stressed the importance of drug treatment for Arizona teens.
- **Sheila Sjolander** shared the available teen fatal and nonfatal overdose data on the ADHS opioid dashboard.
- **Lawrence LaVeque** reported ASAP had previously partnered with Cox communication on youth prevention PSAs and encouraged this to be considered.
- **Sheila Polk, Chair** thanked everyone for the discussion and explained the updated publication would be posted on the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family website and the same cadence will continue during 2021.

### Report Out on Areas of Need

- **Sheila Polk, Chair** stated Methamphetamine was the last quarter's identified substance and opened the meeting to members to report on any progress made toward the identified areas of need.
- **Merilee Fowler** reported Substance Abuse Coalition Leaders of Arizona received funding through SOR to do an education and awareness campaign on stimulants. **Ms. Fowler** explained the coalitions are currently doing community assessments to determine next steps.
- **Andy Lefevre** stated he had the opportunity to preview the Arizona Youth Survey data dashboard for the ASAP EPI workgroup and the department plans to do a soft launch soon.
- **Kathy Grimes** explained the Graham County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition is making progress toward opening a sober living home and will continue to provide Narcan resource bags at local ERs.
- **Joseph Grossman** shared the Arizona Department of Corrections, Reentry and Rehabilitation is continuing to see a reduction in contraband materials and continues exploring virtual options for inmate classes and treatment supports.

### Work Group Updates

- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair** explained that the ASAP chairs will meet with the workgroup chairs to discuss 2021 workgroup activities.
- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair** further reviewed the September discussion about the Substance Abuse Epidemiology Workgroup (EPI). **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair** explained EPI would like to expand membership and ASAP members will have the opportunity to appoint a representative, selected on the basis of proficiency and interest in Alcohol, Tobacco, and other Drug (ATOD) epidemiology.
- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair** announced Dr. Debra Jones will continue to chair the EPI workgroup and asked her to provide additional updates. **Dr. Debra Jones** reported the workgroup is looking forward to a new project and expanding membership.
- **Sheila Polk, Chair** thanked **Dr. Jones**, and stated the Program Inventory Workgroup will continue to be chaired by **Merilee Fowler** and **Lee Pioske**.

### 2020 Meeting Dates

- **Sara Salek, Vice-Chair**, asked participants to mark their calendars for 2021 meetings and let **Emily Uline-Olmstead** know if any conflicts arise with the dates.

## **Adjourn**

- **Sheila Polk, Chair** adjourned the December 3, 2020 meeting of the Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership at 2:50 PM.

Dated the seventh day of December, 2020  
Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership  
Respectfully Submitted By:  
Emily Uline-Olmstead  
Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family