

Woodford County ASAP Board Meeting Minutes
EMS Conference Room, Big Sink Road
Tuesday, September 19, 2023

Permanent Voting Members	Non-Permanent Voting Members	Non-Voting Members / Guests
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WCHS Family Resource Center & Youth Service Center Coordinator, Jasmine Hazelwood • Service Region Administrator of the Cabinet for Families and Children, Department of Community Based Services, DCBS, Julie Snawder • County Judge Executive, James Kay • Superintendent of Woodford County designee, Jill Hargiss <p>Absent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodford County Health Department Director, Cassie Prather • Executive Director of Comprehensive Care, New Vista, Shawn Freeman 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EMS Director and Mental Health Commissioner, Freeman Bailey, Chair • Woodford County Health Department Grants & Data Manager, Robin Miller, Vice-Chair • VPD Assistant Chief of Police, Rob Young • WC Sheriff's Department, Jimmy Fugate • WC Casa Coordinator, Heather Porter • Serenitee at its Best, Stephanie M. Raglin <p>Absent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M & M Director & Versailles City Council, Lisa Johnson • County Attorney, Alan George 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASAP Coordinator, Nancy Blackford • Woodford County Magistrate, Larry Blackford • WCHD Harm Reduction, Rolgard Casimir • Isaiah House, Ariel Smith • Versailles Police Department, Ellie Castle • Brightview Community Outreach Manager, Shannon Gordon • Life Adventure Center, Laurel Hostetter • Woodford County Magistrate, Kelly Carl • Woodford County Magistrate, Mary Ann Gill • Strengthening Transformations, Brittany Campbell • Woodford County Health Department Clinic Manager, Kelly Simpson • Woodford County Drug Court, Evanne Cornette • WCPS FRC Coordinator, Mallory White

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by Chair, Freeman Bailey.

Membership reviewed the minutes.

Rob Young made a motion to accept the minutes for the June 20, 2023 meeting.

Judge Executive James Kay seconded the motion.

The motion passed. Minutes will be filed as presented.

Introductions of Attendees

Presentations

County's Opioid Settlement Money

Judge Executive James Kay

Judge Kay thanked Nancy Blackford the opportunity to address the group about the state opioid settlement funds that had been dispersed to the county. Woodford County has received \$123,000 in settlement funds with an anticipation of an additional disbursement of \$55,000 in the next few months, and none of that money has been spent yet. Judge Kay would like to see input from the community to let folks know that we have the funds and to seek feedback from the community about how best to utilize the funds. He also expressed his interest in utilize the funding to support a youth substance use prevention model to provide our kids with health activities in the out-of-school time between 3 and 6 pm. He emphasized his willingness to allocate additional funding provided by city and county government general funds to support a youth serving program. He believes it is what parents in the community want and what our young people need.

Also, Judge Kay emphasized the importance of trying to develop a detox center in Woodford County. He suspects start-up costs to be in the \$1M range at a minimum without partnering with a university, hospital, or some type of proprietor who shares our vision. Judge Kay mentioned that EMS and law enforcement revived a young person down in the Clifton area a few days ago after a fentanyl overdose. While \$123,000 is great, it isn't enough to address the problems we are facing. Judge Kay mentioned Laurel Hofstetter and the Life Adventure Center's passion for expanding their outreach in our community, and he emphasized the importance of utilizing the assets we have to address our most difficult challenges.

Judge Kay is communicating with the Attorney General's office to get more information about the timeline and restrictions for spending opioid settlement funds, and he will share information as he receives it.

Ky & Federal Opioid Funding

Dr. Katherine Marks

Dr. Katherine Marks, Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental & Intellectual Disabilities and former Executive Director of KORE, Kentucky Opioid Response Effort (2017-2023). She challenged us to consider how best to continue to listen to people with lived experience, to use evidence-based practices, and to use our resources to facilitate impactful work that will result in effective change. She added that we were already ahead of the curve in Kentucky by having established such a robust ASAP coalition. Dr. Marks provided an overview of the KORE program before presenting a slide show that emphasized the following:

In 2022, overdose deaths decreased by 5% in the general population, but rates have been going up month after month in 2023, and she believes we will see an overall increase when we analyze the data from 2023. She also added emphasized the disparity reflected in the data. Not every community saw a decrease. Overdose deaths decreased by 7% for white Kentuckians but increased by 7% for black Kentuckians. Overdose death rates are highest in people in their 40s and 50s. She encouraged ASAP coalition members to visit the KIPRC website to review the data that is published there.

Dr. Marks reviewed the model that she believes reflects best practice, which begins with prevention but also provides treatment as well as wrap around services to help people along the way on their journey to recovery—to provide stability, to provide education and training, and to provide the resources necessary to support re-entry into sober living, including helping people rebuild connections with community and family, as well as to recover their self-esteem, confidence, and ability to control their lives.

Dr. Marks emphasized the importance of considering the barriers that people face as we move forward in our effort to prevent substance use, to ensure that our outreach is accessible, culturally appropriate, age appropriate, and reasonable for the people we serve. She stressed the idea that the programs and initiatives we develop will ONLY be effective if the people who need them can access them.

Dr. Marks emphasized the importance of diminishing stigma, pointing out the high survival rate of people who suffer from substance use disorder when they have the supports they need. On the other hand, people who manage to stay sober for a few years and then relapse are not surviving the current generation of opioids.

Dr. Marks emphasized the success of some resources currently being used in Kentucky, such as Sources of Strength, Too Good for Drugs, and others. She also encouraged us to invite as many youth as we could to participate in every phase of program development, promotion, and implementation, acknowledging the danger of fentanyl and more powerful drugs being marketed using innovation. She also mentioned the progress that has been made with regard to fentanyl test strips and the fact that they are no longer considered drug paraphernalia.

Dr. Marks mentioned the importance of having Naloxone available at all community events and in as many locations as possible to ensure that everyone in the community is prepared to prevent an accidental overdose. Medicaid will pay for two containers of Naloxone per month.

Dr. Marks concluded by saying that community action in Kentucky resulted in 8700 referrals last year, and she believes that communities working together to tailor solutions to their unique needs will be effective in addressing the drug epidemic.

Additional resources that Dr. Marks recommending including in our strategic plans:

- <https://www.shatterproof.org/>
- Quick Response Teams
- Recovery Infrastructure that provide peer support, re-entry training, employment training, and dedicated services to help people recover their dignity & self-respect and give them HOPE.
- Mobile outreach
- Equitable access to lifesaving medication (Buprenorphine, Methadone, Naltrexone)

Brief Update & Special Motion

Rob Young/Lisa Johnson

Rob Young presented the steering committee's recommendation to withdraw from the Planet Youth contract:

"We were involved in the Icelandic Model and we had entered into a contract with Planet Youth. We had entered into the contract and made the payment for Year 1. At a meeting on June 20, we met with our partners at Planet Youth to discuss the data that had been collected in Woodford County Middle and High Schools. After much discussion, the steering committee decided to make a motion to separate from the contract, and I was asked to prepare a motion for your approval. Here is that motion:

"In 2023, ASAP members voted in favor of a 5-year contract with Planet Youth. The cost of the contract for Year 1 was paid by the City of Midway, City of Versailles, Woodford County, Woodford County Health Department, and ASAP, in the amount of \$28,000. A cornerstone of the contract was that Planet Youth was to provide data collection and interpretation services that would be used to assess the prevalence of alcohol, tobacco, and drug use among Woodford County youth. The data was also intended to provide analytics to assess the effectiveness of the Woodford County Just Say Yes program. On June 20, 2023, the Woodford County ASAP Coalition met to discuss the data that was collected in March 2023 when the Planet Youth Risk Behavior Survey was administered in Woodford County High School, Woodford County Middle School, and Safe Harbor Academy. During the presentation by Planet Youth project leaders, several coalition members questioned the accuracy of the data, noting the dramatic decrease in substance use when compared to the data that was collected in Woodford County schools in 2018 and 2021, noting the stark contrast when compared to observations by EMS, Drug Court representatives, law enforcement, and school administrators. Unfortunately, Planet Youth project leaders were steadfast in their position that the data was not to be challenged. On August 1, 2023, Woodford County ASAP Coalition members held a ZOOM meeting to discuss the status of the Planet Youth contract. Coalition members agreed that there is value in the program's strategy to keep our youth engaged in meaningful sporting, creative, and intellectual endeavors with the objective of keeping them from using alcohol, tobacco, and drugs. However, coalition members felt a shared concern that Planet Youth project leaders had dismissed the coalition's concerns about the data collected and presented by Planet Youth. During the meeting, Robin Miller, WCHD, informed those in attendance that she had negotiated an early release from the contract with Planet Youth, including a partial refund in the amount of \$7330, should the coalition choose to accept it. Given the concerns about the accuracy of the Planet Youth survey results and the unwillingness of the Planet Youth project leaders to address concerns about the validity of the results, I move forward to accept the early release from the Planet Youth contract and to accept the partial refund in the amount of \$7330.00 ".

There was no discussion and the motion was seconded by Judge Executive James Kay.

Robin Miller shared the excellent news that The Woodford County Health Department and the Woodford County Agency for Substance Abuse Policy had been named as a 2023 recipient of the federal Drug Free Communities grant, which will provide \$625,000 over the course of 5 years, with \$125,000

every year for 5 years. This funding allows us to hire a program coordinator who can ensure that we are utilizing every asset we have in Woodford County to keep our children safe and healthy.

Freeman Bailey reiterated that we were grateful for our experience with Planet Youth and that we had gained some valuable tools that we would most definitely carry forward. He also encouraged folks to participate on the steering committee, emphasizing the importance of bringing our best to this endeavor to accomplish thing we'll ever accomplish, which is preparing our kids for the future.

Judge Kay agreed that we had gained a lot of valuable insight during our experience with Planet Youth and reminded us that we needed to vote on Rob Young's motion to accept an early release from Planet Youth.

The motion passed unanimously.

Nancy Blackford announced that the youth substance use prevention program would provide an update at the November meeting. She also encouraged ASAP grantees to use the money they were awarded and to follow the plans that were approved. She reminded coalition members that the budget was included with the agenda and encouraged folks to ask questions. There were no questions, so she encouraged all in attendance to call her if they had any questions about the budget or the grants.

Freeman Bailey invited coalition members to pick up a Quick Response kit that contains Naloxone, a CPR mask, gloves, and a magnet with important emergency contact information. He encouraged everyone to make sure they're up-to-date on their CPR and to take a Quick Response kit home because they never know when they're going to need it. He also emphasized the danger that exists not only due to the prevalence of recreational drugs, but also due to the risk that exists among elderly people who can accidentally overdose on legally-prescribed medications.

Freeman also let everyone know that EMS had responded to a call out in the county when a young 20-year-old man overdosed. He said that the only thing standing between him and death was the fact that his name wasn't on the death certificate, because he was gone. But one of his medics administered Naloxone and saved the young man's life.

The following announcements were made by community partners:

- Ariel Appling Smith, New Vista, encouraged members to call her if they needed to help someone find a treatment facility.
- Rob Young thanked Ariel for sharing her personal story of recovery.
- Larry Blackford provided an update about PALS and reported that they had begun to have meetings and that people were grateful for the support.
- Ellie Castle announced that the Versailles Police Department would be hosting their very first mini-grant-funded event, "Halloween Spooky Movie Night", a time for children ages 5 to 10 to come out and build positive relationships with officers.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:42 am.