

OPIOID AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER (OSUD) GRANTS COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2024, 2:00 PM

City Hall, 1st Floor, Lynwood Roberts Room

Chair: Dr. Lantie Jorandby

Vice-Chair: Dr. Richmond Wynn

Secretary: Antonio Nichols

Committee Meeting Attendance	
X	Dr. Lantie Jorandby - Chair
X	Dr. Richmond Wynn - Vice-Chair
X	Antonio Nichols - Secretary
X	Heather Rios
	Dr. John Tanner
X	Nancy Rice
	Sarah Smith

Quorum Present: Yes

Staff:

- Madelaine Zarou and Laura Viafora Ray - Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department
- Jeremy Brown - Office of General Counsel, City of Jacksonville

City Council Liaison:

- City Council President Ronald Salem (not present)

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:03 PM by Dr. Jorandby, Chair.

II. Welcome and Introductions

Staff members introduced themselves, and each OSUD Grants Committee member in attendance introduced themselves.

III. Opioid-Related Overdose Data

Laura Viafora Ray, Program Coordinator of Opioid Abatement, gave an update on local opioid-related overdose data. Ms. Viafora Ray noted that staff planned to provide an update on local opioid-related overdose data to the committee bi-annually unless the committee requests this be more frequent or if they request a particular data point.

This update included the number of suspected opioid-related overdose patients that Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department responded to by year from 2019 to February 2024. She stated that from 2022 to 2023 there was a 16% decrease in this measure, and for the months of January and February 2023 to January and February 2024 there was a 28% decrease. Ms. Viafora Ray next presented the percentage of suspected opioid-related overdose patients by race/ethnicity, gender, and age range from 2014 through February 2024. She then presented suspected opioid-related overdoses by

count and rate by zip code as presented on a heat map, noting that by count the areas with highest number of overdoses include the westside (32210 and 32244) and northside (32218), but by a rate per 1,000 population the areas with the highest rates are those zip codes in the urban core (32202, 32206, 32208, and 32209).

Next, Ms. Viafora Ray presented the counts of fatal overdoses in Duval County from the first quarter of 2019 to the last quarter of 2022 separated out by all drug types and just those that are opioid-related. She stated that this data is helpful because it differentiates between opioid-related deaths and all other drug deaths, but she acknowledged that the data is somewhat outdated, and it does take a long time to receive these data. She went on to say that the hope would be to see a decrease in this measure in 2023 which would match the decrease seen in opioid-related overdose calls. Ms. Viafora Ray continued the presentation by sharing that she had another source of data for a similar measure from the health department, taken from ICD codes in the hospital, which differs from medical examiner office data she presented on the previous slide. She reiterated that it was a different data source and noted that 2023 data was provisional, but she explained that the trend was showing a decrease in unintentional overdose death rates from 2022 to 2023. These data included Duval County and Florida, and Ms. Viafora Ray noted that Duval County's rates were higher than Florida for almost all years.

She then went over some data points related to opioid use among youth and stated that there are blind spots with these data, but one measure that is available is "Students Who Have Ever Used Prescription Pain Relievers Without a Doctor's Orders" which she explained has been trending down from 2016 to 2022 among youth both in Duval and Florida overall. Ms. Viafora Ray noted that students should probably be asked other questions related to opioid use since trends have changed, such as the introduction of fentanyl into the illicit drug market. She went on to share that for the measure of lifetime use of heroin among Duval high schoolers, estimates range from less than 1% to 8% depending on the survey and how the question is asked, and she again noted that a question only addressing heroin use may not be sufficient to understand youth use of opioids. Finally, Ms. Viafora Ray presented a slide showing the data definitions and sources of all measures she had presented on.

Dr. Wynn, Vice-Chair, asked Ms. Viafora Ray if it was possible to look back at the applicants awarded in this grant cycle and track which applicants were areas of highest need based on the heat maps presented. She answered by stating that staff could do that in two ways - they could analyze the primary locations of awarded applicants from this cycle and compare that with top zip codes, and in addition they could track and share data collected in the Quarterly Programmatic Reports which includes the numbers of patients and clients served by their zip code of residence.

Next, Dr. Jorandby asked if the Youth Risk Behavior Survey asked about anything other than opioid prescriptions. Ms. Viafora Ray responded by stating that to her knowledge the only questions asked related to opioid use or misuse were the questions about prescription opioid misuse and heroin use, and all other questions were about other types of drugs. She went on to say that she had reviewed the surveys including the

questions asked and did not see any questions addressing the use of fentanyl. Dr. Jorandby mentioned the Monitoring the Future survey but acknowledged it is a national survey that does not provide local data. Ms. Viafora Ray noted that she could pull data from this source for the next data update.

IV. Office of Opioid Abatement Update

Madelaine Zarou, Manager of Opioid Abatement, gave an update from the Office of Opioid Abatement. She stated that all 24 program contracts, with the exception of one, have been partially executed and six contracts have been fully executed. She went on to say that for these six contracts the insurance had also been reviewed and approved. Ms. Zarou stated that it took about a month between receiving the contract and when they were fully executed.

She continued the update by sharing that two pieces of legislation were filed on March 20th. Ms. Zarou stated that the first piece of legislation includes the Committee's percentage recommendations for funded categories that they voted on at the last meeting - recommending that the funded category percentage distributions remain the same at 34% for prevention, 33% for treatment, and 33% for recovery support. She clarified that the legislation is written such that if the requests in one category are less than the budget of that category, then those leftover funds can be used in another category if there is a need. She noted that the City Council would review those recommendations in the legislation, and should they accept them then those will be the funded category distributions for the upcoming cycle.

Ms. Zarou said that the other piece of legislation filed is an amendment to their original ordinance and that she would discuss that further on the next slide. She noted that their office plans to host the next mandatory application workshops in late April, that all requesting agencies must attend at least one of these workshops held on Teams, and the workshops cover the application process from start to finish. She went on to say that they would be announcing these workshops via their email distribution list as well as posting the information on their website. She continued her update by announcing that they had acquired CyberGrants, an online grant application platform also used by Public Service Grants.

Ms. Zarou then summarized the changes to the original ordinance as described in the legislation including: adding the qualifier that grant funds used for existing programs must be used to expand or enhance those programs, adding a minimum score requirement of 70, simplifying the financial eligibility documents, and codifying Schedules A and B into the legislation. She clarified that Schedules A and B are the documents that outline approved uses of the funds.

Ms. Zarou went on to say that the two pieces of legislation will be introduced to the City Council tomorrow (March 26) and that the Amendment is on a one-cycle emergency so it can be passed and finished in time for when the next cycle opens. She stated that the other piece of legislation recommending the funded category percent distribution did not

need to be on a one-cycle emergency and that her office would keep the Committee updated on the status of that legislation.

V. Public Comment

Dr. Jorandby opened the floor to public comment.

Patricia Sampson, representing Community Rehabilitation Center, introduced herself. She noted that she was not sure if this was the panel to ask her inquiry to. She went on to say that CRC was an awardee of an OSPG grant, deemed eligible, and had an amended budget that they were supposed to present to the Committee today to explain the justification for the amended budget but were told on Friday that there was a possible conflict of interest and were removed from the agenda. She stated that they had started the program and were told to wait for an update, and she would like to know who would be providing an update and when.

Jeremy Brown, Assistant General Counsel, responded to Ms. Sampson by stating that this was not the appropriate source for that information and recommended reaching out to the Office of Inspector General. Ms. Zarou added that her office has been instructed by the Office of General Counsel that they are not permitted to discuss the conflict-of-interest issue and that they have shared all the information they are permitted to give.

There were no additional public comments.

VI. Vote on Minutes from February 2024 Meeting

Dr. Wynn put forth a motion to vote to approve the meeting minutes from the February 26, 2024, meeting. Ms. Rios seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Vote on Remaining 2024 Meeting Dates

Ms. Zarou explained that the city discourages scheduling “fifth week” meetings due to a lack of ITD support and so in proposing remaining meeting dates her office has avoided those dates. She also stated that per the guiding ordinance the Committee is only required to meet once between the months of November and December. Ms. Zarou also reminded the Committee that four members constitute a quorum so that could be taken into consideration as well.

Mr. Nichols put forth a motion to vote to approve the proposed meeting dates as presented on the slide deck:

- Monday, May 20, 2024
- Monday, June 17, 2024
- Monday, July 22, 2024
- Monday, August 5, 2024
- Monday, September 23, 2024
- Monday, October 28, 2024
- Monday, December 9, 2024

Dr. Wynn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Dr. Wynn asked if staff would send calendar invites. Ms. Zarou confirmed with committee members that staff would send calendar invites for all meeting dates, would aim for 2:00 PM meeting times, and would update the Committee with the meeting location when that information was available.

VIII. New Business

Ms. Viafora Ray shared that her office plans to reach out to current grant awardees to invite them to provide brief presentations (five minutes or less per program) over the next three Committee meetings. She added that they think in balancing these presentations with other agenda items they will still be able to keep the meetings to an hour. Dr. Wynn asked if the five minutes was inclusive of time for questions the Committee members may want to ask. Ms. Viafora Ray responded by stating that would depend on how many programs want to present but that they would be mindful of having enough time for questions as they schedule these but aim to keep the meetings to an hour.

IX. Adjournment

Dr. Wynn put forth a motion to vote to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Nichols seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned by Dr. Jorandby at 2:30 PM.

Next Meeting Date - Tuesday, April 23rd, 2024 at 2:00 PM

To be signed by Antonio Nichols, Secretary, certifying approval by Committee:

Signature: _____

Date: _____

This version of the meeting minutes is the accessible version to be uploaded to the Program website. The version containing the Secretary signature certifying approval by the Committee is on file with the Office of Opioid Abatement and can be requested by emailing opiodabatement@coj.net.