

OPIOID AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER (OSUD) GRANTS COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2024, 2:00 PM

City Hall, 1st Floor, Lynwood Roberts Room

Chair: Dr. Richmond Wynn

Vice-Chair: Antonio Nichols

Secretary: Heather Rios (not present)

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

Quorum Present: Yes

City Council Liaison (non-voting member):

- City Councilmember Ron Salem, At-Large, Group 2 (present)

Staff:

- Madelaine Zarou, Manager of Opioid Abatement - Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department
- Laura Viafora Ray, Program Coordinator - Opioid Abatement - Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department
- Harry "Reece" Wilson, Assistant General Counsel - Office of General Counsel, City of Jacksonville

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:01 PM by Dr. Richmond Wynn, Chair.

II. Welcome and Introductions

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

III. Office of Opioid Abatement Update

Madelaine Zarou, Manager of Opioid Abatement, began the update from their office by sharing that 2024-837 had been enacted on November 27 following City Council approval. This legislation appropriated an additional \$301,038.70 to the fiscal year

2024-2025 OSPG Program budget, resulting in the three partially funded programs, one from each funded category, receiving additional funding.

Ms. Zarou continued with an update on the fiscal year 2024-2025 contracts, noting that of the 14 program contracts, 8 have draft Purchase Order Agreements (POAs), and 6 are awaiting POAs. One contract has been fully executed.

Finally, Ms. Zarou shared an update on the audits and annual reports from fiscal year 2023-2024 awardees. They stated that of the eight total audits/annual reports that were due to the Council Auditor's Office (CAO) thus far, four had been submitted and accepted by the CAO, three are pending approval, and New Hope Education and Addiction Services doing business as Florida Recovery Schools never submitted their audit and are as such currently listed on the Chapter 118 Non-Compliance List for this, as well as for failing to comply with other terms of the contract.

IV. FY 23-24 OSPG Program Summary Report

Laura Viafora Ray, Program Coordinator - Opioid Abatement, shared that their office had compiled a report summarizing the fiscal year 2023-2024 OSPG Program, which was an abbreviated period from February 2024 to September 2024. Ms. Viafora Ray noted that an electronic copy of the report had been sent to Committee members, printed copies were available to meeting attendees, and that an electronic copy would be emailed to the OSPG Program distribution list. They described the components and sections of the report, noting that the report included background information on the OSPG Program and the OSUD Grants Committee, and a timeline for the major events during the FY 23-24 OSPG Program. They went on to say that the report also contained summaries of all funded programs (organized by funded category) including amount awarded, amount expended, and key activities and highlights pulled from Quarterly Progress Reports (QPRs), as well as demographic data of unduplicated program participants/clients/patients.

They continued by sharing some background information on the demographic data that they would present on, noting that the data source for the demographic data was the FY 23-24 funded agency Quarterly Progress Reports (QPRs) and clarifying that the counts do not represent the full scope of individuals reached through OSPG Program efforts, just those for which demographic data was collected and reported. Finally, they noted that questions about the data should be directed to them at lvray@coj.net.

Next, Ms. Viafora Ray shared a table summarizing the zip code of residence of unduplicated program participants/clients/patients by count (by funded category) and by percentage (total across all program types) in comparison to opioid-related overdose

calls that Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department (JFRD) responded to from February 2024 to September 2024 (same time frame as the period of performance per the OSPG agreements) by patient zip code. They called attention to the fact that the distribution of areas/zip codes of residence of individuals engaging with the funded programs matched closely to the distribution of zip codes of residence of patients that JFRD responded to for a suspected opioid-related overdose, demonstrating an alignment with resources and need. They then shared a table summarizing the race and gender of unduplicated program participants/clients/patients by count (by funded category) and by percentage (total across all program types) in comparison to opioid-related overdose calls that JFRD responded to from February 2024 to September 2024 by patient race and gender. They noted that these numbers did not align as well as the zip code data, but that given that opioid overdoses are increasing in some segments of the population and decreasing in others, these data did not necessarily suggest a misalignment between resources and need.

Dr. Wynn commented that it appeared that prevention services reached a higher number of Black and African American individuals, but not treatment services. Ms. Viafora Ray clarified that the table only included counts by funded category, not percentages, and that they would do a more robust analysis and share it with the committee.

Councilmember Ron Salem asked if there was a way to relate these numbers to the overdose calls that JFRD was getting and if these programs could be shown to be decreasing the number of calls. Ms. Viafora Ray answered by saying that they provide a data update quarterly that more closely aligns with the data he was asking for, but that they could share that over the past year JFRD's opioid-related overdose calls had been decreasing significantly. CM Salem then asked if there was evidence that the decreases observed in Jacksonville were greater than those observed at the national level. Ms. Viafora Ray explained that at this point it is challenging to answer that since national and state data has a significant lag or a year or more, but that their office was continuously monitoring those data point as well. They went on to say that there was evidence of program impact and outcomes as summarized in the report in the section covering key program activities and highlights, showing for example, decreases in overdoses among program participants in the time they were part of a program compared to before.

Ms. Smith remarked that they were grateful to have access to the JFRD data and said that they were impressed by how well the grantees understood the needs of the city as evidenced by how the data showed alignment between where overdoses were occurring and who was impacted and the individuals that the programs were meeting.

The FY 23-24 City of Jacksonville Opioid Settlement Proceeds Grants Program Summary is available upon request - email opioidabatment@coj.net.

V. Public Comment

Dr. Wynn opened the floor to public comment. There was no public comment.

VI. Vote on Minutes from October 21, 2024 Meeting

Antonio Nichols, Vice-Chair, put forth a motion to vote to approve the meeting minutes from the October 21, 2024, meeting. Ms. Smith seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Heather Rios, Secretary, was not present at the meeting, so they will be sent the approved 10/21 meeting minutes to sign and certify at a later date.

VII. Vote on 2025 Meeting Dates

Ms. Zarou presented the proposed committee meeting dates for calendar year 2025 as follows:

- January 27
- February 24
- March 24
- April 28
- May 19
- June 23
- July 28
- August 25
- September 22
- October 6
- October 20
- December 8

They noted that all proposed dates were on a Monday, and they would aim for all meeting times to be at 2:00 PM. They went on to explain that like this past year, there would be two meetings in October - one to announce the tentative rankings and funding allocations of FY 25-26 OSPG Program awardees and one to announce the final rankings and funding allocations, following an appeals period. As permitted by Chapter 84, there would only be one meeting held across November and December, taking place on December 8, 2025.

Ms. Smith asked for clarification on the committee's attendance policy, and Ms. Zarou answered by stating that per the committee's bylaws, a member may miss two

consecutive meetings, but if they are to miss more than two consecutive meetings, this would require approval by the Chair. There were no further questions.

Ms. Smith put forth a motion to vote to approve the proposed meeting dates. Dr. John Tanner seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Vote on Budget Change Requests

First, Gateway Community Services presented a budget change request for their program titled "Project Independence." This budget change request was presented by Taylor Riffey, Director of Grants and Development. They requested the following changes: increase salary for the Support and Engagement Specialist position, increase fringe benefit line items (FICA and Med Tax, Health Insurance, Dental, Life Insurance, Workers Compensation, and Other Benefits - Disability), increase Telephone, increase Office Supplies, increase Equipment Under \$1,000, decrease Other – HER Software, and decrease Client Rent. Mr. Nichols asked Ms. Riffey if the budget change request would result in an overall decrease in the budget and she responded by clarifying that the budget changes in combination across all line items resulted in the overall total budget remaining the same. There were no further questions from committee members.

Mr. Nichols put forth a motion to vote to approve Gateway's budget change request. Dr. Tanner seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Next, NAMI Jacksonville presented a budget change request for their program titled "Connection Recovery Support." This budget change request was presented by Suzanne Mailloux, Executive Director. They requested the following changes: decrease in FTE and salary in for the ED position, decrease salaries for the Peer Coordinator positions, remove Peer Specialist Coach, add Program Manager salary at 0.50 FTE, decrease FICA and Med Tax, increase Cell Phone Stipend, decrease Printing and Advertising, and add a line item for Parking and Tolls. There were no questions from committee members.

Ms. Smith put forth a motion to vote to approve NAMI Jacksonville's budget change request. Nancy Rice seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Finally, Volunteers in Medicine presented a budget change request for their program titled "Forever Health: Opioid Prevention." This budget change request was presented by Jennifer Ryan, CEO. They requested the following changes: remove the Client - Mental Health Counseling line item and add salaries for a Lead Clinical Counselor position and Part Time Clinical Counselor position. Ms. Ryan explained that this change was necessary to continue to offer program patients counseling services because the organization that they had previously contracted with to provide counseling was no longer offering those services. There were no questions from committee members.

Dr. Tanner put forth a motion to vote to approve Volunteers in Medicine’s budget change request. Mr. Nichols seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Details about budget change requests are available upon request.

IX. New Business

Dr. Wynn opened the floor for new business. There was no new business.

X. Adjournment

Ms. Smith put forth a motion to vote to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Tanner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned by Dr. Wynn at 2:28 PM.

Next Meeting Date - Monday, January 27, 2025 at 2:00 PM

To be signed by Heather Rios, Secretary, certifying approval by the 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 opiodabatment@coj.net.