

Region 12 Opioid Council

August 7, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Introductions and Attendance

Voting Members	Present? (Y/N)
Commissioner Abe Laydon: Douglas County	N
Councilman Roger Hudson: Castle Pines City Council	Y
Jason Kennedy: Douglas County Sheriff's Office (<i>Chief Ron Hanavan for Undersheriff 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	Y
Chief Kirk Wilson: Lone Tree Police Department	Y
Commander Tim Gorman: Castle Rock Police Department	Y
Ruben Medina: Aurora City Council	Y
Tarissa Vincent: South Metro Fire and Rescue	N
Darcy Kofol: 23 rd Judicial District Attorney's Office	Y

Quorum met (9 members)

County Staff Support
Arielle Denis: Douglas County Attorney's Office
Caroline Frizell: Douglas County Communications
Carolyn Riggs: Douglas County Procurement
Jill Janz: Douglas County Finance
Maureen Waller: Douglas County
Shelby Quezada: Douglas County Finance
Advisory Members / General Public
Allison Dodge: One Chance to Grow Up
Anne Markley: TESSA
Becky Bressan: Valley Hope
Calli Tucker: City of Aurora Crisis Intervention Team
Deg Egner: The Aspen Effect
Jennifer Eby: Douglas County

Jerry Van Leuven: The Aspen Effect
Katie Craft: All Health Network
Kevin Duffy: Citizen Representative
Kirsten Swanson: Douglas County Community Foundation
Kristin Carpenter: University of Colorado
Laura Ciancone: Douglas County
Marsha Alston: Douglas County Youth Initiative
Meli Reumann: All Health Network
Mikhail Talley: SE2
Morgan Gandara-Behr: City of Aurora Crisis Intervention Team
Nitsuh Bedada: Sky Ride Colorado
Sarah Packard: Douglas County
Savannah Putnam: HardBeauty
Sharon Griffin: Running Creek Counseling
Stephanie Crawford-Goetz: Douglas County School District
Terri Wiebold: The Castle Pines Connection
Omni Institute Members
Ailala Kay
Rhiannon Streight
Lindsay Houston
Shon Reed
Lauren Rosenbaum
Thao Lam

Meeting Minutes Approval

July 2025

- **Motion:** Mike Hill
- **Second:** Roger Hudson
- **Discussion/Opposition:** None
- **Motion passed**

Finance Updates

- Shelby Quezada from Douglas County Finance shared the financial status update (see [slide deck](#) for details):
 - Total Anticipated Funds Available-to-Date: \$7,890,402.00
 - Since the July meeting, there has been an additional ~\$2,000,000 added to funding

- Funds Requested-to-Date: \$2,390,095.66
- Total Expenditure Amount Available to Date: \$622,280.66
- Estimated Anticipated Total Funding (2022-2038): \$21,849,721.60
- **Region 12 Standard Payment Schedule:** 50% will be paid upfront, 50% at contract mid-point.
 - At the July Council meeting, the proposed payment schedule was 50% upfront and 50% at contract end. The Council held a discussion resulting in a request for a different standardization. Following the July meeting, Region 12 Leadership and County staff reviewed the Council's comments and alternative options.
 - Decision – The Standard Payment Schedule will be 50% upfront, 50% at contract mid-point, noting the following caveats:
 - The contract includes language ensuring R12 can require funds to be returned if contract is not carried out.
 - The contract includes language requiring funded organizations submit agreed upon data at quarterly intervals.
 - Vote – Standard Payment Schedule
 - **Motion:** Kirk Wilson
 - **Second:** Ruby Richards
 - **Discussion/Opposition:** None
 - **Motion passed**

Evaluation Updates

- Omni shared that Quarter 2 data from funded organizations has been gathered.
- Omni is wrapping up initial meetings with newly funded organizations regarding evaluation plans. Omni is working on testing pilot survey with these organizations to help increase ease in data collection and handling.

Spotlight Organization: Sky Ride

- Nitsuh Bedada from Sky Ride presented on the organization's impact in Quarters 1 and 2, supported by Region 12's funding. Quarterly data included numbers of completed trips, trip requests, missed trips, and unique individuals served; behavioral health and support services; funding sources/distribution; and program challenges and sustainability. See [slide deck](#) for specifics.
- Sky Ride noted growth in Quarter 2's services is due to partnership with Douglas County Problem-Solving Courts.
- The Council discussed marketing methods and potential partnership connections with Sky Ride, and the service costs for each ride, noting that costs appear to be high. Sky Ride shared that rates

are high due to pre-determined costs, funding sources, and clientele need. Virtual options such as Zoom were discussed as means to alleviate costs for problem-solving court clients, while noting that courts' best practices encourage in-person engagement with clients. The Council shared perspectives on similarly high costs of transportation in other focus areas, such as child welfare.

- Omni reminded the Council to keep Sky Ride's spotlight and the positive feedback shared by advisory members in mind for decisions regarding continued funding for this program beyond end of 2025.

SE2 Campaign Update

- Caroline Frizell from Douglas County Communications shared updates on the Region 12 rebranding, including communication objectives, brand colors, and new logo options. The Council discussed options before voting to approve the final logo.
 - **Motion:** Roger Hudson
 - **Second:** Kirk Wilson
 - **Discussion/Opposition:** None
 - **Motion passed**
- The selected logo is set to debut next week. Kirsten Swanson from Douglas County Community Foundation (DCCF) will connect with Douglas County Communications on logo usage. The Council discussed usage of different logo variants, potential social media presence, and potential integration of the lotus logo's symbolism in the Region's work.
- Omni reminded Councilmembers to stay in touch regarding a meeting in August to discuss and approve campaign items for launch in September.

Discussions and Decisions

- **External Requests Overview:** Omni shared that the process was created to bring community needs to the Council more quickly and efficiently. Because the Council received three similar requests in a short period of time related to youth prevention, the Council is hearing from The Aspen Effect this month and will hear from two other organizations in September, before making informed funding decisions.
 - **Funding Request by The Aspen Effect:** Jerry Van Leuven from The Aspen Effect presented on the program's objectives, activities, and impact utilizing a nature-based approach to provide substance use prevention services for youths and their families. See [slide deck](#) for specifics. The Aspen Effect is requesting \$100,000 for 2026 to help support programming and funding. The Council shared perspectives and testimonies of The Aspen Effect's work.
- **Designated Fund Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Agreement:** Kirsten Swanson from DCCF shared that the contract consists of general requirements for DCCF in reporting and

supporting the Council and organizations. Once the MOU is approved, funds will be transferred to DCCF's account.

- Jennifer Eby from Douglas County shared that the Grant Review Committee will consist of 5-9 individuals. A minimum of 5 committee members is recommended for each grant to account for representation and any conflict of interest. Kirsten Swanson shared that following submission there will be a short turnaround time for the Committee's review before bringing any Committee-approved applicants to Council meetings for a final vote. A meeting will be set up with committee members to review grant and scoring processes in August. The Committee will be prepared to begin by the time the fund officially launches.
- The Council voted on approving DCCF's Designated Fund MOU Agreement.
 - **Motion:** Roger Hudson
 - **Second:** Mike Hill
 - **Discussion/Opposition:** None
 - **Motion passed**

Closing

- Agenda items for upcoming Council meetings and an in-person Council meeting were discussed. Councilmembers agreed to keep the upcoming September meeting virtual on Zoom.
- **Next meeting:** September 4, 2025, at 9am MT, virtual