

**CLARK COUNTY REGIONAL OPIOID TASK FORCE
COMMISSION CHAMBERS
CLARK COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER
500 S. GRAND CENTRAL PARKWAY
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89155
THURSDAY, JULY 18, 2024
2:00 P.M.**

The Clark County Regional Opioid Task Force was created by AB132 from the 82nd Session of the 2023 Nevada Legislature and is comprised of fifteen (15) individuals appointed by the Board of Clark County Commissioners. The Task Force reviews data relating to opioid overdose fatalities and near fatalities and uses such data to identify gaps in community services relating to opioids and opioid overdose fatalities. The Task Force reviews data from existing state and community databases and, in particular, information relating to harm reduction and substance abuse. Task Force members identify trends in the social determinants of health relating to opioid overdose fatalities and identify opportunities for prevention to promote recovery and to collaborate to leverage existing resources to prevent substance misuse.

MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order, Invocation, and Roll Call

The Clark County Regional Opioid Task Force was called to order by Chair Rouse at 2:00 p.m.
Invocation by Reverend Will Rucker.

Committee Members

Present:

Melanie Rouse, Chair
Jamie Sorenson, Vice Chair
Jessica Johnson
Brandon Delise
Meambi Newbern-Johnson
Thomas Alfreda
Chelsi Cheatom
Greg Theobald
Brian O'Neal
Jerry Cade
BachTrinh Dang

Not Present:

Rosa O'Bannon
Geoconda Hughes
Dolletta Mitchell

2. Public Comment

At this time, Chair Rouse asked if there was anyone wishing to make public comment.
There were no comments from the public.

3. *Approval of Minutes of meeting on April 18, 2024 (For possible action)

A motion was made by Brian O'Neal to approve the Minutes from April 18, 2024, second motion made by Brandon Delise. The motion was unanimously approved.

4. *Approval of Agenda for July 18, 2024 (For possible action)

A motion was made by Brandon Delise to approve the Agenda for July 18, 2024, second motion made by Brian O'Neal. The motion was unanimously approved.

5. *Announcement of vacancy and direct staff to replace Task Force member representation for Department of Juvenile Justice Services. (For possible action)

Chair Rouse announced that Task Force member Eboni Washington left the County and expressed gratitude for her service to the committee and County. Chair Rouse asked staff to recruit for a replacement for representation from the Department of Juvenile Justice Services before the September meeting.

A motion was made by Jerry Cade to approve staff to recruit for a replacement for representation from the Department of Juvenile Justice Services, second motion made by Meambi Newbern-Johnson. The motion was unanimously approved.

6. *Identify 2 members to review and bring back cases to the committee for review and discussion. (For possible action)

Chair Rouse suggested that the committee task the representatives from the Clark County Coroner and Southern Nevada Health District with identifying death cases from the zip codes in Clark County with the highest numbers of opioid overdose fatalities. The goal is to identify cases in the next few months to bring to the September meeting for the Task Force to review while complying with the guidelines from Assembly Bill 132.

Jerry Cade commented that it is a great idea.

A motion was made by Jerry Cade to approve death case reviews by the Clark County Coroner and Southern Nevada Health District representatives, second motion made by Greg Theobald. The motion was unanimously approved.

13. Receive presentations from (For discussion only)

- a. Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department Overdose Response Team**
- b. The Southern Nevada Post-Overdose Response Team (SPORT)**

Captain Michelle Tavarez from the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department Overdose Response Team (ORT) presented an overview of the Overdose Response Team.

Elizabeth Adelman and Treva Palmer from the Southern Nevada Post Response Team (SPORT) presented an overview of the Post-Overdose Response Team (SPORT).

At this time, Chair Rouse asked if there were any questions or comments regarding the presentation. Interested parties addressed their questions, comments, and concerns regarding the presentation.

7. Receive presentations from individual/families seeking or have utilized community service related to opioids (For discussion only)

- c. Tina**
- d. Maurelle** (did not present)
- e. Kevin** (did not present)

Tina, an individual in long-term recovery, discussed her experience with addiction to opioids and her journey to recovery with the help of the Foundation for Recovery.

At this time, Chair Rouse asked if there were any questions or comments regarding the presentation. Interested parties addressed their questions, comments, and concerns regarding the presentation.

8. Receive presentation from Nevada Opioid Treatment Association (NOTA) (For discussion only)

Introduction by Greg Bailor on behalf of Silver State Government Relations and Nevada Opioid Treatment Association (NOTA). Erin Donohue, Regional Director of Acadia Healthcare Comprehensive Treatment Centers (CTC) and NOTA member, presented an overview of NOTA, opioid treatment providers, gaps, and recommendations.

At this time, Chair Rouse asked if there were any questions or comments regarding the presentation. Interested parties addressed their questions, comments, and concerns regarding the presentation.

9. Receive presentation from Crossroads of Nevada (*For discussion only*)

Introduction by Paul Vautrinot, Executive Vice President of Crossroads of Southern Nevada. Krista Hales, Lauren Griffy, and James June from Crossroads presented a comprehensive overview of Crossroads, including the various services provided, treatment and programs, and community awareness.

At this time, Chair Rouse asked if there were any questions or comments regarding the presentation. Interested parties addressed their questions, comments, and concerns regarding the presentation.

10. Receive presentation from Bridge Counseling (*For discussion only*)

Dan Ficalora, Clinical Director at Bridge Counseling, presented a comprehensive overview of Bridge Counseling, their focus on outpatient treatment and behavioral health, services provided, overview of facilities, expansion goals, and community impact.

At this time, Chair Rouse asked if there were any questions or comments regarding the presentation. Interested parties addressed their questions, comments, and concerns regarding the presentation.

11. Receive presentation from Clark County Fire Department (*For discussion only*)

Assistant Fire Chief Brian O'Neal from the Clark County Fire Department presented on the first responder perspective, opiate trends, access to resources, gaps, and recommendations.

At this time, Chair Rouse asked if there were any questions or comments regarding the presentation. Interested parties addressed their questions, comments, and concerns regarding the presentation.

12. Discussion of future agenda items (*For discussion only*)

At this time, Chair Rouse asked if Task Force members have recommendations on future agenda items.

Chair Rouse received a request for the committee to summarize information that has been submitted this far and to include any requests from the presenters.

Jessica Johnson wondered about the task force's interest in more upstream primary prevention programming. Thinking of some areas that may address more of the social determinants such as housing, transportation, and to hear about primary prevention programming that might be happening and what some of the barriers, capacity, or issues might be.

Chair Rouse recommended that the Task Force have working virtual meetings to help facilitate the drafting of the report and the recommendations from the committee. A motion to add virtual meetings was made by Chair Rouse, second motion made by Jerry Cade. The motion was unanimously approved.

Chelsi Cheatom would like to hear from local harm reduction centers or syringe exchange. Since they are working on the ground with individuals who are currently using opioids and to hear their data.

14. Public Comment

At this time, Chair Rouse asked if there was anyone wishing to make public comment.

Keith Shulman, a retired physician, commented that there is an organization called OFR and PHAST that is a private intergovernmental research organization that gives a lot of resources to opioid task force and can help to coordinate data. Keith also thinks that qualitative stories add a lot to the statistics and that looking at each case will provide more information.

15. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Jerry Cade, second motion made by Brian O'Neal. The motion was unanimously approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:16 p.m.