

## MEETING NOTES

### Statewide Substance Use Response Working Group Response Subcommittee Meeting

March 25, 2024  
1:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting ID: 868 3331 1069  
Call in audio: (669) 444-9171  
No Public Location

#### Members Present via Zoom or Telephone

Dr. Terry Kerns  
Shayla Holmes  
Christine Payson  
Nancy Lindler

#### Members absent

None

#### Attorney General's Office Staff

Rosalie Bordelove and Ashley Tackett

#### Social Entrepreneurs, Inc. Support Team

Crystal Duarte and Madalyn Larson

#### Members of the Public via Zoom

Sabrina Shur – Belz & Case, Hannah Branch, Abe Meza, Bill Teel, Joan Waldock, Jordan Baez, Leslie Cross, Linda Anderson, Teresa, Tray Abney, Lori Bryan, Michelle Shiota. Morgan Green, Sarah Adler, Christine Lee, Stephanie Parker, Lori Kearse

### **1. Call to Order and Roll Call to Establish Quorum**

Chair Kerns called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm.

Ms. Duarte called the roll and established a quorum.

### **2. Public Comment (1:04 pm) (Discussion Only)**

Chair Kerns asked for public comment.

Chair Kerns read the public comment guidance.

No public comment.

### **3. Review and Approve Minutes from October 30, 2023 Response Subcommittee Meeting (1:06 pm) (For Possible Action)**

Chair Kerns asked for a motion to approve the October 30, 2023 Response Subcommittee meeting minutes.

- Ms. Holmes made the motion;

- Ms. Payson seconded the motion;
- The motion passed unanimously.

#### **4. 2024 Subcommittee Reorientation (1:07 pm) (For Possible Action)**

Chair Kerns reviewed expectations for meeting participation and recommendation submissions (for details, see slides 8-9 of the meeting PowerPoint available on the [SURG Website](#))

Ms. Duarte went through what the survey looks like to orient members to the process. She noted the equity questions are included this year with a scale and narrative box.

Chair Kerns encouraged each member to submit at least one recommendation. It doesn't have to be a new recommendation; it can be one previously submitted or one that was an unranked recommendation to bring forward again.

Chair Kerns added that she presented Response Subcommittee recommendations to the ACRN, Behavioral Health regional policy boards, and the Clark County Opioid Task Force. She noted the positive feedback on these recommendations and that they have strong research behind them which shows the importance of including the justification for recommendations and research links.

Ms. Duarte noted that if a member has a request for a speaker presentation they should email her and/or Chair Kerns.

#### **5. Review Subpopulations and AB374 Section 10 requirements Addressed in 2023 Recommendation (1:17 pm) (For Possible Action)**

Chair Kerns reviewed AB374 Section 10 legislative language and subcomponents assigned to the Response Subcommittee as well as those that are cross-cutting and assigned to all SURG subcommittees (see slides 11-14).

Ms. Duarte explained the ordering of all of the recommendations and the two unranked recommendations. The document shows which subcommittee is linked to which recommendation. It also shows which subcommittee assignment is linked to which legislative component. Ms. Duarte noted there was only one area that none of the recommendations corresponded to, which was (1) *Evaluate current systems for sharing information between agencies regarding the trafficking and distribution of legal and illegal substances which are associated with substance use disorders, including, without limitation, heroin, other synthetic and non-synthetic opioids, and stimulants.* Chair Kerns added that we want to see if areas can be addressed this year that we didn't cover as well last year. Chair Kerns noted we want to look at more than just opiates. See slide 15 for the summary table of recommendations in ranked order.

Ms. Duarte gave a summary of the summary table of recommendations and target populations. Chair Kerns added a note about the presentation about Choice Point, which is a tool used to address subpopulations. Chair Kerns stated the SURG is still determining if we want to use the Choice Point tool or how it might be used. See slide 16 to view this table.

Chair Kerns read the 2023 Response Subcommittee Recommendations. See slide 17-20. She noted recommendations included a Bill Draft Request (BDR) and a policy issue for DBPH.

Chair Kerns reiterated we might want to refine or recycle some of these recommendations.

#### **6. Planning for 2024 Response Subcommittee Meetings (1:40 pm) (For Possible Action)**

Chair Kerns posed the following questions for the subcommittee to consider in planning for the 2024 year (see slide 22):

- *What would the Response Subcommittee like to accomplish this year?*
- *What is your vision for developing recommendations?*
  - *Should we focus on refining last year's recommendations, or on creating new recommendations?*
- *Where do we want to be by September, when the SURG Working Group will begin narrowing down the recommendations to include in the annual report?*

Vice Chair Holmes wants to do some research looking into the missing elements that were not covered in the 2023 recommendations. She is also curious about the 2022 recommendations which may still be relevant to continue to work on. Chair Kerns said this is a good point about the 2022 recommendations and maybe they can look at this at the next meeting. She brought up the recommendation about the intersection between the Good Samaritan law and drug induced homicide law as well as the recommendation about an overdose fatality review board. Furthermore, there has been more research with waste water-based epidemiology which may have more room to be looked at this upcoming year. We need to look at the way they are ranked.

Ms. Payson asked about the group at UNR who is looking at the Good Sam law. This was noted as the Opioid Technical Assistance Center.

Ms. Payson noted she agreed with Ms. Holmes. She said she gave a presentation to the Nevada Sheriffs' & Chiefs' Association about her position on the subcommittee and they may give some input on what they would like the Response Subcommittee to accomplish this year.

Chair Kerns summarized that it seems like we will want to go back and refine some recommendations and to look at the required areas that were not touched on this past year and make recommendations for these areas if we have specific ones. Furthermore, Ms. Payson may bring back a recommendation from the Nevada Sheriffs' & Chiefs' Association.

Chair Kerns asked for a motion to go forward with the plan described to review prior recommendations in considering what new or revised 2024 recommendations should be put forward by the Response Subcommittee this year:

- Ms. Holmes made the motion;
- Ms. Payson seconded the motion;
- The motion passed unanimously.

See slide 23 for the speaker/topic requests for the upcoming Response Subcommittee meetings. Chair Kerns asked for any other thoughts for future speakers. She noted when working in

nursing, she had worked on donation and transplants and was contacted by the Nevada Donor Network regarding a presentation on how the opioid crisis has affected organ donations.

Ms. Payson is also interested in seeing how opioids are affecting organ donations.

Ms. Holmes agreed this is an excellent way to start, and added that the subcommittee has a lot to cover.

Chair Kerns noted she would like to hear more from counties that have utilized waste-water based epidemiology.

No voted was needed as this is an evolving list of topics/presentations.

**7. Discuss Report Out for April 10 SURG Meeting (1:53 pm) (For Possible Action)**

Chair Kerns noted all subcommittees are going through a reorientation so there most likely won't be a lot of report out, but we will talk about presentations that all subcommittees could benefit from hearing.

**8. Public Comment (1:55 pm) (Discussion Only)**

Chair Kerns asked for public comment.

Chair Kerns read the public comment guidance.

Sarah Adler is with Silver State Government Relations representing the Nevada Opioid Treatment Association (collaboration of Opioid Treatment Centers) and this group would like to be a presenter to the Response Subcommittee. Please reach out to her at [sarah@ssgr.us](mailto:sarah@ssgr.us)

**9. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.