



# Behavioral Health Advisory Council (BHAC)

## Prevention Sub-Committee Meeting

### Agenda

Meeting date and time: November 18, 2025, @ 12:pm-1:00pm

Meeting location: Virtual TEAMS

Action Items or Open Issues from Previous Meeting	Due Date	Assigned To	Comments

#### Attendance

Name	Name	Name
Arely Gray	Miles Benton	
Beth Morrison	Marcy Madigan	
Brent Morris	Leanna Troesh	
Raynee Daguerre	Emily Russell	
Greg Holzman	Nicole Aune	
Bill Deavel	Karen Sylvester	
Terry Mullins	Jessica Gilbert	
Barbara Bassette	Lance Fourstar	
Travis Sylvester	Brittany Masters	
Leah Merchant		
Nicole Hackley		

#### Agenda

- I. Call to order
  - I. Welcome
  - II. Housekeeping



- III. Introductions
- II. Approval of minutes
  - I. October 21, 2025
  - II. Minutes Approved
- III. Chair Vote
  - I. Barbara Bessette was introduced as the nominee for subcommittee chair.
  - II. Barbara shared her extensive background in prevention work, including culturally relevant initiatives and experience
  - III. Unanimous decision to support Barbara Bessette as the new chair
  - IV. Barbara officially assumed leadership of the subcommittee and facilitated the remaining portion of the meeting
- IV. Time/Day Vote
  - I. Consensus to retain meeting as scheduled
- V. Zoom Link Vote
  - I. Proposal to switch meetings from TEAMS to Zoom
  - II. Per majority vote the consensus was to continue meetings through Zoom
  - III. Barbara will be providing calendar meeting invite
  - IV. Arely is to remove TEAMS meetings
- VI. December Meeting Vote
  - I. Meeting is to continue as scheduled in December via Zoom
- VII. Process for Agenda Items
  - I. Agenda items are to be provided to Barbara Bessette
  - II. Due date for agenda items is the Friday before the scheduled meeting
  - III. Open invitation for stakeholders and interested parties to attend meetings and contribute
- VIII. Public Comment/Questions
  - I. Leanna shared updates regarding ongoing efforts to educate legislators about kratom, including collaboration with DOJ and Public Health agencies
  - II. Karen Sylvester is leading the outreach; members were encouraged to reach out to her for involvement or any questions
  - III. Per Leanna a prevention survey is available and will be shared with Barbara for potential inclusion in future agendas
  - IV. Leanna shared efforts to secure \$5 million for statewide THC and emerging drugs education campaign



- V. Leanna shared thoughts about possibly reformatting the Prevention Bureau and forming a prevention policy advisory group to provide expertise to legislators
  - VI. Clarification was provided that any policy-focused group may need to be a side committee due to regulations on legislative advocacy
  - VII. Nicole Aune provided emphasis on avoiding internal competition among prevention programs for funding; the goal is to support all prevention efforts collaboratively
  - VIII. Leanna shared overview on a campaign on high-potency THC and emerging drugs (in partnership with SAM DC) is ready to relaunch and invited agencies with social media platforms or outreach capacity to participate
  - IX. Barbara shared plans to develop a contact list for all group members to facilitate communication
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- IX. Additional Topics
  - X. Next scheduled meeting is December 16, 2025, at 12:00pm
  - XI. Closing Business / Adjournment
    - I. Meeting adjourned at 12:33pm