

# SE Colorado Region 19 Opioid Settlement Board

## April 10, 2023 via Zoom

### **Present**

Rick Butler, Aaron Shiplett  
Kim MacDonnell  
Blaine Arbuthnot, Terry McMillian  
John Galusha  
Felix Lopez  
Rob Oquist  
Wendy Buxton-Andrade  
Christine Zeitvogel

Rose Pugliese

### Guests

Eppie Griego  
Brendan Hursh  
Marissa Stoller  
Sarah Money, Jereme Maffei  
Mindy Baumgardner, Kristin Carpenter  
Stacey Samaro, Rob Archuleta, Elizabeth Riffle  
Perla Ramirez-Groothuis  
Doreen Gonzales, Eve Muniz  
Jude Solano, Laura Sandoval-Adams, Roxanne Pignanelli,  
Adriana Venegas  
Kevin Douglas, Heather Hankins  
Rob Miller  
Sara Colalancia  
Steve Young

### **Call to Order**

Commissioner Buxton-Andrade called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM. Eight counties were represented during the meeting.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Commissioner Buxton-Andrade asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

- Commissioner Oquist moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Commissioner Lopez.
  - The motion passed unanimously.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Buxton-Andrade asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the February 27, 2023 meeting.

- Commissioner Galusha moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Ms. Zeitvogel.
  - The motion passed unanimously.

### **County represented**

Baca  
Bent  
Crowley  
Huerfano  
Las Animas  
Otero  
Prowers  
Pueblo

Facilitator

Pueblo County Commissioner  
Pueblo County Attorney's Office  
City of Pueblo  
Southern Colorado Health Network  
Colorado Consortium  
Crossroads' Turning Points, Inc.  
Elevate  
SECAHEC  
  
Southern CO Harm Reduction  
Health Solutions  
Life Continues  
Pueblo Department of Public Health

### **Facilitator Update**

All grants approved in the first RFP cycle have been distributed. There is one voting item for a scope of work. Grants will be reviewed on a quarterly basis. The RFP committee worked to get through the second round of proposals. Having four RFPs at one time was very taxing.

### **Update from Brendan Hursh, Pueblo Assistant County Attorney**

Mr. Hursh provided a brief update. Four grant agreements resulted from the first RFP. The contract with SCHRA has been finalized and sent out to the grantee. The Pueblo County Attorney's office has not received a response from Crossroads' and will follow up again this week. There are 2 issues with the grants awarded to the Pueblo Health Department. The SOCOYOGO program uses the United Way as the fiscal agent for the project. Pueblo County Attorney would like to add United Way as a signatory to the agreement. The SURE project was awarded less than was requested. A full vote is required for the amended budget and Scope of Work prior to proceeding with the contract.

### **Discussion of grant proposals for Recovery, Treatment, Criminal Justice, Harm Reduction RFPs**

### **Voting Item: Grant recipients for Recovery, Treatment, Criminal Justice, Harm Reduction RFPs**

#### **TREATMENT RFP (\$763,869.77 1<sup>st</sup> year funding)**

1. Elevate – Not responsive
2. Colorado Health Network - FULLY FUND at \$372,000
3. Children's First - NO
4. Southeastern Colorado Area Health Education Center (SECAHEC)- NO
5. Crossroads - FUND at \$283,058 - reduced by \$9,182 for the 10% maximum allowed on indirect.
6. Health Solutions: FULLY FUND at \$100,000

Commissioner Buxton-Andrade explained that the proposals submitted by Children's First and Southeastern Colorado Area Health Education Center were not the direction the board wanted to go. Commissioner Lopez noted that the dollar amount requested by Children's First was a very high at \$750,000 for the first year and \$550,000 recurring cost. Commissioner Arbuthnot explained that the committee wanted to explore providing payment for local daycare centers instead of funding the childcare RVs. This might be more cost effective and provide more coverage while supporting local childcare providers. The board will ask the AG's office if childcare is a permissible use of funding. Commissioner Buxton-Andrade stated that the cost per trained Acudetox provider was too high in the SECAHEC proposal, and there was not a strong connection with existing providers in the region. Commissioner Lopez added that the number of resulting Acudetox providers was not clear.

Commissioner Buxton-Andrade asked for a motion to approve grant funding in the amount of \$372,000 for Colorado Health Network.

- Commissioner Galusha moved to approve grant funding in the amount of \$372,000 for Colorado Health Network; seconded by Councilman Butler.
  - Las Animas - Yes
  - Prowers - Yes
  - Baca - Yes
  - Pueblo - Yes
  - Crowley - Yes
  - Otero - Yes
  - Huerfano - Yes

- Bent - Yes
- Kiowa – Absent

The motion passed.

Commissioner Buxton-Andrade asked for a motion to approve grant funding in the amount of \$283,058 for Crossroads’.

- Commissioner Lopez moved to approve grant funding in the amount of \$283,058 for Crossroads’; seconded by Commissioner Galusha.
  - Las Animas - Yes
  - Prowers - Yes
  - Baca - Yes
  - Pueblo - Yes
  - Crowley - Yes
  - Otero - Yes
  - Huerfano - Yes
  - Bent - Yes
  - Kiowa – Absent

The motion passed.

Commissioner Buxton-Andrade asked for a motion to approve grant funding in the amount of \$100,000 for Health Solutions.

- Commissioner Oquist moved to approve grant funding in the amount of \$100,000 for Health Solutions; seconded by Commissioner Arbuthnot.
  - Las Animas - Yes
  - Prowers - Yes
  - Baca - Yes
  - Pueblo - Yes
  - Crowley - Yes
  - Otero - Yes
  - Huerfano - Yes
  - Bent - Yes
  - Kiowa – Absent

The motion passed.

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE RFP (\$254,623.26 1<sup>st</sup> year funding)**

1. Health Care Partners Foundation – Proposal withdrawn
2. Crossroads’ - FUND at \$134,832.50 with a reduction of the indirect to the 10% allowable amount.

Crossroads was asked why services were not being offered in Baca, Kiowa and Crowley counties. Ms. Samaro stated that she had sent an email to Ms. Pugliese explaining that the intent was to also serve Baca, Kiowa and Crowley counties and only the physical locations were mentioned in the proposal. All counties will either receive in person or tele-services at no additional contract cost. Ms. Pugliese forwarded the email to all SECOR members and read the email aloud during the meeting.

Commissioner Buxton-Andrade asked for a motion to approve grant funding in the amount of \$134,832.50 for Crossroads’.

- Commissioner Galusha moved to approve grant funding in the amount of \$134,832.50 for Crossroads’; seconded by Commissioner Oquist.

- Las Animas - Yes
- Prowers - Yes
- Baca - Yes
- Pueblo - Yes
- Crowley - Yes
- Otero - Yes
- Huerfano - Yes
- Bent - Yes
- Kiowa – Absent

The motion passed.

**RECOVERY RFP (\$509,246.52 1<sup>st</sup> year funding)**

1. Life Continues – NO
2. Crossroads - FUND at \$255,000 reduced by \$16,624 because of the 10% indirect max and rent being taken out.
3. Health Solutions - FULLY FUNDED at \$324,998

This category is \$70,751.48 over budget.

Commissioner Buxton-Andrade asked for a motion to approve transferring funding in the amount of \$70,751.48 from the Criminal Justice budgeted line item to the Recovery line item.

- Ms. Zeitvogel moved to approve transferring funding in the amount of \$70,751.48 from the Criminal Justice budgeted line item to the Recovery line item; seconded by Commissioner Arbuthnot.
  - Las Animas - Yes
  - Prowers - Yes
  - Baca - Yes
  - Pueblo - Yes
  - Crowley - Yes
  - Otero - Yes
  - Huerfano - Yes
  - Bent - Yes
  - Kiowa – Absent

The motion passed.

Commissioner Buxton-Andrade asked for a motion to approve grant funding in the amount of \$255,000 for Crossroads’.

- Ms. Zeitvogel moved to approve grant funding in the amount of \$255,000 for Crossroads’; seconded by Commissioner Lopez.
  - Las Animas - Yes
  - Prowers - Yes
  - Baca - Yes
  - Pueblo - Yes
  - Crowley - Yes
  - Otero - Yes
  - Huerfano - Yes
  - Bent - Yes
  - Kiowa – Absent

The motion passed.

Commissioner Buxton-Andrade asked for a motion to approve grant funding in the amount of \$324,998 for Health Solutions.

- Commissioner Oquist moved to approve grant funding in the amount of \$324,998 for Health Solutions; seconded by Ms. Zeitvogel.
  - Las Animas - Yes
  - Prowers - Yes
  - Baca - Yes
  - Pueblo - Yes
  - Crowley - Yes
  - Otero - Yes
  - Huerfano - Yes
  - Bent - Yes
  - Kiowa – Absent

The motion passed.

**HARM PREVENTION RFP (\$254,623.26 1<sup>st</sup> year funding)**

Commissioner Buxton-Andrade explained that the committee recommended tabling this item and completing a Health Department survey to find out what the Health Departments have access to for harm reduction and identify the current needs, then revisit the applications and distribute the funding after reviewing the additional information from the counties. Commissioner Lopez stated that he spoke with Las Animas Health Department and was told that they already provide many of the proposed services and would benefit from having access to SECOR funding. He further suggested creating a standardized survey for the health departments. Kristin Carpenter volunteered to get the information on which Health Departments are accessing naloxone and fentanyl test strips through CDPHE; these are the only 2 harm reduction programs that are available through CDPHE.

Commissioner Buxton-Andrade asked for a motion to table the Harm Reduction proposals until additional information has been received.

- Commissioner Galusha moved to table the Harm Reduction proposals until additional information has been received; seconded by Commissioner MacDonnell.
  - Las Animas - Yes
  - Prowers - Yes
  - Baca - Absent
  - Pueblo - Yes
  - Crowley - Yes
  - Otero - Yes
  - Huerfano - Yes
  - Bent - Yes
  - Kiowa – Absent

The motion passed.

Commissioner Lopez suggested providing small grants to each county for event sponsorship. Commissioner Buxton-Andrade expanded on this topic explaining that there are some funds left over in some of the categories. Ms. Zeitvogel noted that to comply with the 2-Year Plan the grants must be used to sponsor events that align with the source of the funding. Ms. Pugliese recommended discussing and voting on this item at the next meeting.

Applicants were encouraged to resubmit proposals if they were not successful on this round.

**Voting Item: Revised Scope of Work for Substance Use Response Ecosystem Program**

Ms. Pugliese explained that the Substance Use Response Ecosystem received less funding than requested and submitted a revised budget and scope of work. Commissioner Buxton-Andrade noted that the revised budget included an indirect rate in excess of 10% which needs to be revised.

Commissioner Buxton-Andrade asked for a motion to accept the revised scope of work and modified budget for the Substance Use Response Ecosystem.

- Ms. Zeitvogel moved to accept the revised scope of work and modified budget for the Substance Use Response Ecosystem; seconded by Commissioner MacDonnell.
  - Las Animas - Yes
  - Prowers - Yes
  - Baca - Absent
  - Pueblo - Yes
  - Crowley - Yes
  - Otero - Yes
  - Huerfano - Yes
  - Bent - Yes
  - Kiowa – Absent

The motion passed.

**Other business**

None.

**Next meeting**

The next meeting has been scheduled for April 24, 2023 at 3 PM.

**Adjournment**

Commissioner Buxton-Andrade asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

- Commissioner Galusha moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Commissioner Arbuthnot.
  - The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Zeitvogel  
Secretary, SECOR