



OneOhio Region 7 Collaborative
Mahoning and Trumbull Counties

November 6, 2023
Minutes

Present: Erin Bishop, April Caraway, Victor Daprile, Carolyn Givens, Jake Jones, Greg Leonard, Duane Piccirilli, Joe Rossi, Linda Spies, Eric Ungaro and Brenda Heidinger (alternate)

Absent: Rev. Lewis Macklin, Hanna Petrosky, Sara Volinchak, Lauren Thorp (alternate)

Guests: Alisha Nelson, Director and Sarah Anstine (One Ohio Foundation)

April Caraway, Chair called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

New Business/General Discussion

Alisha Nelson, Director and Sarah Anstine, Regional Liaison joined the Region 7 Collaborative to discuss their work at the One Ohio Recovery Foundation. They started with the foundation 8 weeks and 7 weeks ago, respectfully.

Alisha presented information from the slides available on their website. She stated they have spent time assessing where we are as a state, what other states are doing, and their progress. She provided the following update:

- 23 states are doing broad scope projects
- 14 states gave the funding to local governments
- 14 states, including Ohio, took a community collaborative approach. Ohio and West Virginia developed a nonprofit foundation to ensure long-term funding would be available and greater impact than was achieved with the tobacco settlement (there are only two tobacco settlement groups left and they are foundations (national and Oklahoma).

Funds have been received for 2021, 2022, and 2023. The Foundation is working on its structure and building the 501(c)(3). They completed the assessment, articles of incorporation and developed three strategies: promote policies, promote evidence-based practice in the behavioral health field, and advocate.

They reported meeting with many groups and organizations around the state. They are finalizing the OneOhio foundation application process. They hope to open the application process in early 2024 and have all applications come through the portal.



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The Regional Collaboratives will have access to the portal to view the applications and ensure that they meet their priorities. The state/local partnership will include a regional readiness check list, priority menu and scoring rubric. The Foundation is working on risk mitigation and legal requirements for all parties.

April asked about the expert panel. Alisha stated 90 applications were received for six positions. They developed a job description and hope to have it approved at the next Foundation Board meeting with appointees announced in early 2024. The appointees may receive paid mileage and expenses. They will have to review many grant applications in a tight time frame.

There is not a cap of grant applications per region but each region will be required to manage the allocated grants. They will utilize a grant management software and each region will assign a grant power user to enter funding decisions.

Victor asked about the timeline in 2024 for grants? Alisha stated in the early part of the year they will lay out the registration process for potential grantees, application period, communication plan, trainings, etc. The Foundation currently has a staff of 3.

April inquired if we are to post the grant application and Alisha replied that groups will apply on the Foundation website. The Akoya Go software is a Microsoft based system that collects information in real time. There will be extensive trainings opportunities throughout the state of Ohio on how to utilize the system. April asked about conflict of interest issues. Alisha said they are working with the Ohio Attorney General's office to build out some scenarios that would be a conflict (i.e. reviewing a grant for an agency you are employed by: you are on the Board of Directors of; competing agencies reviewing each other, etc.)

Another concern expressed was around the viability of a one-year grant because if the agency builds the program and hires staff, how do they sustain it? April stated we may want to consider multiyear grants. Duane stated that this could be an opportunity as this group can fund things that the local MHRB's cannot. Alisha said that a sustainability plan is important for us to look at in the application process.

Joe asked what if the Region wants to fund 50 grant applications? Answer - the expert panel may ask that we review them again and negotiate a more manageable number. There will be grantee trainings and more funding freedom for the Foundation than local or state government.

Greg asked can the Region decide to allow a three-year grant and then allow an additional three-year grant. Alisha stated there is no rule to stop that, however, the danger is that you don't have space for further innovation and won't be able to pivot for new and emerging threats.



Duane asked Alisha to address the investing decisions made by the OneOhio Foundation Board of Directors. Alisha stated the Board wanted to learn from the tobacco settlement. If the board invests \$5 million per year it would keep the foundation in perpetuity until 2039 and beyond. Investing long term is the hope for OneOhio Foundation to continue. There is 27 million in a short-term investment account and 51 million in the grant funding account.

Victor asked if the Foundation had given any thought to front loading grants as families and individuals are hurting now. Alisha reported that 30% of the total settlement is currently out in the communities through county and local government, for current spending. This 55% of the total settlement that is funding the Foundation is moving as fast as possible.

Motion: Erin Bishop made a motion to approve the minutes from September 7, 2023 meeting. Carolyn Givens seconded the motion; which carried unanimously.

Unfinished business

April asked that members consider the funding priorities for discussion at next meeting.

Since the next scheduled meeting is 1/1/24, New Year's Day, the next meeting was set for January 9th at 5:15 p.m.

The members thanked Alisha and Sarah for attending our meeting

Adjourn 6:05

Minutes reported by:

Minutes recorded by:

April Caraway
Chair

Brenda Heidinger