

Substance Use Recovery Services Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

December 2, 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 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"/>	Tony Walton, SURSAC Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amber Cope	<input type="checkbox"/>	Donnell Tanksley
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amber Leaders	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brandie Flood	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Malika Lamont
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sen. Manka Dhingra	<input checked="" 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 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 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 type="checkbox"/>	Rep. Jamila Taylor
<input type="checkbox"/>	Alexie Orr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sarah Gillard	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rep. Gina Mosbrucker

Meeting Attachments

- Meeting Agenda

Substance Use Recovery Services Advisory Committee (SURSAC) Updates

Tony Walton, SURSAC Chair and Adult Substance Use Section Manager, with Washington State Health Care Authority, provided the following updates:

- The meeting will have a MURAL exercise to focus on SURSAC priorities for 2025.
- HCA was awarded a competitive grant under the COSSUP and Bureau of Justice Assistance. Only five states were awarded this grant for three years and a total of \$7,000,000 dollars. HCA will partner with CJTC, DOC, and DOH on a number of initiatives across the sequential intercept model.

Public Comment

- No public comments.

Walk-on Item Requests

- No Walk-On Item Requests.

State Opioid and Overdose Response Plan (SOORP)

Kris Shera and Dr. Charissa Fotinos shared a presentation on the intersection of SOORP and SURSAC that included:

- SOORP Update Work Plan
- Changes to the SOORP
- SOORP Update Draft Timeline

Questions and Comments for Kris Shera and Dr. Charissa Fotinos RE: State Opioid and Overdose Response Plan (SOORP)

Q: The recent OFM budget put forward by HCA that it would cut MOUD In Jails, RNP LEAD, and arrest and jail alternatives. These programs are to help people where they are at. How does this fit into HCA's priorities?

A: The list was not of official cuts but of proposed cost savings. There is a waiver to continue the MOUD In Jails program. People will be able to bill medicaid for these types of services.

COMMENTS:

- A SURSAC Committee member cited that they are hopeful that this process is inclusive of being informed by individuals with lived/living experience with drug use. For example, the Council of Expert Advisors on Drug Use, a program by VOCAL-WA, interviewed and provided a stipend to individuals who participated in a focus group on their experiences and that information is utilized to inform policy. They are hoping that this process is mirrored, especially with agencies that have a statewide reach.

- A SURSAC Committee member stated that as the state makes its decisions, to make sure that it continues to support people and to not have them have to go to jail to be able to receive services.
 - A SURSAC Committee member agreed with this sentiment.

MURAL Activity

Kelley Sandaker and Michelle Martinez, SURSAC Administrator and Senior SUD Project Manager, with Washington State Health Care Authority, led three MURAL exercises to include:

- SURSAC Committee Structure
- Potential 2025 Agenda Items
- Location and logistics for in-person meeting

Questions and Comments for Kelley Sandaker and Michelle Martinez RE: MURAL Activity

Q: Is the Safe Supply Work Group report available for public viewing?

A: The report was due December 1, 2024, and it is currently in the final stages of approval before dissemination of a final report to the public. It will also be sent out via the SURSAC email updates once completed.

COMMENTS:

- A SURSAC Committee member cited that while there is a lot of work going on with individuals on the community-level, this exercise appears more about the microprocesses about SURSAC meetings and our specific functioning and operations within the meetings. I wonder where we come in at a system level with the committee.
- The SURSAC Administrator confirmed that this link will be available for one-week post-meeting.

RNP Highlights & Success Stories – Salish Region

Kelsey Clary, Frankee Brezacek, Sgt. Tim Garrity, Samatha Boyd, Stephen Echols, Cherish Mitchell-Scott, Mark Nichols, Ann Penn-Charles, and Stephanie Akin shared from the Recovery Navigator Program from the Salish Region to include:

- Jefferson County Mental Health Navigators
- REAL Team with Bremerton PD
- Clallam County REAL Team program with Reflections Counseling Services Group, Peninsula Behavioral Health, and Tribal Community Partners
- Shared a success story from a past RNP program participant

Questions and Comments for Salish BH-ASO RE: RNP Highlights & Success Stories

Q: What types of calls do you summon the REAL Team to?

A: Mostly people that are under the influence of drugs and homeless that are requesting assistance, families requesting assistance, etc. Every call is different, and we do our best to make sure we get these individuals connected to services that can support them in the ways that they need.

Q: Are there diversions happening, too, being diverted from the REAL Team?

A: Yes

COMMENTS:

- Multiple comments and praise were given to the presenters.

Walk-on Item Follow-Up

- No Walk-on Item Follow-Up.

Public Comment

- No Public Comment.

Next Steps

1. Kelley will send out the next SURSAC agenda prior to the January 2025 meeting.