



Roanoke Valley-Alleghany

REGIONAL
commission

rvarc.org

313 Luck Avenue, SW | Roanoke, Virginia 24016 | P: 540.343.4417 | F: 540.343.4416 | rvarc@rvarc.org

MINUTES

The October meeting of the Roanoke Valley Collective Response Collective's Advisory Committee (CAC) was held in person on Wednesday, October 11, at 9:00 a.m.

1. Welcome, Call to Order, Introductions

Chair Clark called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. A quorum was present.

VOTING MEMBERS ATTENDING

Lee Clark	Roanoke Rescue Mission
Jeremy Hartman	City of Salem Fire EMS
Letitia Hawkins-Beatty	Blue Ridge Behavioral Health
Nancy Hans	Partnership for Community Wellness
Cheri Hartman	Carilion Clinic
Linda Hentschel	Family Services
Cynthia Morrow	Virginia Department of Health
Janine Underwood	Bradley Free Clinic
Scott Weimer	Virginia Tech
Christine Wright	The HOPE Initiative

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT

OTHERS PRESENT

Kristen Adkins	Virginia Department of Health
Brad Finegood	Seattle King County Department of Health
Bailey Helgeson	Peer Recovery Coordinator, RVCR
Robert Natt	Director, RVCR, as acting Secretary
Alex Watkins	Virginia Department of Health

Member Governments: Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin, and Roanoke, Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem, Towns of Clifton Forge, Rocky Mount and Vinton



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2. Action Requested: Approval of Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda items were as follows:

- A. Consent agenda approved
- B. August 9, 2023 RVCR CAC Meeting Minutes

MOTION: by Jeremy Hartman to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Nancy Hans.

CAC ACTION: Motion carried unanimously.

3. Remarks from the Chair

No Remarks from the Chair.

4. Director Updates

Robert Natt reported that there have been 70 applicants for the grant administrator position that RVCR is hiring for. CAC members Jeremy Hartman, Janine Underwood, Nancy Hans, and Christine Wright all confirmed their interest in participation on the hiring committee. More updates to follow after review period.

The Regional Commission is engaging with the firm BKO to update the Commission's website. Through that contract there is an opportunity to update the RVCR website as well. Work is scheduled to be completed by December. Feedback welcome for the website updates.

The operating agreement for Roanoke City OAA funding is still pending. Robert has been in touch with the OAA, City of Roanoke, and Roanoke County, and he is hoping that the agreement will be executed very soon.

5. RVCR Organization Study Update

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Postponed until next meeting.

6. Stakeholder Meeting Planning

Robert Natt reported there was a slight shift in plans as September's previously scheduled in person meeting was pushed to October. The group decided to change the November meeting to in-person to encourage important connection during breakout sessions. They also decided to extend the meeting to 90 minutes. The January 2024 meeting will be canceled.

7. Presentation

Brad Finegood shared a presentation on the Seattle King County Health Department Overdose Response Team Strategic Overview.

Brad shared three main pillars for addressing the challenges of overdose response;

1. Improve access to evidence-based care
2. Advance innovative health strategies that reduce harm for Persons Who Use Drugs (PWUD)
3. Promote the dignity of PWUD through compassionate, non-judgmental practices

The critical factors of success they found were;

1. Cross-system collaboration
2. Increased access to quality care - capacity & better entry ramps
3. Stigma reduction at all levels - community, providers & peers
4. Centering around equity and addressing disparities in health outcomes
5. Elevation of the voices of people with lived experience
6. Improved data quality for decision-making and coordination of care
7. Relationships with trusted community leaders to bridge systems mistrust
8. Healthcare transformation to improve access to care

CAC then discussed how to use Seattle King County's work might further inform development and implementation of Overdose Response in our region.



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8. Other Business

None.

9. Comments from Committee Members and/or the Public

Meeting adjourned at 10:22am.

Robert Natt

Robert Natt, Secretary

Roanoke Valley Collective Response Collective's Advisory Committee