



## LARIMER REGIONAL OPIOID ABATEMENT COUNCIL

1525 Blue Spruce Dr, Fort Collins, CO 80524 970.619.4642 [larimer.gov/bocc/regional-opioid-abatement-council](http://larimer.gov/bocc/regional-opioid-abatement-council)

# MINUTES

**Date:** April 23, 2026  
**Time:** 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM  
**Location:** Hybrid – Goldfinch/Sparrow Conf. Rm., 2260 W Trilby Road, Fort Collins & Zoom  
**Contacts:** *Rupa Venkatesh* - Council Secretary & Point of Public Contact, City of Fort Collins  
*Heather Gilmore* - Council Staff Support, Larimer County Department of Health and Environment

Voting Members Present: Tom Gonzales, Chair  
Commissioner Jody Shaddock-McNally, Vice Chair  
Mayor Gary Hall  
Chad Wright, alternate for Rupa Venkatesh  
Mayor Pro Tem Brian Mason (Virtual)  
Councilmember Zeke Cortez (Virtual)

Advisory Members Present: Jessica Plummer (virtual)

Subject Matter Members

Present: Gordon McLaughlin (virtual)  
Lorrie Lopez (virtual)

Full Recording of Meeting: <https://www.youtube.com/live/2z1Xp6adS7U>

**Call to Order** - The Council Chair called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM.

### **Announcements and Reminders:**

- The application for Advisory Members with Lived Experience is now live on the website and has been distributed to the Council. The deadline to apply is April 30.

**Public Comment** - No public comment was made.

**Approval of the March Minutes**

**Action** – Commissioner Shadduck-McNally moved to approve the March minutes as written. Mayor Gary Hall seconded the motion. **Motion was unanimously approved.**

### **Financial Update**

- Janelle Koldos presented the financial report for the 2025–2026 funding cycle as of April 15, highlighting \$6.42 million in inflows, including \$292,000 in interest, and \$3.2 million in expenditures, leaving \$2.9 million remaining for distribution. The Council also requested that future reports include historical funding cycle data from prior years to provide context for new members.

### **Butler Institute’s “Pathway to Change” Survey**

- Butler Institute provided an overview of the “Pathway to Change” survey, which is designed to support the development of a cross-site evaluation plan. The survey will collect input from all grantees to help guide future direction and demonstrate overall impact. It will include participation from voting members, non-voting members, and subject matter experts to ensure a comprehensive and inclusive approach, with a focus on vision-setting, current conditions, community needs, and available resources.

### **Grant Administration**

#### **Abundance Foundation Year 4 Funding Proposal**

- Abundance Foundation presented its Year 4 funding proposal, highlighting its Abundance Recovery Program built on recovery housing, peer support, and community connection. The program provides sober housing and outpatient services for low-income individuals, with peer coaches guiding clients through their recovery journey. It prioritizes serving vulnerable populations, particularly women, through a peer-driven and supportive model. For 2026, the organization aims to achieve housing stability for all clients within three months while serving 300 individuals through sober living and peer support services. It also seeks to maintain an 80% success rate in sobriety and quality of life, supported by ongoing tracking through regular biopsychosocial assessments.
- Abundance Foundation is requesting a total of \$211,550 from approved uses category B.2 – Support People in Treatment and Recovery.
- Concerns were raised about whether the individuals served by the Abundance Foundation reside within Larimer County or come from other zip codes.

### **CSU Prevention Research Center Year 4 Funding Proposal**

- CSU Prevention Research Center presented its Year 4 funding proposal, outlining a continued focus on sustaining and expanding prevention efforts across school districts. The plan includes maintaining The Blues Program in all three districts, with 15 new staff trained and approximately 35 program cohorts anticipated. Additional initiatives will continue across districts, including Proud & Empowered in PSD, Guiding Good Choices and Wayfinder in EPSD, and a comprehensive prevention scan in TSD to guide new efforts. The Center will also sustain current programming while assessing district-specific needs to inform future strategies. Ongoing professional development will be supported through maintained asynchronous, self-paced e-learning opportunities.
- CSU Prevention Research Center is requesting a total of \$211,554 from approved uses category G.9 – Prevent Misuse of Opioids.

### **Council Comments:**

- The Chair noted that the Sheriff's Office has expressed interest in submitting a Year 4 funding proposal at the May meeting.
- The Chair clarified that a negative budget amount would only occur if the Council elects to fully fund the new applicant, One Chance to Grow Up, as the Sheriff's Office's potential funding has already been accounted for.
- The Council agreed to hear from One Chance to Grow Up before making any decisions on the previous proposals.

### **One Chance to Grow Up Year 4 Funding Proposal – New Applicant Request (Cont.)**

- The Chair reported that approval has not yet been received from the COAC confirming that One Chance to Grow Up meets the allowable funding criteria. Staff met with the COAC Assistance Committee last week, and a final determination is expected at the May 14 COAC meeting.
- One Chance to Grow Up returned to answer questions from the Council regarding their Year 4 new request funding proposal. They provided clarification on their outreach and impacts, focusing on expanding education and awareness around high-risk THC use. The initiative emphasizes a comprehensive outreach strategy that includes in-person workshops, expert-led webinars, and culturally responsive materials in both English and Spanish. It also incorporates a broad media approach, including a community billboard

campaign, geofenced digital outreach, and a dedicated website to share resources. Efforts will extend to schools and youth-serving organizations to ensure targeted engagement with key audiences. Together, these strategies aim to increase awareness, provide accessible resources, and strengthen community-wide prevention efforts.

- One Chance to Grow Up is requesting a total of \$183,945.95 from approved uses category G.8 – Prevent Misuse of Opioids.
- The Council requested additional clarification on how funds would be allocated to achieve the proposed deliverables and raised questions about a potential saturation point in targeting school districts and school-based engagement.
- Dr. Jared Olson, Senior Population Epidemiologist, was invited to present his review of data on early initiation of marijuana use and its association with the risk of developing opioid misuse disorder.

**Action** – Commissioner Shadduck-McNally made a motion to approve the Year 4 funding proposal of \$211,554 for the CSU Prevention Research Center. Mayor Gary Hall seconded the motion. **Motion was unanimously approved.**

**Action** – Commissioner Shadduck-McNally made a motion to decline the Year 4 funding proposal for One Chance to Grow Up. Mayor Pro Tem Mason seconded the motion. **The motion passed with five votes in favor and one opposing vote cast by Councilperson Zeke Cortez.**

**Action** – Commissioner Shadduck-McNally made a motion to table the Abundance Foundation’s Year 4 funding proposal and invite the organization to return at the May meeting to address additional Council questions and clarify their data. Chad Wright seconded the motion. **Motion was unanimously approved.**

**Action** – Commissioner Shadduck-McNally made a motion to extend the meeting until 3:40 PM to allow time for Harvest Farms to present their final report. Mayor Gary Hall seconded the motion. **The motion passed with five votes in favor and one opposing vote cast by Councilperson Zeke Cortez.**

## Harvest Farm Final Report Extension Update (2025-2026)

- Harvest Farm presented its final report extension update, highlighting the successful completion of its expansion and program outcomes. The project increased capacity from 72 to 80 beds, added ADA-accessible living and restroom space, upgraded septic capacity, and brought facilities up to current code. ROAC funding supported key services such as intake, case management, and increased referrals from FCRM, contributing to outcomes that exceeded expectations. In 2025, the program served 165 participants, with 64 graduates, 77 individuals securing employment, and 108 obtaining stable housing.

**Action** – Commissioner Jody Shadduck-McNally motioned to accept Harvest Farms final extension report. Mayor Gary Hall seconded the motion. ***Motion was unanimously approved.***

#### **Adjourn Meeting**

- Commissioner Shadduck-McNally moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 3:37 PM.