OKLAHOMA HIV & HEPATITIS PLANNING COUNCIL

Minutes

Oklahoma HIV & Hepatitis Planning Council
Monday, August 03, 2026 | 10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
ODOT Training Center
5307 NE 122nd St, Oklahoma City, OK 73131
Virtual Access: Microsoft Teams

10:02 call to order
Introductions & Icebreaker Ryan Ochsner, Community Co-Chair

Roll Call & Approval of Minutes M&P Subcommittee Co-Chairs
Present: 20
Minutes - Motion: Michelle Lewis Second: Michael Fox In favor: 18, motion passes

PrEP Supplemental Update - Neha Pullela, MPH, CPH, MLS, PrEP/PEP Coordinator, OSDHSHHRS
Grant ended May 31, 2026. Diagnose, treat, prevent, respond (four pillars). Goal: Support and promote awareness & access to PrEP/PEP services. HOPE, GRI, Southern Plains are the main partners.
Updates & successes: develop & distribute educational materials, enhance data collection & reporting, targeted outreach, expand transportation, additional training for community organizations and providers, develop & maintain PrEP/PEP directory for public access, create provider toolkit, obtain & evaluate data from OHCA.
290 were prescribed PrEP, combined with partner orgs to provide PEP to 45/48 individuals.
Print materials are available for community organizations to order (see QR code).

Harmony Wellness Center - Andy Gonzales, CEO, Harmony Wellness Center
Personal story leading to opening Harmony Wellness Center. “Remember why you’re doing this.”

HCV Data Update - Zayn Taleghani, Hepatitis Surveillance Epi, OSDH SHHRS
Major factors:
52.6% of cases are non-Hispanic white;
Chronic: 51% - non-Hispanic white (total 3310); 32.5% - 60+; 65.4% - male;
Risk factors (acute): tattoo w/in 6 mos 75%, 70.6% needle for street drugs;
OK, Cleveland & Tulsa most cases but also highest concentration of population;
Cases are significantly down from 2022.

HIV/HCV & Addiction - Michael Fox, Fox Project Foundation
Personal story leading to opening Fox Project Foundation. Why it started: personal diagnosis, news headlines empty of facts, societal stigma, turn fear into purpose.
Mission: compassion, education, access to healthcare, freedom from stigma.
Three pillars: Education, testing connection to care.

Tested 864 people, 2724 individuals in recovery educated in the last year, screened for HIV/HCV/ Syphilis.
Vision: expand outreach, educate, test & link to resources, increase testing capacity, launch nationally.

HCV Mobile Telehealth Program - Caila Garcia, VH Prevention Coordinator, OSDH SHHRS
Those who need tested (high risk populations) aren't and may take years to get treated once tested. Researched programs: Oregon NY, VMT, NH. What works: consistent scheduling, multiple services/functions, monetary incentives, healthcare navigation w/telemedicine support. Navigation increased treatment initiation and viral clearance. Navigator does bulk of work, but telemedicine provider directs communication to navigator, orders/reviews labs, prescribes, and schedules check-in visits.

> Erinn Williams: OK has an HIV & Hepatitis outbreak of unhoused persons who use drugs, worse than any before. What we are doing is not working. Need more incentives for them to get tested.

OSDH & SHHRS Updates - Amber Rose, MS, Director, OSDH SHHRS
Interactive HIV Data dashboard – data is through 2024. Working on a similar dashboard for STIs, possibly Hepatitis.
PHL – new Biorad issue so moving is on pause.
Lentocilin – shortage of bicillin is not getting better. Supplies have been delivered to OSDH Pharmacy. Not for field treatment right now. OHHPC & THD invited, THD will be in next round of distribution. Pilot in Cleveland and Commanche clinics right now.
Laboratory assessment (biannual) currently open.
Rapid Start moved from downtown to 3017 N. Stiles.
CBO funding cut from CDC possible, but cautiously optimistic that it can be reinstated. No guidance provided.
Have a mobile unit now for PrEP, screening and more.

Membership & Policy Updates, data Dawn Kluesner, OSDH Co-Chair, M&P Subcommittee
Vote for New Members LaCee & Veronica

> Motion: Ryan Ochsner Second: Michelle Lewis In favor: 20, motion passes

Policy & Procedure Manual: no more committees, all will move to ad hoc and can continue or close as they determine is best. No more requirements for meeting or providing data to Council but will always be given space to present at the meetings, if needed.
M&P rolls into Executive Committee, but will create ad hoc for bigger issues, as needed.

Subcommittee Updates - Vincent Burnett, Community Co-Chair

> Diagnose – HCV & HIV Testing: (Winston Lewis) combine collaborations and report numbers to group.
> Prevent – Faith and HIV: (Donetta Pittmon) Faithfully Fit was successful. Meeting w/pastors & committee members 5pm Sept 15th.
> Prevent – Harm Reduction & Viral Hepatitis: (Caila Garcia) sunset on July 1, been chaotic to serve people who use drugs under org rules and the law.
> Prevent – PrEP and PEP: (Neha Pullela) Committee may roll into PEP/PrEP taskforce. Working on provider pushes. Toolkit is available on OHHPC website.

Treat – HIV and HCV Treatment & Retention: out of town
Respond – Cluster Detection and Response: working on public facing plan & fact sheets.
Trauma Informed Approaches – (Rebekah Baker) Committee is taking a break.
Membership & Policy: send in applications for two vacancies by Aug. 7. Major overhaul on Manual for November vote.
Advocacy and Education – *ad hoc*: no updates, not in session. Looking for co-chair.

General Updates - Ryan Ochsner, Community Co-Chair
AIDS Walk OKC – Oct 4th. Prizes: biggest team, most funds raised (team & individual), best spirit (team, individual, & pet).

Closing & Evaluations - Vincent Burnett, Community Co-Chair
Minutes - Motion: Robbie Bright Second: Michael Fox In favor: 20, motion passes

Next Meeting:
November 02, 2026 | 10:00am – 2:30pm – Tulsa TBA