

Substance Use Recovery Services Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

September 9, 2024, 9:00AM-11:00AM PST

Meeting Recording: [Substance Abuse Recovery Services Advisory Committee - YouTube](#)

HCA Executive & Administrative Support

<input type="checkbox"/>	Jason McGill, Executive Co-Sponsor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tony Walton, Section Manager	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rachel Downs, Admin Assistant
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kelley Sandaker, SURSAC Administrator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sarah Melfi-Klein, Unit Supervisor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alex Sheehan, BH Program Manager
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Michelle Martinez, Project Manager	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brianna Peterson, Plan Writer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tim Candela, Health Services Consultant
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Blake Ellison, Meeting Facilitator	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hailee Fuller, Admin Assistant		

Committee Members (28)

		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amber Cope	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Donnell Tanksley
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amber Leaders	<input type="checkbox"/>	Brandie Flood	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Malika Lamont
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sen. Manka Dhingra	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stormy Howell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Addy Adwell
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sen. John Braun	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chad Enright	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kevin Ballard
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rep. Lauren Davis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	John Hayden	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hunter Mckim
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rep. Dan Griffey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Niki Lewis		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Caleb Banta-Green	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sherri Candelario		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Don Julian Saucier	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	James Tillett		Alternates / Optional Attendees:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Shawn Mire	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Christine Lynch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rep. Jamila Taylor
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alexie Orr	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sarah Gillard	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rep. Gina Mosbrucker

Meeting Attachments

- Meeting Agenda
- Substance Use and Recovery Services (SURS) Plan Progress Report – 2024-2025
- SURSAC Menti Results

Substance Use Recovery Services Advisory Committee (SURSAC) Updates

Tony Walton, Adult Substance Use Disorder Section Manager & Interim SURSAC Chair, provided the following updates to include:

- HCA has convened a small internal working group to address data comments and concerns regarding Recovery Navigator Program (RNP). This working group includes clinical quality personnel, DBHR, etc.
 - RNP data and the pending dashboard have been brought to the HCA data utilization committee composed of HCA staff and are working on creating an external version of the dashboard to the public
 - There are three selected proposed sites for the expansion of Health Engagement Hubs pilot project. They are currently in the process of creating the contracts for the three new sites. The three proposed, selected sites are South Pathways in Snohomish County, in addition to the Lummi Tribe and Yakima Nation

Questions and Comments for Tony Walton RE: updates

Q: Is there any intersection of alignment between RNP data, health engagement hubs client data, STD treatment agency data elements, and syringe service program (SSP) service data tracks?

A: The SD treatment agency data elements, at least for Medicaid, are able to be integrated through partnerships with research and data analysis and Department of Social Health and services. The SSP Services data tracking is not currently being done in RNP, but this is something that can be looked at in the future.

Public Comment

- No public comments.

Walk-on Item Requests

- No Walk-On Item Requests.

Recovery Month Menti Word Cloud Exercise

Cody Azabache, Medical Assistance Program Specialist 3, and **Kelley Sandaker**, SURSAC Administrator, at Health Care Authority, led a Menti exercise with the SURSAC committee

SURS Plan Progress Report

Brianna Peterson, 5476 Technical Plan Developer and Report Administrator with the Washington State Health Care Authority, shared updates that included:

- Report Comparison between FY24 and FY25
- SURSAC Section
- Implementation Updates
- 5476 Program Updates
- Unrealized Recommendations
- Timeline for Review
- Any comments or questions can be submitted via email to HCAESB5476@HCA.WA.GOV

Questions and Comments for Brianna Peterson RE: SURS Plan Progress Report

COMMENTS:

- A SURSAC Committee member stated that they will send in writing a recommendation to repeal paragraph #2 of Section #8 in [2E2SSB 5536](#), which actually made it so there is now a new patchwork of laws across the state related to harm reduction that was supposed to be more related to possession.
- A SURSAC Committee member stated that further clarification regarding the recommendation on funding for legal representation of parents and families, including kinship and foster care families, could assist the legislature on potentially prioritizing this recommendation.

Recovery Navigator Program (RNP) Highlight: Thurston-Mason Behavioral Health Administrative Service Organization (BH-ASO)

Jason Bean-Mortinson, RNP Administrator for the Thurston-Mason BH-ASO, **Kisa Foley**, Jail Diversion Program Supervisor & Olympic Health & Recovery Services (OHRS) LEAD for Mason County, **Rhiannon Goodilla**, Behavioral Health Clinician for Mason County LEAD Program, **Mandy Anderson**, Thurston County LEAD Supervisor, **Nicole Smith**, Certified Peer Counselor (CPC) and Case Manager at Thurston County LEAD, and **Sami Freedman**, CPC and Case Manager at Thurston County LEAD, shared a presentation on RNP Highlights to include:

- County Partnerships
- Mason County Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD)
- Mason County LEAD Dashboard (Q1 & Q2 2024)
- Successes and Impact (Mason County)
- Thurston County LEAD
- Thurston County LEAD Dashboard (Q1 & Q2 2024)
- Successes and Impact (Thurston County)

Questions and Comments for Thurston-Mason County RNP/LEAD Teams RE: Recovery Navigator Program (RNP) Highlight: Thurston-Mason Behavioral Health Administrative Service Organization (BH-ASO)

Q: Have you breached capacity, and if not, how many more referrals would that take?

A: Both counties have hit capacity a couple of times, and in the instances where they are not, it is usually due to being down staff members. If we had consistently more staff and more capacity, there could be a lot more outreach and there could be a lot more referrals.

Q: what is the percentage of time that people categorically refuse all services, in general?

A: The vast majority of individuals engage in services, although it can sometimes be hard to find individuals.

Q: With the LEAD model, response to arrest diversion is usually 30 minutes, and I am wondering what the barrier is for RNP response being usually up to 24 hours?

A: The up-to-hour response time is more for community referrals. Law enforcement and diversion referrals are usually more in the moment and can be responded to more quickly. We are hoping with some expansion funding, we can hire a new outreach position whose sole responsibility is working on law enforcement referrals and creating relationships to expand on those.

Q: On the demographic data, “not reported” was the second highest demographic after “White”. LEAD was designed to assist in addressing racial disparities. Have you looked at who is the most disproportionately impacted? And is the “not reported” being not reported out by the staff or by the individual?

A: “Not reported” is indicative of not being reported by the individual referral, themselves. Also, we have worked with the counties to look at demographics they have access to in order to find out the most impacted groups to begin to address racial disparities.

Q: Is LEAD providing transportation, again? Additionally, I have heard numerous people mention that there is not available funding for additional client expenses.

A: Transportation is available and both counties have fleet vehicles to support clients. An issue that revolves around transportation is when it is not safe to transport an individual, especially by oneself. They also make sure to let clients know that transportation needs have to be pertinent to their treatment plans or plans of program engagement.

Q: How many LE diversion referrals are being received by Mason County?

A: They recently had two that they are currently responding to.

Q: Were the data dashboards built in-house through your electronic case management system?

A: It was created in-house and largely based upon some of the modifications to case management records that came out of the RNP Guidelines.

COMMENTS:

- Thurston-Mason LEAD program has great data dashboards.

Walk-on Item Follow-Up

- No Walk-on Item Follow-Up.

Public Comment

- Chad Enright stated that the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys is meeting the following week RE: potential diversion pathways for RNP
- John Hayden reiterated that there are certainly a wide variety of approaches throughout the State, and this does merit future discussions.

Recovery Month Menti Word Cloud Exercise

Cody Azabache, Medical Assistance Program Specialist 3, and **Kelley Sandaker**, SURSAC Administrator, at Health Care Authority, shared the Menti Results via a Word Cloud responding to the question, “What does recovery mean to you in one or two words?”

Next Steps

1. Kelley will send out the next SURSAC agenda prior to the November 2024 Meeting.