

State of Nevada
Department of Health and Human Services · Mental Health and Developmental Services
Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Agency (SAPTA)

**STATEWIDE EPIDEMIOLOGY WORKGROUP (SEW)
MINUTES**

DATE:	May 16, 2012	
TIME:	9:00 a.m.	<u>Video-Conference</u>
LOCATION:	Truckee Meadows College Redfield Campus 18600 Wedge Parkway, Room 103 Reno, NV 89511	Legislative Counsel Bureau Grant Sawyer State Office Building 555 E. Washington Ave., Room 4401 Las Vegas, Nevada

Committee Members Present

Alicia Hansen *	Public Member
Angel Stachnik	Staff Epidemiologist, Indian Health Board, Nevada
Chuck Bailey proxy for Deborah McBride	SAPTA Agency Director
Ihsan Azzam	NSHD- Office of Epidemiology
John Johansen	Nevada Office of Traffic Safety
Linda Septian proxy for Debbie Gant-Reed	Crisis Call Center
Misty Allen	DHHS-Office of Suicide Prevention
Pauline Salla *	DCFS- JJPO
Ron Pierini	Douglas County Sheriff's Office
Sue Meuschke	Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence
Tami Jo McKnight	Clinical Program Planner, MHDS
Tony Fredrick	Southern Nevada Health District
Wei Yang	Nevada Center for Health Statistics and Informatics, UNR
William Gazza – Committee Chair	Clark Co. Coroner's Office

Committee Members Absent

Brad Towle	NSHD- Health Statistics, Planning, Epidemiology, & Response
Chris Pritsos	Department of Nutrition, UNR
Diane McCoy	Boys and Girls Clubs of Western Nevada
Kevin Quint	Join Together Northern Nevada
Muriel Kronowitz	Public Member

Consultants Present

Michael Coop	Coop Consulting
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SAPTA Staff Present

Charlene Herst	SAPTA Prevention Team Supervisor
Charlene Howard	SAPTA Health Program Specialist
Chuck Bailey	SAPTA Health Program Specialist
Kim Davis	SAPTA Administrative Assistant
Meg Matta – Recorder	SAPTA Administrative Assistant
Nan Kreher	SAPTA Health Program Specialist

* Attended Telephonically

1. Welcome and Introductions

William Gazza opened the meeting in due form at 9:08 a.m. with a statement of where the meeting notices were posted and a round of introductions.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. **Discussion and Approval of Statewide Epidemiology Workgroup Minutes of March 21, 2012**

Sue Meuschke moved to approve the minutes with one correction; Misty Allen seconded. The minutes were approved as corrected.

4. **Update on State Epidemiology Outcomes Workgroup Grant (SEOW)– Data Dissemination System**

Nan Kreher praised Bach Harrison and said that they were ahead of schedule on the system and will easily deliver before the grant deadline. She presented a live view of the system online and stepped the members through the various tabs. Under the Indicators tab, there are now forty indicators; and although the list was not fully populated, they want to place a limit on seventy indicators as the navigation can become unwieldy. She demonstrated how the Indicators tab worked using suicide data and further sorting out youth drinking and youth cocaine use. She drew charts from the data for illustration purposes. Wei Yang suggested using aggregated data over 3 to 5 years, and adding more key words to narrow the search so the user can drill down to more specific information, such as determining how many users of meth are also suicides. He can provide groups of students to help with the necessary manpower. Misty Allen offered to share more information from the Office of Suicide Prevention. Nan said that Bach Harrison collects data across states that it can distribute; but the initial focus will be on indicators from the local level. It was suggested that SAPTA develop a project to engage several groups to contribute data. Ihsan Azzam suggested the need for a clear definition of the age of the data in the warehouse, so that recent data is not confused with data that is old. It was also explained that the source of the data would be listed on the bottom of the chart, and Bach Harrison will add a column displaying the population numbers because small populations can cause rates to jump. The SEW members provided helpful and insightful input into the system development.

SAPTA would like to provide training to the coalitions and other users while the system is still less complicated than it will be when it becomes fully developed.

SEW members were invited to browse the site and provide feedback and suggestions of data that will be useful to them. <http://indicators.bach-harrison.com/nvsocialindicators/Default.aspx>

5. **Update on Strategic Prevention Enhancement Grant (SPE) – Data Warehouse and Reporting System**

Chuck Bailey reported that during the planning stages of a project of this size and complexity that was only given a one-year time period to execute, it was difficult to foresee all the obstacles that would occur during the process. SAPTA has experienced numerous successes; but also had to overcome challenges not originally anticipated when writing the SPE grant application. There were delays in attracting and hiring consultants, as they expressed concerns about relocating to Nevada for such a short term project. Further, the consultants advised purchasing a new server for the purpose of creating an optimum testing environment for the web portal being developed with grant funds.

Consequently, development of the Data Warehouse and Reporting System is behind schedule on the grant spend-out. SAPTA is exploring possible options to use funds for purposes not specifically requested in the original grant application. Charlene Herst discovered that Nevada is not the only state that is encountering problems with the short time frame of the grant. She has had discussions with the grant project officer about the possibility of expending the unspent money during an extended time frame. A request has been submitted for a four to six month extension. All options proposed follow the intent of the original application and directly relate to meeting grant deliverables.

It is a large project and hurdles cannot always be cleared as quickly as anticipated. To keep the project on track, the division's IT staff have filled in as needed and other funding sources were tapped when necessary. They are working to get as much delivered as possible in as short a time frame as possible. The focus is on providing the prevention coalitions and treatment providers an easy, navigational tool to be able to achieve their goals. The ultimate success of our SPE grant hinges upon the development of a

well-built, extensible data warehouse framework and web portal. This framework will be integral to SAPTA's planning and evaluation functions at the state and community levels for years to come and it will be expandable to meet future needs. Once mature, the system will provide for simple and secure information dissemination to SAPTA's service providers, funders, state legislators, and the general public.

6. Update and Discussion on SEOW – Community Profile

Nan reported on the Community Profile on prescription drug overdose deaths in Nevada. She has a contact in the Health Division who has access to vital statistics and can supply a large quantity of statewide data that can be added to the data from the Clark County Coroner's Office and the data from Washoe County. The Community Profile is almost finished with the exception of the new data; and will include consequences, consumption, risk factors, etc. Nan will send out a draft to everyone and track changes online so that she can get the final copy to Synectics by the end of the month. Changes may still be made after that time, if necessary.

7. Update on Emergency Room Data

Part of the data Nan will receive from her contact in the Health Division who has access to vital statistics, will cover emergency room data.

8. Review, Discussion, and Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding Template

Tabled. It was recently learned that if the agency does not require a signed MOU with SAPTA to share data, it can proceed to upload the data. If it does require an MOU, the document is generated by the agency, and SAPTA will sign it. So the document originates with the agency, not with SAPTA. It is possible that if an agency requiring an MOU shares data with more than one division in the State, that one MOU will suffice. The data that will be supplied to SAPTA is cleansed data with no identifiers, so it will not have to go through the IRB process. The youth survey, however, will need to go through the IRB process. Data for treatment or mental health will probably go through a different process.

With regards to the type of data SAPTA is seeking, what would be most useful, and the priority of that data, it was suggested that we look at data which has negative public health outcomes. Those could be: chronic disease, communicable disease, environmentally determined, behaviorally determined, and/or related to substance abuse. The CDC also defines negative outcomes related to social determinates. Alcohol and drug abuse, as well as indicators used in mental health, would be the top priorities. Our grant mandates national outcome measurements, which is information SAPTA needs to give back.

9. Review, Discussion, and Approval of the Nevada Fact Sheets: Native Americans & Alaskan Native Substance Use

Michael Coop received three edits, all minor typo-related. The draft formerly distributed is complete and the final version is ready for distribution.

10. Member Update from Ron Pierini, Douglas County Sheriff's Department

Ron shared the department's involvement with prevention, and the positive response from parents and other members of the community. Many parents wanted the department statistics on underage drinking, and showed increased interest and concern. Another area of interest was the prescription drug collection program that occurs twice a year. He warned that it is illegal for organizations to provide a container for year-round container. The DEA is trying to work up a policy with the federal government to allow it, but currently it is illegal. He discussed endangered children issues, drug enforcement, and alcohol sales to minors. Ron explained the social host law, and thinks it can prove a good deterrent for repeat offenders. He is proud of the DARE program, and he feels it makes a huge difference. The sheriff strives to forge close relationships with the youth and build a level of trust and open communication.

11. **Discussion and Approval of Agenda Items for July 18, 2012, Meeting**

- Update on Data Dissemination System – SEOW grant
- Data Warehouse – SPE grant
- Youth survey - YRBS
- Review of data section of the strategic plan
- John Johansen will provide the member update

12. **Public Comment**

Michael Coop reported on the survey results completed by the SEW and MPAC members and identified the priorities that will be included in the strategic plan, based on that survey. The most commonly cited priority in the survey was risky behaviors by children or adolescents, followed by illicit drug use, prescription drug misuse and underage drinking. The second most cited priorities were co-occurring disorders, suicide risk factors, pre or perinatal substance abuse, and mental illness. The agency focus identified adolescents and early childhood as the highest priority, followed by pregnant women and native Americans. Charlene thanked everyone who completed the survey.

13. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned in due form at 11:43 a.m.