



# OPIOID ABATEMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION

Kentucky Opioid Abatement Advisory Commission  
Prevention Subcommittee  
November 15, 2022

## Minutes

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

1. The Prevention Subcommittee convened at 1:46 pm with three members attending. The members in attendance were Von Purdy, Carlos Cameron, and Allen Brenzel, proxy for Secretary Eric Friedlander.

### **II. MINUTES**

1. August 29, 2022, Subcommittee Meeting

*Allen Brenzel motioned to approve the August 29, 2022, minutes. Von Purdy seconded, and the motion carried.*

2. October 4, 2022, Subcommittee Meeting

*Allen Brenzel motioned to approve the October 4, 2022, minutes. Von Purdy seconded, and the motion carried.*

### **III. OLD BUSINESS**

1. Statutory Changes for Prevention

- Members Von Purdy, Allen Brenzel, and Carlos Cameron discussed if language relating to prevention can be edited. Allen Brenzel recommended an urgent change is needed related to fentanyl test strips. Under current statute, the test strips are considered drug paraphernalia and may be charged as a class B misdemeanor.

2. Regulatory Changes for Prevention

- Members discussed considering access to opiates as it relates to prevention. Where do the drugs come from? Allen Brenzel suggested increasing the use of



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suboxone and methadone clinics in the prevention of illicit opioid abuse by those seeking recovery. He sees a need for better access to all tertiary methods of prevention. Allen Brenzel will bring the regulations that govern methadone clinics to the next meeting.

- Members discussed the need to identify barriers that exist to people seeking help with their addictions. One consideration of regulation change could potentially be examining the requirements of insurance companies to cover alternative pain management sources (i.e. mindfulness, acupuncture, etc.).
- Allen Brenzel also brought up examining the chronic need versus the usage of opiates.

### 3. Policy Changes for Prevention

- Von Purdy mentioned that high school athletes are required to have an annual physical to be able to play sports. She suggested that language could be added to making the discussion and providing information about opioid use to the athletes at the time of the physical.
- It was suggested by Carlos Cameron that medical school curriculum could focus more on the prescribing of opiates and alternative pain methodology.
- Allen Brenzel mentioned that drug disposal kits could be provided with prescription drugs to encourage the safe disposal of unused medications, particularly opiates.

## IV. NEW BUSINESS

### 1. Meeting Dates for Review Applications

***Von Purdy made a motion to schedule the grant application reviews following the regularly scheduled business meetings (Jan 10, Feb 14, April 11, May 9, and June 13, 2023). Allen Brenzel seconded, and the motion carried.***



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## V. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND REMARKS

1. Shannon Moody from Kentucky Youth Advocates asked how prevention is defined in this group versus treatment and recovery and reform and compliance. She suggested that a trauma screen could be used before the prescription of opioids to identify high-risk individuals.
2. Robert McCool of KIPRIC stated that the statewide DARE education program has been re-vamped and now uses evidence-based programs. He also informed members of the Drug Abuse Tacklebox is available on the KIPRIC website.
3. Renee Moore, the owner of an outpatient facility, relayed that she sees there is a roadblock to providing services to adolescents. She relayed that some Kentucky school systems do not allow education/prevention programs in the schools.
4. Jennell Brewer of S.P.A.R.K. Ministries relayed that school FRYSC offices may be helpful in providing more substance abuse education through their Family Academies.

## VI. ADJOURNMENT

*3:02 p.m. – Von Purdy motioned to adjourn the subcommittee. Allen Brenzel seconded. Motion to adjourn was unanimous.*