



# Meeting Minutes: Dakota County Opioid Response Advisory Committee,

Date: Tuesday, November 7, 2023  
Minutes prepared by: Geri Thostenson  
Location: Northern Service Center, 1 Mendota Rd, West Saint Paul

## Attendance

- Lived Experience
  - Tiffany Neuharth
  - Susan Pugh
  - Jacqueline Young
  - Jennifer Denmark
- Health Care
  - Michael Beltowsky
  - Dr. Seema Maddali
  - Marcus Blue
- Community Partners
  - Bridgette Noring
  - Q Mursal
  - Hanna Kazempour
- Local Government
  - Nate Burkett
  - Terry Johnson
  - Bryan Schowalter
- Dakota County
  - Alicia Ward
  - Eric Uddin
  - Dan Bianconi
  - Erin Carder
  - Madeline Goebel
  - Geri Thostenson
- Absent: Luke Hellier and Cara Schulz

## Decisions Made

- None.

## Agenda

- Introductions
- Treatment Courts
- Chemical Health – *Deferred to December.*
- 2024 Budget
- Bylaws - *Deferred to December*
  - Meeting Rules / Guardrails /Boundaries
- Public Comment
- Adjournment

## Next Meeting

Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023

Time: 3:00 pm

Location: Northern Service Center

## Meeting Notes

### Treatment Courts

During the meeting, Eric Uddin delivered a presentation on the ongoing efforts within Treatment Courts. He distributed hard copies, serving as handouts, explaining the framework of the Treatment Courts. Eric provided details about the programmatic processes and the composition of the Treatment Courts. He emphasized distinctive aspects of the Dakota County program, specifically focusing on adjudication withheld. The overarching goal of the program is for graduates to achieve sobriety and reintegrate into the community in a constructive and productive manner. Eric's presentation highlighted the commitment to fostering positive outcomes for individuals involved in the Treatment Courts.

### Chemical Health

Postposed due to time. The presentation will be shared during future meeting.

### 2024 Budget

Madeline shared the County Board presentation highlighting the preliminary approval of the 2024 spending plan recommendation at \$1.3 million. The overview covered potential funding areas, earmarking \$500 from 2023 activities for school related to naloxone storage equipment and training. The presentation included the eligible funds for cities over 30K and the ineligible cities. Lastly, a breakdown of the 2024 budget – Opioid Settlement Funds. The group discussed the need for a 2024 grant process and timeline.

### **Bylaws**

Madeline offered a brief overview of the bylaws during the meeting, providing the committee with a preliminary understanding of the framework for meeting rules.

### **Public Comment**

None.