

Alabama SPAB Quarterly Meeting

November 1st, 2023

Members Present:

Seyram Selase (Chair), Agency for Substance Abuse Prevention
Vacant (Co-Chair)
Nicole Shine- Hopson (Secretary), P.R.I.D.E of Tuscaloosa
Angela Powe, ADMH
April Knight, Northwest MHC
Ashly Langley, CED Mental Health
Brandon Folks, ADMH
Emi Brooks, East AL Mental Health
Erin Burleson, Prevention Consultant
Kimberly Gibbs, ADMH
L'Tanya Green, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment Center
Michele Moore, MHCNCA
Shai Markris, AltaPointe
Staci Wilson, South Central MHC
Vandlyn Pierre, Drug Education Council

I. CALL TO ORDER: The SPAB/AEOW Meeting was called to order at 10:02 am by Seyram Selase, Chair.

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Motioned by – April Knight
Seconded by – Ashly Langley

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes were sent out.

Motioned by April Knight
Seconded by Vandlyn Pierre

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Office of Prevention Updates: By Brandon Folks

FY 24 Block Grant has been awarded to a total of 15 contract providers.

Since August the Office of Prevention has been awarded two grants 988 State and Territory Improvement Grant and Project Zero Suicide. The 988 Improvement Grant is 3 years this grant will be used to improve the states response to 988 contacts by increasing the workforce, implementing additional technology, and improving support and service which is a collaborative initiative with Wellstone, JBS, Crisis Center Inc., AltaPointe, and SpectraCare.

Project Zero Suicide is a 5-year grant that implements zero suicide intervention which is an initiative with vital.

AL crisis system of care 988 progress report 7/2022 – 8/2023

To date there have been a total of 52,714 total contacts. 35,000 calls, over 10,000 and 7,400 total chats. This is a 7000-contact increase from the last progress report.

Question for Brandon: Will the extra funding for SOR be added to the contracts and when? 10 agencies will receive \$11,393 via contract amendments that will be added to the operation line item.

Old Business –

Co-chair vacancy

Standards Meeting Update: Beth has taken all amendments for a draft document to send to all providers for the final vote.

Brandon Folks has recommended to the SPAB to revisit the Prevention Standards every five years for revisions or updates.

New Business –

Seyram Selase would like to add billing rates to the February meeting agenda.

Vandlyn Pierre
Michele Moore
April Knight

has agreed to the rate increase.

Brandon Folks provided the suggested protocol to request billing rates increases and will confirm the information with SPAB Chair.

Brandon Folks recommended researching prevention staff salaries in other states to determine if prevention staff wages in Alabama are comparable.

Shai Markis discussed creating a template for prevention professional salaries/ hourly wage.

April Knight suggested doing an educational session discussing what the requirements are to do prevention services.

April Knight suggested a sample pay scale for prevention professionals.

Brandon Folks suggested Seyram Selase present to the Substance Abuse Coordinating Subcommittee for the vote and approval.

The full group discussed the Opioid Settlement Dollars, and all updates from the Fentanyl Coalition zoom meeting. Nicole Shine provided details of the meeting in a quick overview. Mr. Retan was able to confirm for the coalition that an RFP will be posted within the next 60 to 90

days from the zoom meeting. Mr. Retan will provide details of the Opioid Settlement Hearing via email that's scheduled for November 16, 2023.

Providers Updates:

ASAP will be hosting a Faith Based Nationwide Conference on Dec. 14-15 with special guest Dr. Miriam E. Delphin-Rittmon, Dr. Karen Scott, and Commissioner Boswell. Please spread the word.

VI. ADJOURN MEETING: Seyram concluded the meeting at 10:48 am.

VII. NEXT MEETING: February 7th, 2024 – Time and Location: TBA

Minutes respectfully submitted by the SPAB Secretary.