

Substance Use Recovery Services Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

February 3, 2025, 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"/>	Tony Walton, SURSAC Chair	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stormy Howell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Addy Adwell
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sen. John Braun	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chad Enright	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kevin Ballard
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rep. Lauren Davis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	John Hayden	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	Rep. Jamila Taylor
<input checked="" 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 SURSAC updates.

- Due to inclement weather, the February SURSAC meeting is one-hundred percent virtual and weather permitting, will have an in-person meeting option in March 2025.
- MaryAnn Lindeblad has been announced as interim Secretary for HCA while a permanent placement is currently being searched for.
- Since the January 2025 SURSAC meeting, two legislative reports have been submitted - <https://www.hca.wa.gov/about-hca/who-we-are/legislative-reports>
- Direct Link to Safe Supply Workgroup Report - <https://www.hca.wa.gov/assets/program/safe-supply-work-group-recommendations-leg-report-2024.pdf>
- Upcoming Bills for public hearings include [HB 1427](#) – Scheduled for 1:30PM on February 4, 2025. [SB 5031](#) – Scheduled for 8:00AM on February 5, 2025. [HB 1113](#) scheduled for 1:30PM on February 3, 2025.

Public Comment

- A SURSAC Committee member shared that [HB 1574](#) will be heard within the next week.
- A SURSAC Committee member shared that HB 1185, HB 1235, and HB 1380 are all Bills that would assist people in stabilizing in their lives and that people should track and support.
- A SURSAC Committee member shared that they are interested to hear more about [SB 5229](#) which seems like it could be extremely harmful to substance using people.

Questions and Comments

Q: Does anyone have a strong idea as to how things are going in Oregon? I have heard a lot of critique online on most fronts concerning legalization/decriminalization trends.

A: They were providing flexibility in how communities and different regions were using community-based grants. Although, oversight may have actually moved to the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission. They can find out and possibly have someone come share what is happening in Oregon around these topics.

Walk-on Item Requests

- No Walk-On Item Requests.

LEAD Education Series – Part 1

Malika Lamont, Director of the Washington State Technical Support Team for the LEAD Support Bureau, **Brandi McNeil**, Deputy of Purpose. Dignity. Action., and **Najja Morris-Frazier**, Director of the National LEAD Support Bureau, shared a presentation entitled *Unpacking the LEAD Model: Evidence-Based Pre-Booking Diversion*. The presentation encompassed:

- Systems Challenges
- The response of LEAD by advancing health and public safety through systems coordination and community-based solutions
- How LEAD Diversion operates
- Enhancing safety and care through cross-sector collaboration
- LEAD history
- LEAD Model Statewide
- Golden Rule
- Key Methods of LEAD
- Adaptable model designed to reflect hyperlocal context
- Adaptable model based on some non-negotiable elements
- Framework of shared governance, partnership, and accountability
- Power Shifting and Power Sharing
- Contact Information for Washington State LEAD Support Bureau

Questions and Comments RE: LEAD Education Series – Part 1

Q: Is there anyone in Whatcom County, respective to LEAD, who I may connect with?

A: Yes, and their contact information will be provided.

Q: What are your thoughts on if LEAD were to be eliminated and what are your thoughts on if it were able to take the scale given the currents around drug supply and behavioral health issues? Especially where there are numerous budget cuts around the state.

A: One of the risks of this model being eliminated is that it is a pre-booking diversion program whose purpose is to not overwhelm criminal-legal systems and tax the system of more individuals being in carceral settings. Eliminating the model entirely would mean the criminal-legal system becomes more burdened and the issues of incarceration and behavioral health issues will continue to rise.

Q: For those law enforcement agencies wherein the model was not positively received, or in some cases retribution or threat, were those respective agencies where those officers worked contacted or dealt with in any way?

A: Yes. Nationally, it has happened, but it does not happen a lot. It comes back to that collective power-sharing and collaboration, and moving at the speed of trust that the LEAD Model operates under.

COMMENTS:

- A SURSAC Committee member shared that the Criminal Justice Opioid Workgroup that Malika referenced, now called the Criminal Legal Opioid and Overdose Workgroup, still meets monthly. The workgroup is open to all, if interested in attending, please contact Rebecca.Mcneil@hca.wa.gov
- Numerous meeting attendees shared positive sentiments to both the work of LEAD and that of the presenters/presentation.

PDAMS (Programs Data Acquisition and Storage System)

E. Cooper Wright, DBHR Behavioral Health Data Administrator, shared updates relative to the PDAMS program to include:

- PDAMS Solution
- PDAMS Operations
- Meeting providers where they are/process of building PDAMS
- Contact information

Questions and Comments RE: PDAMS (Programs Data Acquisition and Storage System)

COMMENTS:

- More information on Enterprise Data Warehouse can be found at - <https://www.hca.wa.gov/assets/program/data-strategy.pdf>
- Further questions about PDAMS can be routed to Kelley Sandaker at Kelley.Sandaker@hca.wa.gov.

Recovery Navigator Program (RNP) Highlights – Pierce County Alliance

Ahney King, Aimee Champion, Cassanda Grove, and Max Hicks from **Carelon Pierce and Pierce County Alliance** shared a presentation on their RNP program highlights and success stories.

Walk-on Item Follow-Up

- A meeting attendee shared that the State Opioid and Overdose Response Plan Learning Community series has been scheduled. You can find registration links <https://www.hca.wa.gov/about-hca/programs-and-initiatives/behavioral-health-and-recovery/state-opioid-and-overdose-response-soor-plan>

Public Comment

- No Public Comment.

Next Steps

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