

SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES COUNCIL

April 20, 2023- 1:00 –3:00 P.M.

Physical Location: Virginia Association of Community Services Boards (VACSB)

10128 W Broad Street #B

Glen Allen, Virginia 23060

Senator John Bell, Chair

Victor McKenzie, Jr., Secretary

I. Welcome and Introduction

II. Review of Minutes from December 1, 2022

A. Meeting.... John Bell, Senator, Chair

No amendments

III. Old Business

A. Consideration of an electronic communications policy

1. Still count towards quorum if you're electronic- but still need a full quorum in-person as well
2. Can only go virtual for 2 meetings
 - a. Weather conditions will also be under consideration for virtual attendance, etc.
3. Reached out to FOIA officer, so suggestions/changes in policy will have to wait until next meeting→ **tabled**
4. Will send over to AG/FOIA Council before everything is together

B. Continued Review of Membership

1. By changing name, can oversee wide range of addiction recoveries, not just substances
 - a. Having reps. from gambling crisis/gambling treatment
 - b. Potentially including reps. from Cannabis Control Authority

IV. New Business

A. Legislative- New and Changes

1. Draft letter up from Board to Governor for different recommendations, like membership
2. Reported a 20% gambling increase from month before
3. Went over list of bills passed in General Assembly to mitigate the opioid crisis + new work being done
 - a. Allowing more Peer Recovery Specialist integration, jail-based transition programs, etc.
 - b. Delegate Coyner specifically mentions work she has been doing by talking to those who abused substances during their trafficking, etc. to help bring awareness to that sector in its relation to opioid abuse
 - c. Said that victims often “didn’t stop abusing, because they were offered something in return”

B. Presentation from Opioid Abatement Authority and Opioid Settlement Funds

Opioid Litigation Involving States & Subdivisions

1. Late 2017- federal judicial panel consolidated all Federal opioid related litigation into single multi-district litigation (**MDL**)
 - a. States don’t get to re-negotiate the deal
 - b. In order to enter the deal, state has to get no. of cities and counties to accept the offer and 85% of body to agree
 - c. AG worked with localities to participate/drop individual suits
 - d. Resulted in a signed **Virginia Allocation MOU** between all 133 cities/counties and the Commonwealth
2. Review of OAA Board of Directors
3. Virginia’s Settlement Distribution Agreement
 - a. Opioid Abatement Authority- 55%
 - b. Cities and Counties, Direct Share- 30%
 - c. Commonwealth Share- 15%
 - d. OAA Disbursements to Cities, Counties, and State Agencies- Minimum Percentages

- e. Cities and Counties, 15%
- f. City/County Partnerships, 35%
 - i. Looking at about \$3 million for each of the DBHDS districts
- g. State Agencies, 15%
- h. Unrestricted, 35%

4. What is "Abatement"?

Aiding/alleviating these opioid use disorders through different services

5. How will the use of funds be tracked?

a. All expenditures of OAA funds shall be conducted or managed by a participating locality or state agency

6. Grant-Making Status

- a. Can award grants as soon as cities/localities apply for them
- b. Application period for cities and counties: **open Jan. 19-closes May 5**
- c. Awards: **June 9**
- d. Application timeframe: **Oct. 1-April 1** each year
- e. RFP for state agencies: **April 21-June 21**

7. Budget yet to be released

IV. Planning for Remaining Meetings in 2023- July 13, August 17, and one TBD

A. At same meeting place- VA's Community Services Board

[Address](#): 10128 W Broad St # B, Glen Allen, VA 23060

B. Ask Tony to highlight updates/progress from OAA

C. Come back with ideas of what to request for the Governor's report

V. Public Comment

A. Urging for more recovery programs, more PRS', etc.

B. Next Monday, **4/24**- Opening of Children and Women's Recovery House

C.SAARA working on hosting townhall/webinar to bring awareness to barrier crimes- for more information, contact natalieh@saara.org