

<b>Tennessee Opioid Abatement Council Meeting</b>		
Date	February 27, 2023	
Time	12:00pm-3:00pm CT	
Location	Franklin City Hall Boardroom, 109 Third Ave. Franklin, TN 37064, and Microsoft Teams	
<p><b>Council Members Present in Person:</b> Stephen Loyd, Mike Flynn, Clay Jackson, Thomas Farmer, Karen Pershing, Charme Allen, Brian Buuck, Casey Cox, Wayne Wykoff, Timothy Fournet, Shayne Sexton, Ken Moore, Lisa Tipton</p> <p><b>Council Members Present via Microsoft Teams:</b> Stephanie Vanterpool, Armando Fontes</p> <p><b>Guests:</b> Mary Hunt Moore, Thad Oliver, Andrew Kellar, Laura Brown, Pedro Sanchez-Villa, Will Taylor, Dr. Becca Martin, Sarah Cooper, Scott Vaughn, Katherine Denney, Keith Gamble, Antoinette Tenia-Clayton, Christi Granstaff, Sweeti Patel, Jonathan Johnson, Sherry Butler, Josie West, Olivia Johnson, April Clark, Don Johnson, Karen Morgan, CJ Duncan, Rachel Morris, Joe Smallman, Amanda Dunlap, George Massengill, Richard Barber, Kevin Maudy, Robin Ledford-Garner, Rachel Roden, Troy Sandifer, Sam MacMaster, C. Martin, Emily Houser, Jeff Moseley, A. Smith-Knight, Kyle Duvall, Deborah Hillin, J. Van Zyl, S. Elseroad, Al Ganier, Becky Cook, Charles Barlas, Jimmie Jackson, Jeremy Davis, Bob Stubblefield, Walter Williams, Jon Jackson, Beth Lenchner</p> <p><b>Staff:</b> Commissioner Marie Williams, Matt Yancey, Sam Boukli, Jessica Youngblom, Matthew Parriott, Taryn Sloss, Wes Geminn, Mary Shelton, Ella Reding, Elizabeth Rickman-Vaden</p>		
<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
S. Loyd	<b>Welcome, Introductions &amp; Check-in</b>	<p>The meeting was called to order and S. Loyd welcomed guests, presenters, and members.</p> <p>S. Loyd called for a moment of silence for Tennessee families who suffered from addiction and/or opioid use disorder.</p> <p>S. Loyd invited each Council member to introduce themselves.</p> <p>Commissioner Williams also introduced herself and gave remarks in reference to the one-time infrastructure request and stated that emails will be sent out that will put approximately \$14 million into the state to build out infrastructure and create access for individuals who are suffering from addiction and mental health issues. She also mentioned the budget hearing would take place on March 6<sup>th</sup>.</p>

S. Loyd	<b>Review &amp; Approval of December 5th, 2022 Minutes</b>	There were no edits proposed for the minutes. Minutes were approved.
S. Loyd M. Shelton	<b>Council Accomplishments</b>	<p>County Payment Processes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$31 million sent out to counties as of meeting date</li> <li>• Approximately \$71 million remaining in Trust Fund</li> <li>• The General Assembly does have a bill that if approved, will allow additional funding from CVS, Walmart, and Walgreens to be added to the Trust Fund.</li> </ul> <p>Community Application Process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• M. Shelton noted that the application questions and scoring questions have been approved by the Council.</li> </ul> <p>M. Shelton discussed the 'Contact Us' page added to OAC website. S. Loyd informed the council that there have been 12 inquiries from vendors submitted from 12/21/22 to current date.</p>
M. Shelton & M. Parriott	<b>Staff &amp; Administrative Updates</b>	<p>M. Shelton introduced new staff members, Ella Reding, Project Administrator, Elizabeth Rickman-Vaden, Program Manager and Sam Boukli, Assistant Deputy Counsel, TDMHSAS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• E. Reding will be focused on the county payment process.</li> <li>• E. Rickman-Vaden will be focused on the county process.</li> <li>• S. Boukli is the advising attorney for the Council.</li> </ul> <p>M. Shelton updated the council on the new office email, logo, website. M. Parriott added that he updated the website making it easier to navigate and separates it from the Tennessee Department of Mental Health &amp; Substance Abuse Services main website.</p> <p>M. Shelton further discussed two General Assembly bills related to OAC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SB0637: Settlement bill (adding new companies to the law)</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HB1227: Bill requiring posting minutes on the OAC website (may be a caption bill so OAC office will update as information is received)</li> </ul>
M. Shelton	<b>Fiscal Update</b>	<p>M. Shelton gave a briefing of the January 2023 Opioid Abatement Trust Fund Statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$813,000 was earned in interest and was deposited into the Trust Fund.</li> <li>• The \$31 million that is being paid out to the counties will be shown at the next meeting from the balance statement at that time.</li> <li>• Expenses paid out so far has been for departmental expenses such as salaries, travel, council lunches, etc.</li> </ul>
S. Loyd	<b>Comments &amp; Request from Community and Vendors</b>	<p>Dr. Loyd further discussed the ‘Contact Us’ page on the website and asked for direction from the Council on how they would like to respond to the inquiries received:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• L. Tipton &amp; T. Farmer suggested referring them back to the website.</li> <li>• S. Sexton suggested adding a calendar for applicants to be aware of when the application becomes available online and deadlines.</li> <li>• C. Jackson suggested having a 5–10 business day policy of response. Also, suggested to invite those inquiring to attend council meetings as an attendee.</li> <li>• Armando Fontes suggested a FAQ page being added to the website.</li> <li>• Commissioner Marie Williams suggested using the video that M. Parriott produced of S. Loyd &amp; M. Shelton along with the posting the FAQ on the website. She also noted the purpose of the Council is to distribute funds collected by the Attorney General’s office, so it may</li> </ul>

		<p>be best practice to refer to their office for advice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• S. Boukli added to ensure transparency M. Shelton has been advised to not hold individual meetings.</li> </ul>
<p>S. Loyd</p>	<p><b>Discussion &amp; Decision Points</b></p>	<p>S. Loyd raised the discussion points on how the Council and M. Shelton should respond and reply to request to speak or attend provide vendor meetings and discussed if the Council should draft a policy on how to operationalize the requests.</p> <p>C. Jackson and S. Vanterpool both agreed that Council members should continue to raise awareness to the community about opioid appropriate use, misuse, abatement, and other strategies.</p> <p>K. Moore further advised Council members when conducting discussions outside of official Council settings, members should make a public declaration explaining that the meeting is for educational and informative purposes.</p> <p>S. Vanterpool mentioned the Conflict-of-Interest policy that recuses members from voting when they have given input on issues as a reminder.</p> <p>A. Fontes mentioned that the Council should possibly develop a policy that addresses commonly asked questions and use the responses to build the FAQ document.</p> <p>S. Loyd expressed the need for Council members to be consistent in their responses to the community.</p> <p>K. Moore stated that the council should use the following statement as a guideline on how to respond:</p> <p>“Members of the Opioid Abatement Council will be guided by the State of Tennessee Ethics Policy and their role outside of the Council is an educational role and not a role that allows</p>

		<p>individuals to gain favor for their requests or to help them to complete their requests. All inquiries should be directed throughout the Opioid Abatement Council website for a complete list of the Remediation List and a list of 'Frequently Asked Questions' and processes would be evident.</p> <p>Motion was made, seconded, and carried.</p>
<p>S. Vanterpool &amp; C. Jackson</p>	<p><b>Community Grantee Process Update</b></p>	<p>S. Vanterpool updated the Council on the community application that the Opioid Abatement Council subcommittee developed.</p> <p>S. Vanterpool noted applicants must provide if they have a track record of providing services to organizations in Tennessee, or within Tennessee. Organization will need to provide the strategy that they would like to focus their application on.</p> <p>Subcommittee included confirming that housing or recovery services have appropriate licensure to protect the recipients of these services.</p> <p>L. Tipton advised that requiring certifications for housing funding may hinder some organizations who are operating but may not have a license to receive funding.</p> <p>T. Sloss advised that there is no licensure or certification for recovery housing at this time in TN. They do provide a life safety check. She advised that there is a list of TDMHSAS funded locations and a list of organizations that provide recovery housing on the State of TN website.</p> <p>A. Fontes suggested developing a standard budget for applicants to use and submit based on categories.</p> <p>K. Pershing noted that by requiring certification, it gives the Council the opportunity to raise recovery resident's standards through this process.</p>

		<p>Dr. Loyd advised that there does need to be a set of standards.</p> <p>M. Yancey advised the parameters of the Creative Housing Initiative (CHI) could be a starting point the Council could use for criteria.</p> <p>A. Fontes suggested hiring Program Managers in different regions of the state that would be responsible for inspecting housing locations.</p> <p>S. Loyd suggested having an appeal process.</p> <p>The grant application was accepted as presented and motion carried.</p> <p>S. Loyd and C. Jackson called for an amendment of the <i>Criteria for Qualified Organizations</i> document. Motion was made, seconded, and carried.</p>
<p>Jerri Anderson (Edison) &amp; Zora Shake (Smart Simple Rep.)</p>	<p><b>Smart Simple Presentation</b></p>	<p>The SmartSimple platform was presented and below are highlights that were provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to search by organization name or EIN</li> <li>• Gives applicant option to leave application in an in-progress status making platform user friendly</li> <li>• All forms and workflow will be customizable</li> <li>• Ability to assign applications to Program Managers to track workload</li> <li>• Reviewers will have access to scoring</li> </ul> <p>SmartSimple advised that their help desk would support the sub-recipients and agencies.</p> <p>S. Vanterpool requested SmartSimple to create a 5-10 minute demo of the application and scoring process.</p> <p>Council postponed voting at this meeting and requested SmartSimple provide a demo with instructions to navigate the platform.</p>

		Council will schedule an emergency meeting to vote on platform once additional information is receive.
S. Loyd	<b>Public Comments</b>	<p>S. Loyd asked the guests if there were any public comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Becky Cook gave comments about her son and asked the Council to consider encouraging lawmakers to increase the amount of assets that those with prior drug convictions are allowed to have when paying child support.</li> <li>• Kyle Duvall, Executive Director at Welcome Home Ministries spoke on recovery housing and advised he would forward an informational packet to M. Shelton for the Council to review.</li> </ul>
S. Loyd	Meeting adjourned	There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.