



RECOVERY TASK FORCE

Governor's Commission on Alcohol and other Drugs

Task Force Chair: Keith Howard Co-Chair: Kristine Paquette

January 8th, 2020 Meeting Minutes

ZOOM OPTION: <https://jsi.zoom.us/j/98102176085>

Call-in Number: 1-312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 981 0217 6085 Meeting Password: 494199

<p>Welcome & Introductions</p>	<p>Members present: Keith Howard, Kristine Pacquette, Lindy Keller, Mitch Yeaton, Cheryle Pacapelli, Michele Merritt, Donna Marston, Jess Parnell, Carolee Longley, Brian Mooney, Elizabeth Miller Members not present: Public participants: Donna Harbinson, Jon Martin, Laina Reavis, Gina Redford, Melanie Boyd JSI/CHI Staff : Melissa Schoemmell, Victoria Babcock</p>	
Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Steps
<p>Attendance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roll call was performed. Quorum was established. 	
<p>Approval of December Meeting Minutes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes updated to include discussion regarding the facilitating organization who oversees the contracts for the 17 RCOs is being funded at 34% of their budget. (\$1.1 million less than their original FY20 budget). Mitch Yeaton made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, Brian Mooney seconded. Unanimously approved. 	<p>CHI will post the December meeting minutes pending edits on the Task Force's webpage.</p>
<p>Governor's Commission Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Governor's Commission meeting scheduled for February 19 is a Funding Request meeting. The task force will want to be aligned on their funding requests by February 5th. 	
<p>Funding Requests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NHCORR RCOs Other 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NHCORR: Requesting funding for the next four years. Suggestion to request a four-year contract extension at the same rate with the understanding that NHCORR will need an increase in rates. Their ask includes \$25,000 increase in operating costs as well as \$475,000 in housing assistance based on an average of the awards given. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarification made that Governor's Commission funding is only one year. However, if there were anticipation of funding continuing into further years it would make sense to acknowledge that. Mention of funding outside of GC is expected to be coming out. 	<p>Kim and Cheryle will get their written briefs to Keith by 1/14 to present to the GC.</p> <p>Brian Mooney and Ryan Fowler will get Keith a written ask regarding harm reduction efforts for RCOs</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Mention of funding in housing for drug court participants and clarification that these funds exist for drug court and individuals re-entering the community from state prisons. NHCORR does not normally fund drug court participants, and the numbers presented do include some people from corrections but this is a low number of applicants. Drug court housing is not eligible for people who are/were a part of county jail. This housing also comes with case management.● It is consensus that any funding requests made need to ask for what is <i>actually</i> needed to communicate the need of RCOs and housing organizations in NH.● RCOs: Harbor Care (FO) stressed the importance of RCOs throughout the state and the 34% decline in their budget in 2020. She would like to request \$1.1 million to be able to function.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ There are 13 RCOs funded through SOR but they have been providing services without a contract since October. These RCOs have been struggling to make payroll.○ There were concerns raised about the length in time taken to release funding once it is awarded.○ Task force members can and should reach out to other members of the GC to advocate for recovery funding needs and asks.○ Suggestion made for the Governor's Commission to create a position to deal with these contracts and get the funding out in a reasonable amount of time. Concern raised over this suggestion because funding through GC is done on a 1-year basis. Emphasis made on the need for a process update, but in this case, federal funders had not released the award to the state until the last day of the previous fiscal year.○ Representative from the Governor's office mentioned that he is working with the Governor's office to ensure this won't happen in the future. He also mentioned that there will still be SOR extension	<p>around supplies, trainings, etc.</p> <p>Facilitating Organization and NHCORR to meet with Dave Mara</p>
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	<p>funds on the table.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Question if there was availability to fund the FO at a lower level other than general funds. FO believes that the state is in support of fully funding the RCOs, and that the general funds used in state funding are minimal. FO was told that SOR funding would supplement the 34% decrease of funding from the state, but this funding has been delayed and no contract has come forward. Most of this funding is from block grant funding and governor's commission money. Cheryle will double check these numbers and mention them in her brief to Keith. ● <u>RCO's Role in Harm Reduction:</u> Brian Mooney mentioned the need for harm reduction outreach through RCOs and funding to increase these efforts. Brian mentioned that the civilian use of naloxone needs to increase, but funding would be needed to support these efforts and disseminating supplies to New Hampshire communities. On 1/13, there will be a community of practice on the intersection of harm reduction and the continuum of care. Ryan Fowler spoke to the need of a training to update frontline peers and community members that could easily be done on Zoom. Cheryle mentioned that she is happy to put forward a request for supplies in the RCO funding request. <p>The task force will go to the governor's commission for funding, all members who have requested funding will give brief statements to Keith by Thursday 1/14 morning.</p>	
Legislative Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The bills that have been introduced are still being reviewed. There are two bills related to drug courts that Jake Berry will be watching. ● The bill to exempt Manchester recovery homes is back and Jake will be watching it. ● A bill regarding harm reduction and interventions was introduced. 	

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Other Business/Events/ Announcements, including updates on re-opening status	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mitch Yeaton motioned to adjourn, Cheryle Pacapelli seconded. Approved unanimously.	
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