

Thursday Connections with SUD at DHS July 20, 2023

[DHS webpage for monthly meeting](#)

Agenda

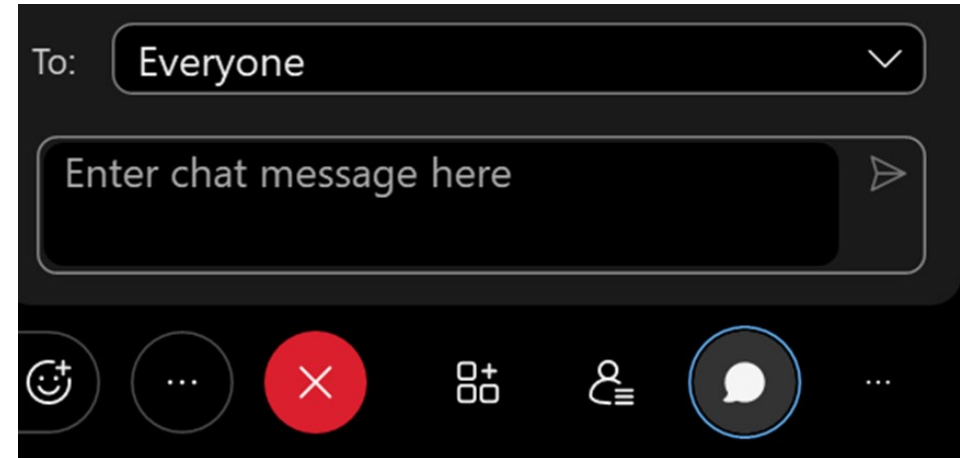
Time	Topic
3:00-3:05	Logistics and Introductions
3:05-3:10	Meeting Overview and Level-setting
3:10-3:25	Introduction to SUD team -- Promotion, Prevention and Early Intervention
3:25-3:40	Updates from SUD teams at DHS
3:40-3:45	SUD Community of Practice
3:45-4:00	Q&A

Meeting Logistics

- All attendees, except presenters, will remain muted
- Questions submitted via chat will be addressed during Q&A portion of meeting
- Post chat questions to everyone to allow for all attendees to see conversation
- Refrain from using chat during presentations to decrease distractions and side conversations
- To save bandwidth, please keep cameras off
- We will work to address all questions during the time allotted. If there are more questions than can be addressed or if the responses need further research, those responses will be posted on the meeting webpage.

Getting Connected

1. Submit questions in the Chat (with contact information if you like).
2. DHS staff will address them during the Q&A in the order they are received.
3. Summaries of questions, comments, and responses will be posted on the Thursday Connections with SUD webpage within 2 weeks of the meeting date.



Use chat feature to enter questions

SUD Unit Leadership at DHS

- **Jen Sather**, Deputy Director for Substance Use Disorder Services
- **Andrea Abel** Supervisor, Promotion, Prevention and Early Intervention Team
- **Nathaniel Dyess** (not present), Supervisor, SUD Reform and Redesign Team (formerly 1115 Demo Team)
- **Amelia Fink**, Supervisor, SUD Clinical Policy Team
- **Don Moore**, Supervisor, Behavioral Health American Indian Team
- **Jennifer Rennquist** (not present), Supervisor, State Opioid Response Team

Introduction to Promotion, Prevention and Early Intervention Team

Andrea Abel, Team Supervisor

Primary Prevention Team

- Problem Gambling
- Primary Prevention
- Life Skills Project

Problem Gambling

- A program that funds awareness and education campaigns about problem gambling
 - Statewide helpline
 - Inpatient and outpatient treatment
 - Professional training opportunities
 - Research designated to understand the needs of Minnesota communities experiencing problem gambling.
- Recognizes the need for a continuum of care system that includes:
 - Education
 - Prevention
 - Treatment
 - Recovery supports

Problem Gambling cont.

- Prevention initiatives include both individual and population-based education strategies designed to reduce harmful effects of problem gambling.
- Early intervention and treatment efforts involve both early identification of an individual's risk and treatment to reduce harmful effects of problem gambling.
- Support groups such as Gamblers Anonymous and Gam-Anon are also available as community resources for people struggling with problem gambling.

Primary Prevention

MN-DHS Behavioral Health Division (MN DHS BHD) has been named in statute as the State Agency for MN who receives and has authority over the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Block Grant from the Federal Government.

Block Grant is received from the Federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

20% of the Substance Abuse portion of this Block Grant award is mandated by Federal Statute to be spent on 'primary prevention', defined as services for those that do not need chemical dependency treatment nor have ever been in chemical dependency treatment.

Primary Prevention cont.

- The **Positive Community Norms (PCN) grants** are a part of MN-DHS BHD's Positive Community Norms Initiative
- Funded by the 20% of the Substance Abuse Block Grant (SABG) mandated by federal statute to be spent on primary prevention.
- The PCN grant contracts must legally follow both the federal requirements for how these funds can be used and MN State requirements.
- The frameworks used for these grants are the Positive Community Norms framework and the Science of the Positive framework.

The **MN Regional Prevention Coordinators** are also MN DHS BHD grantees funded by the 20% of the SABG mandated by federal statute to be spent on primary prevention. Their role is to help support individuals and communities working to prevent youth substance use by providing support for:

- Where to begin
- Getting the right people to the table
- Creating a plan
- Putting the plan into action
- Figuring out what's working and what's not

The Montana Institute (TMI) is a Limited Liability Corporation that was formed by Dr. Jeffrey Linkenbach in 2004, who founded the Science of the Positive and Positive Community Norms frameworks. TMI was hired by MN DHS through a Professional Technical contract to provide training and technical assistance for the PCN grantees and the MN RPCs. They provide:

- Twice yearly in-state PCN Trainings (3-days in length in year one; 2-days in length in years 2-5) for the PCN Grant Communities.
- PCN Student surveys, a PCN Parent survey and a PCN Community survey to be used by the communities for planning and evaluation.
- Various webinar trainings and technical support to the PCN grantee, the PCN Media Consultants, the RPCs and DHS staff.
- Tools and Resources for use by the PCN grant communities

The Minnesota Prevention Resource Center (MPRC) is a grantee of MN-DHS BHD, funded to:

- Assist the State in improving and maintaining a statewide infrastructure to provide prevention technical assistance and training to individuals, coalitions, communities, counties, tribes, and other entities
- Collaborate with the STATE and other agencies to promote effective and coordinated prevention services throughout Minnesota

- Assist DHS RPCs in serving all regions of the State
- Disseminate research findings and educational information to primary prevention professionals in Minnesota
- Plan, organize and implement an **annual Statewide Primary Prevention Conference (Program Sharing)**. Program Sharing provides a rich array of training, information, and technical assistance annually to folks in MN. For this reason, **attendance at Program Sharing for the PCN Coordinator and others from the PCN Community is a requirement of the PCN Grant contract.**

MN Life Skills Project

- Partners with school districts or collaboratives of schools to offer a social emotional learning-based curriculum to promote positive mental health and prevent substance use.
- Life Skills Training (LST) is a social emotional learning curriculum that develops students' social and self-management skills.
- LST provides schools and districts the opportunity to implement an evidence-based curriculum that promotes positive mental health and prevents substance use and risky behaviors in middle school students, and training materials for instructors to integrate it into existing courses (health, physical education, social studies, etc.).

MN Life Skills Project cont.

- In prior studies, LST graduates reported lower rates of anxiety, depression, and physical aggression than students who did not participate.
- The positive outcomes also persisted; six years after the curriculum students were 20 percent less likely to smoke and 15 percent less likely to misuse alcohol or illicit drugs.
- LST is offered to middle school students over three consecutive years (6th-8th or 7th-9th grade).
- The state will cover the costs to implement the curriculum for four years (from school year 2020-21 to 2023-24), including staff training and reimbursement of time and expenses, curriculum materials, and technical assistance.

Updates from SUD Teams at DHS

1. Opioid Response Team:

- No updates at this time

2. 1115 Team (Reform and Redesign Team)

- No updates at this time

Updates from SUD Teams at DHS (cont'd.)

3. American Indian Team

SUD

- Shawnee L. Hunt shawnee.hunt@state.mn.us
- Renville, Christine N (DHS) Christine.Renville@state.mn.us
- Favila, Melissa (DHS) Melissa.Favila@state.mn.us

SOR

- Belille, Rosann M (DHS) rosann.m.belille@state.mn.us

We also cover Mental Health and Children's Respite grants for tribes and AI urban programs.

Continued Updates from SUD Teams at DHS

4. Clinical Policy Team:

- Working on legislation to implement
- Continuing OTP workgroup
- The side-by-side legislative docs
- 6/30 system update
- Legislative peer workgroup

5. Promotion, Prevention and Early Intervention (PPEI) Team:



Minnesota Substance Use Disorder Community of Practice

What is a CoP?

A Community of Practice (CoP) is a group of people with an interest and passion in a specific topic providing an opportunity to create, organize, revise, and share knowledge among members of the community.

The substance use disorder (SUD) CoP will consist of people who are engaged in the field of SUD treatment and prevention in any capacity including, but not limited to, people with lived experience, providers, family members, researchers, recovery peers, state agency and county health and human service representatives, health plan representatives and advocates.

Member Expectations

The CoP will meet virtually on a regular basis along with smaller working groups. The first meeting will be held at the end of August. Participants can attend as:

- Full Contributing CoP Members: Participation and input is expected in each full CoP meeting (monthly for the first three months and then quarterly for ~1.5 years; completion of pre- or post-meeting work)
- Specialty CoP Contributor: Participation and input is expected in meetings or workgroups focused on an area of interest or expertise; completion of associated pre- or post-meeting work
- Public attendee: Participation in meetings as desired with input reserved to the open-meeting discussion portion of the meeting agenda

Full or Specialty CoP members who have accessed SUD treatment services or have lived experience may be eligible for a stipend of up to \$55 per meeting to compensate for their meeting time and related expenses. Individuals would not be eligible for a stipend if you are paid to participate in the CoP.

Email MNSUDCOP@healthmanagement.com to learn more.

MN SUD COP Objectives

- Identify gaps in substance use disorder treatment services
- Enhance collective knowledge of issues related to substance use disorder
- Understand evidence-based practices, best practices, and promising approaches to address substance use disorder
- Use knowledge gathered through the community of practice to develop strategic plans to improve outcomes for individuals who participate in substance use disorder treatment and related services in Minnesota
- Increase knowledge about the challenges and opportunities learned by implementing strategies
- Develop capacity for community advocacy

Sponsored by:



What questions do you have for the SUD Unit here today?

We will try to answer your questions at this meeting.

However, answers to questions that need more research will be posted within two weeks on the Thursday Connections with SUD at DHS webpage.



Thank You!

For updates about future meetings and responses to questions not answered during this meeting, please visit the [Thursday Connections with SUD at DHS webpage](#).