

Douglas County Opioid Council

January 14, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Introductions and Attendance

Voting Members	Present? (Y/N)
Commissioner Abe Laydon: Douglas County	Y
Jason Kennedy: Douglas County Sheriff's Office (<i>Ron Hanavan for Jason Kennedy</i>)	Y
Mike Hill: Douglas County Health Department	Y
Ruby Richards: Douglas County Human Services	Y
Chief Jim Tsurapas: Parker Police Department	N
Lori Griffith: 23 rd Judicial District Probation	N
Chief Kirk Wilson: Lone Tree Police Department	N
Commander Tim Gorman: Castle Rock Police Department	Y
Ruben Medina: Aurora City Council	Y
Tarissa Vincent: South Metro Fire and Rescue	Y
Darcy Kofol: 23 rd Judicial District Attorney's Office	N

Quorum met (7 members)

Advisory Members / General Public and County Staff Support
Allison Dodge: One Chance to Grow Up
Arielle Denis: Douglas County Attorney's Office
Becky Bressan: Valley Hope
Carey Piggot: Douglas County Finance
Caroline Frizell: Douglas County Communications
Carolyn Riggs: Douglas County Procurement
Christie Guthrie: Douglas County Finance
Drew Thompson: FullCircle Program
Ellen Stern: Children's Hospital Colorado
Erik Plate: 23 rd Judicial District, Bridges of Colorado
Jack Patterson: Colorado Attorney General's Office
Jennifer Eby: Douglas County
Jerry Van Leuven: The Aspen Effect
Jill Janz: Douglas County Finance
Josefine Milliner: CASA

Katie Craft: AllHealth Network
Kelli Smith: Douglas County School District
Kevin Duffy: Juvenile Assessment Center
Kirsten Swanson: Douglas County Community Foundation
Kortney Poire: Valley Hope
Kristin Carpenter: Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention
Laura Ciancone: Douglas County Human Services
Meli Reumann: AllHealth Network
Marissa Bovee: TESSA
Nicole Martin: Community Member
Nitsuh Bedada: Sky Ride Colorado
Racquel Garcia: HardBeauty
Roger Hudson: Castle Pines, Community Member
Sam M: FullCircle Program Participant
Samuel L: FullCircle Program Participant
Sarah Packard: Douglas County
Sharon Griffin: Running Creek Counseling
Terri Wiebold: The Castle Pines Connection
Omni Institute Members
Ailala Kay
Rhiannon Streight
Lindsay Houston
Thao Lam

Meeting Minutes Approval

December 2025

- **Motion:** Mike Hill
- **Second:** Tim Gorman
- **Discussion/Opposition:** None
- **Motion passed**

COAC Funding Request Update

- Omni shared that the \$4,482,000 request to the Colorado Opioid Abatement Council (COAC) was approved, for which the expenditure report is due in February. Omni and the County will submit on behalf of the Council.
- This month's [Douglas County Reconciliation Workbook](#) is available to view.

Discussions and Decisions

- **Round 1 Programs 2026 Funding: Contract Amendment Approvals**
 - The updated amendments for programs funded during the Round 1 Request for Proposal (RFP) are as follows (see [folder](#) for specifics):
 - **AllHealth Network** (case management) was awarded \$72,817 with no changes to budget or scope of work.
 - **Douglas County School District** (DCSD, youth prevention) was awarded \$124,000 with no changes to budget or scope of work.
 - **HardBeauty** (peer support) was awarded \$217,871, with a budget increase of \$19,700 to account for changes in rent and cost-of-living.
 - **Valley Hope** (case management) was awarded \$65,000 with no changes.
 - **Sky Ride Colorado** (transportation) was awarded \$99,901.95 with a minor change to payment schedule to allow purchase of additional van in Quarter 1.
 - The Council voted to approve the above contract amendments. They will move to final approval by the Douglas County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) next.
 - **Motion:** Tim Gorman
 - **Second:** Ruby Richards
 - **Opposition:** None
 - **Motion passed**
- **Crisis Stabilization RFP: Final Review & Approval**
 - Council reviewed the most updated draft of the Crisis Stabilization RFP. The Council discussed the following revisions to the RFP:
 - Inclusion of a claw-back clause
 - Adjusted funding sources to reflect a range for SAMHSA funds offered (up to \$200,000)
 - The Council discussed contract terms or correct period of performance, and decided this was best for contracting negotiations and left out of final RFP.
 - The Council discussed and decided on the following timeline for the RFP.
 - **January 20, 2026:** RFP posting by Douglas County Finance
 - **January 28, 2026:** Deadline for vendor questions
 - **February 4, 2026:** Deadline for answers to questions
 - **February 11, 2026:** Deadline for RFP applications
 - **February 18, 2026:** Council voting members' review and selection
 - County Procurement will update the RFP with the above revisions. The Council voted to approve the Crisis Stabilization RFP following the aforementioned revisions.
 - **Motion:** Ron Hanavan
 - **Second:** Ruby Richards
 - **Opposition:** None
 - **Motion passed**

- **DCCF Emergency Fund: STEP Funding Discussion**
 - Following the Council's decision in December 2025 to approve STEP Ministries' DCCF Emergency Fund request, Kirsten Swanson from DCCF shared the update that STEP's Executive Director and Director of Development have both stepped away from the organization due to moral obligations. At this time, STEP could not be reached. DCCF recommended pausing funding for the time being.
 - Jennifer Eby will connect Kirsten with Tiffany from the Homeless Engagement, Assistance and Resource Team (HEART).
 - The Council voted on pausing funding for STEP until further information.
 - **Motion:** Ron Hanavan
 - **Second:** Mike Hill
 - **Opposition:** Commissioner Abe Laydon shared concerns on stopping funding for an organization that the HEART relies on. Abe Laydon and Arielle Denis from Douglas County's Attorney Office recommend awaiting information before moving forward with funding decisions.
 - **Motion did not pass**
 - The STEP funding decision has been moved to the February Council meeting.
- **Streamlining External Requests and Funding for 2026**
 - In 2025, the Council tested a basic external requests form to consider new funding opportunities. While Council was able to fund some exciting youth prevention programs through this process, it ultimately resulted in inefficiencies and frustrations for County, Council, and potential partners. Additionally, both the Council and County are nearing administrative capacity, thus a more streamlined approach to future funding is necessary.
 - An assessment of funding priorities within Douglas County has not been conducted since 2023. Intentional planning for funding processes is crucial and will take form in a prioritization survey assessing needs and gaps, distributed by Omni. This survey will allow both providers and community members alike to share their perspectives on current opioid abatement priorities and funds with the Council.
 - The survey will be available online and distributed to all on the DCOC listserv. Omni will create and share a one-pager with details so that Councilmembers (voting and non-voting) can help circulate the survey.
 - Goal is for an additional RFP to open in the summer of 2026, informed by data from the survey and Council discussions, reflecting updated Council priorities.
 - General 2026 funding timeline:
 - **February/March**
 - Crisis Stabilization RFP open, Council review and selection of applications
 - Omni distributes "prioritization survey" to providers and community members
 - **April/May**
 - Council review of prioritization survey results
 - Discussion and planning of funding priorities
 - **June/July**

- Preparation and opening of additional RFP reflecting newly established priorities
- Hence, the following changes will immediately be in effect:
 - The external request form will no longer be accepting requests. Information on requesting DCOC's Letters of Acknowledge/Letters of Support, contact Reg12@omni.org.
 - There will be a standing agenda item for Council voting members to introduce and highlight new organizations or challenges of interest for the Council's consideration.
 - The next funding opportunity will occur in summer of this year.

Updates and Follow-Ups

- **Ibogaine Update:** Following updates on ibogaine at the last Council meeting, Omni shared documented safety risks, noted efficacy, and confidence limitations of peer-reviewed studies on ibogaine (see slide 11 on the [slide deck](#) for specifics).
 - The COAC currently does not consider ibogaine an allowable use of opioid settlement funding.
 - If interested, the Council will continue to track research and policy as things evolve.
 - Becky Bressan from Valley Hope offered to reach out to Dr. Jon Siebert for a statement on ibogaine as a possible discussion for the February Council meeting.
- **Youth Prevention Grant Award Update:** Omni shared updates on awarding of the youth prevention external requests.
 - **Aspen Effect** was awarded \$100,000. The contract is completed and awaits the Council's review and BOCC's approval.
 - **TESSA** was awarded \$50,000. TESSA revised the scope of work to reflect what could be accomplished with the awarded amount to provide the Council with proof of program concept. The contracting process will begin after this meeting. Additional funding will be considered at the six-month mark, depending on the program's progress/success.
 - **CASA's** request of \$35,000 is still pending. CASA provided a thorough response to the Council's follow-up questions about the proposal which have been discussed with the COAC. An executive session following the February meeting is planned to discuss the final vote for CASA's request.
- **Resources for the DCOC Webpage:** A community member with lived experience requested the addition of resources on substance use disorders and mental health to the DCOC webpage. Omni can support the collection of resources. To share any organization and/or resource, reach out to Reg12@omni.org before the February Council meeting.

Closing

- The Council discussed an in-person Council meeting sometime April through June. Ron Hanavan noted the efficiency of virtual meetings, and Commissioner Abe Laydon suggested a hybrid option. Mike Hill suggested the updated location of the Douglas County Health Department in Englewood (Meridian) as a potential space to convene in person. Omni will consider the best option for a hybrid meeting and follow up with Council in a future meeting.
- **Next meeting:** February 5, 2026, at 9am MT, virtual