

BUDGET TASK FORCE

Meeting Minutes

Friday, April 14th, 2023 2:00-4:00 pm

Hybrid: In-person at the NH Charitable Foundation and virtually on Zoom

Attendance

Name	Attendance
Task Force Members	
Traci Fowler (Co-Chair)	In person
Matt McKenney (Co-Chair)	In person
John Burns	Absent, sent Ashley Lewis as proxy
Alissa Cannon	Absent, sent Diane Casale as proxy
Karen Collins	In person
Annette Escalante	Zoom
Kate Frey	In person
Richard Frost	Absent
Powen Hsu	Absent
Lauren McGinley	In person
Cheryle Pacapelli	Absent, sent Elyssa Sage as proxy
Kristine Paquette	In person
Sarah Shanahan	In person
Shannon Swett	Absent
Center for Excellence on Addiction/JSI Staff	
Amy Daniels	Zoom
Amy Cullum	In person
Becca Spaulding	In person
Olivia Skaltsis	In person

Welcome and brief remarks by co-chairs Traci Fowler and Matt McKenney.

Member Introductions and Attendance: Co-chairs Traci Fowler and Matt McKenney opened the meeting by asking members to introduce themselves. A quorum was

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present in person, three task force members sent proxies, and both Annette Escalante and Amy Daniels were present on Zoom. Amy Cullum was the facilitator for the meeting.

Explanation of the Duties of the Budget Task Force:

- Due to the high number of proxies present, Traci Fowler reviewed the duties of the Budget Task Force. These duties are as follows:
 - Reporting on alcohol and other drug (AOD) related State spending
 - Recommend strategic investments to full Commission, including:
 - Maintaining an on-going list of funding priorities should additional resources become available
 - Ensuring funding is available to meet emerging/ urgent needs and new priorities
 - Quantify and explain the anticipated federal funding cliff and/or other important event horizons

Introduce Meeting Purpose:

- The purpose of this meeting was to discuss and brainstorm potential standard processes for receiving, reviewing and making recommendations for strategic investments to the full Commission.

Task Force Processes - Facilitated Discussion and Brainstorm:

- Recommending strategic investments BRAINSTORM
 - The first step is to determine what is currently already being funded, and how much funding is available. It is important to know the timelines associated with these questions. It will be important to review the Governor's Commission Action Plan, identify priorities, what is already being funded, and what gaps remain.
 - The group discussed the importance of building on pre-existing efforts while also leaning in to support unfunded areas of work.
 - Recommendations for funding should be made in two-year time periods (at minimum).
 - To inform the Task Force's duty to quantify and explain the anticipated federal funding cliff and/or other event horizons, the Task Forces can lean on SMEs such as DHHS, DOW and the Fiscal Policy Institute.
 - New Hampshire is funding critical AOD services and infrastructure with temporary (federal) funding streams.
 - Current federal funding to be monitoring includes State Opioid Response (SOR), APRA, and federal grants supporting school-based

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- prevention efforts via the Dept of Education.
- NH Charitable Foundation has commissioned a financial analysis of NH SUD ecosystem, which will be released in late May/June 2023. This report will inform shared learning and will elevate guidance to inform private, philanthropic, and public investments to continue to grow, stabilize and sustain accessible behavioral health services for all NH residents.
- In order to inform the Task Force's duty to report on AOD-related spending, the Budget Task Force will need to define AOD spending.
- Receiving funding requests BRAINSTORM
 - Funding requests can be submitted from state agencies, providers of AOD services, current vendors, other task forces, Commission members, the Commission Chair, and the public
 - If requests can be made by members of the public, it should be ensured that it is truly accessible to members of the public rather than only those on the Commission or Task Forces
 - It was proposed that there be an electronic form available online where requests can be made.
 - A potential feature of the form could be a drop-down menu where one could indicate which task members were spoken to prior to making the requests
 - FY25 recommendations have to get to the full Commission by December 2023. So, working backwards from there, August seems to be a good deadline for funding requests to the Task Forces so there is enough time to review.
- Reviewing requests BRAINSTORM
 - It would be best if requests received were vetted first by the other task forces. Budget Task Force would be the final stop before elevating up to the full Commission.
 - Data and Collaboration Task Forces could determine Commission priorities and gaps.
 - There was uncertainty among task force members regarding the role of the Data Task Force as it relates to funding requests. Would be helpful to clarify.
 - To help determine gaps, it would be helpful to break down how much money has been spent in various Action Plan priority areas.
 - It was proposed that a rubric or decision matrix be developed for use in evaluating requests. Clarification was made that the Task Forces are not reviewing proposals from specific organizations. Rather, this process is to

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gather stakeholder input on strategic areas of investment for the Commission.

Wrap Up and Next Steps:

- The discussion at this meeting will be distilled into a rough process, which will be brought to the Task Force at the next meeting.