



Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee

March 26, 2025



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Call to Order, Introductions, and Approval of Minutes

Housekeeping and Committee Guidelines

- There is no perfect; there is no end point. *Our work is a process.*
- We can't be articulate all the time, so give the benefit of the doubt.
- Our *Intent* isn't the same as our *Impact*.
- It's ok to be uncomfortable! Growth *is* uncomfortable.
- Make space, Take space.
- Take breaks as you need.
- We will boldly try - and every attempt will teach us more.
- We all have something to learn and we all have something to offer.
- Be curious and ask questions!
- Be respectful of each other (be critical of ideas, not individuals)



Our Meeting Agenda

1. Introductions
 - Review & Approval of the January 2025 OSAC Minutes
2. 2025 OSAC Annual Calendar
3. Committee Membership Vote Process
 - Application Process and Timeline
 - Introductions from Applicants
4. Public Comment
5. Executive Session
6. Membership Vote on Community and Expert Representatives
7. Updates
 - Governor's Overdose Task Force
8. Adjourn



Note: EOHHS has developed this meeting agenda and its components to align with our core values of Choice, Voice, and Equity.

2025 Meeting Cadence

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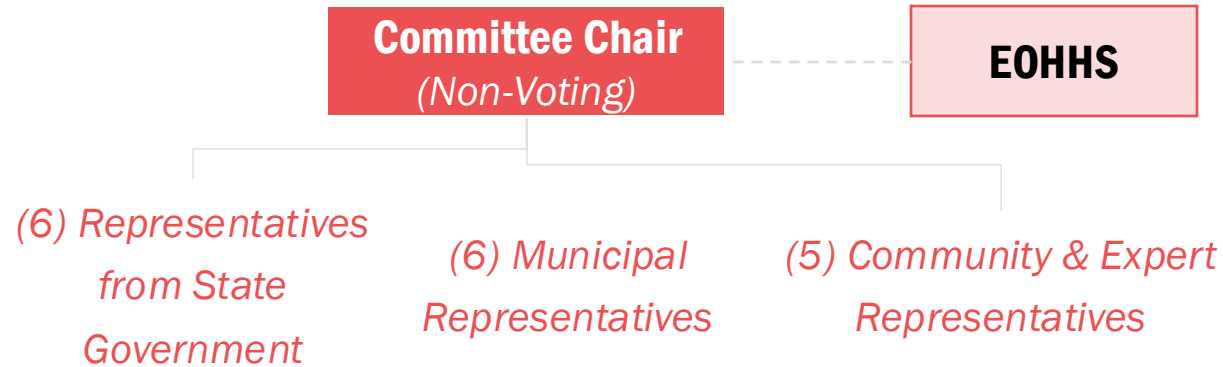
Meeting Cadence for 2025

Proposed Meeting Cadence

- **4th Wednesday** – January, March, May, June, July, August, and October
- **May 28th, June 25th, July 23rd, and August 27th** - Funding Recommendation Process
 - May – Review Task Force recommendations & presentations from national experts
 - June – Share programmatic updates
 - July – Determine process and share additional materials for August vote
 - August – Consensus Vote on proposed recommendations to Secretary
- **October 22nd** - Year in Review

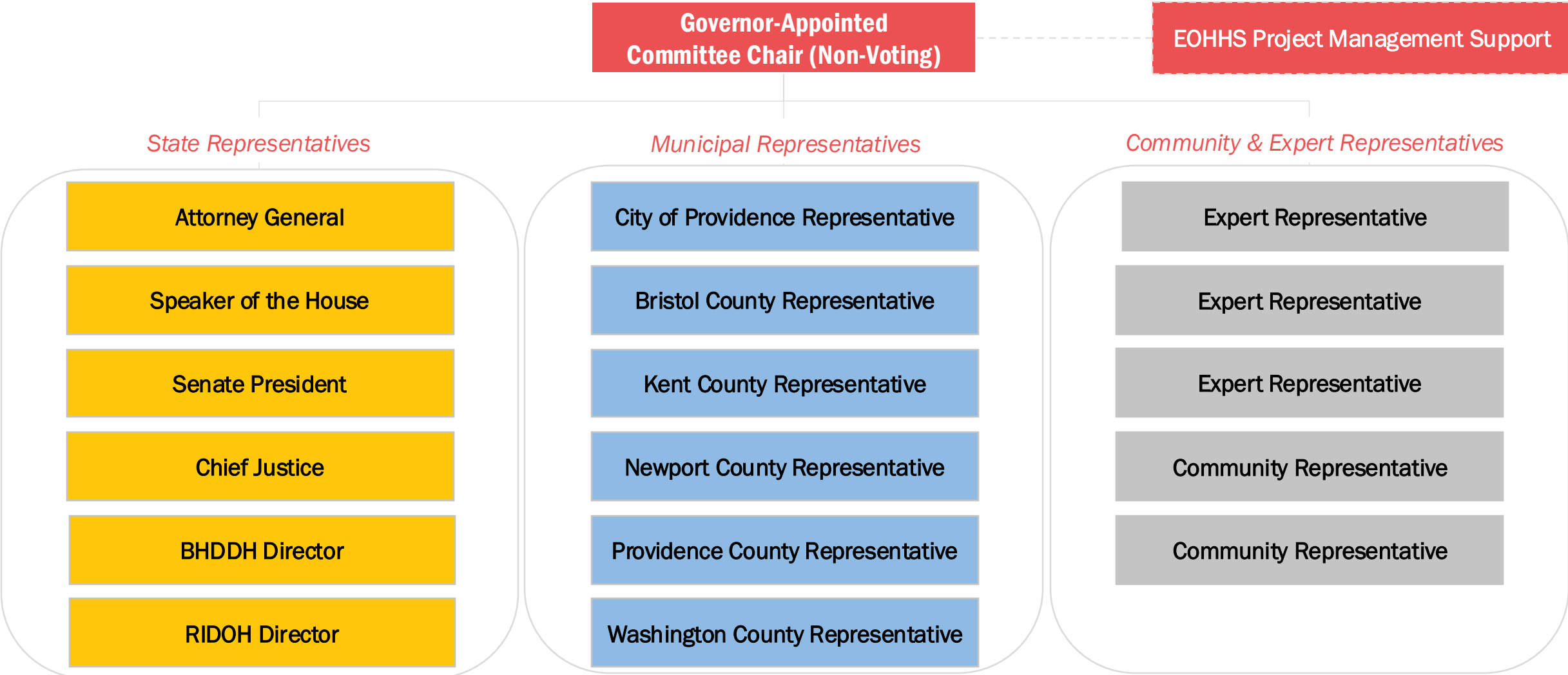
Application Process and Timeline Overview

Structure of the Opioid Settlement Committee



- The Opioid Settlement Agreement’s Memorandum of Understanding between the State of Rhode Island and the Participating Cities and Towns established the Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee that advises the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) on usage of the funds allocated as the State portion (80% of total) over 18 years.
- The Committee reviews priorities established in each settlement (as well as State and community partner priorities) and generates a report for the EOHHS Secretary.
- This report summarizes the Committee’s recommendations for how EOHHS should allocate funds in upcoming fiscal year budgets. The Governor and the State Legislature ultimately approve or amend the final budget.
- The makeup of the Committee ensures that the State and the Participating Cities and Towns have equal input into the recommendations for use of the state allocation of funds. EOHHS provides administrative support.

Membership Structure



Reminder: Membership Process

- State representatives are designated by each agency
- Municipal representatives are *appointed* by the Rhode Island League of Cities & Towns
- Community and expert representatives are *elected* by the OSAC with a staggered approach:
 - Community Representative appointments shall be for two (2) years, and three (3) years, and all subsequent Community Representative appointments shall be for two (2) year terms.
 - Expert Representative appointments shall be for two (2) years, three (3) years, and four (4) years, and all subsequent Expert Representative appointments shall be for three (3) year terms.

Thank you to Committee Members that are Transitioning

- Washington County – Chief Matt Moynihan
- Providence County – Todd Manni
- Newport County – Joseph Pratt
- Community Representative – Angie Ankoma
- Expert Representative – Dr. Justin Berk

Reminder: Membership Process

Here is the process to fill the open positions of 1 Community Committee Member and 1 Expert Committee Member:

- OSAC Chair & EOHHS staff developed an application
- Application released on February 11th, 2025
 - Application was circulated to Task Force and its workgroups
- Submission deadline was February 21st, 2025
- OSAC committee members reviewed each application independently
- Committee set to vote at the March 26th Meeting
- New Members are to begin at the next OSAC meeting

Member Recruitment Application

- ✓ Contact Information
- ✓ Demographics
- ✓ Work and/or lived experience short summary
- ✓ Qualifications short summary
- ✓ Resume

All OSAC Applicants: Community & Expert

Community
Aimee Haupt
Carlos Spinola
Darrell Lazier
David Nefussy
Deidre Jones
Heather Bonds-Harmon
Mary Scialabba
Samantha Binienda
Thomas Joyce

Expert
Aaron Guckian
Abdullah Shihipar
Benjamin Hallowell
Cara Zimmerman
Dale Klatzer
Jennifer Hawkins
Joshua Miller
Jun Tao
Kate Webby
Katie Hansen
Vito Buonomano

Applicant Review Criteria

All application materials were reviewed by all committee members. OSAC members were asked to rank each applicant based on following criteria. An EOHHS staff member compiled the scores (e.g., 5 points for top rank, 4 points for second rank, etc.) and averaged them to identify top five applicants in each group.

- *Diversity of perspective* that a given applicant would bring to the committee. Diversity is considered broadly, and considered how a given applicant would increase the diversity of committee's perspectives relative to its current composition.
- Applicant's *depth of experience and/or expertise* that they would bring to committee's work.

OSAC Applicants Community Position

Speaking
to Group

Name	
Thomas Joyce	
Darrell Lazier	
Samantha Binienda	
Heather Bonds-Harmon	
Aimee Haupt	
Deidre Jones	
Carlos Spinola	
Mary Scialabba	
David Nefussy	

OSAC Applicants Expert Position

Speaking
to Group

Name	
Cara Zimmerman*	
Dale Klatzer	
Joshua Miller	
Abdullah Shhipar	
Katie Hansen	
Jun Tao	
Jennifer Hawkins	
Kate Webby	
Aaron Guckian	
Benjamin Hallowell	
Vito Buonomano	

Introductions: Community

3 Minute Applicant Introductions

1. Basic introduction
2. Describe experience and/or expertise (personal or professional) regarding the overdose crisis that you would bring to committee's work.

Introductions: Expert

3 Minute Applicant Introductions

1. Basic introduction
2. Describe experience and/or expertise (personal or professional) regarding the overdose crisis that you would bring to committee's work.

Public Comment

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Voting Instructions and Process

Purpose

The ballot is designated for members of the Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee to cast their votes in the election, selecting one expert and one community representative to join the OSAC.

Instructions

Current Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee members will be asked to vote. In the event of a tie, please note that a subsequent round of voting will be conducted, focusing solely on the candidates involved in the tie.

Executive Session

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Committee Vote



Governor's Task Force Updates

- Semi-Annual Report due March 31st
- March 12th – Women's History Month
 - Highlights from the 2025 Statewide Community Overdose Engagement (CODE) Summit
 - Substance-Exposed Newborns (SEN) Task Force: For the Community, In the Community, By the Community
 - Statewide SEN Programs – Perinatal Peer Services, Epidemiological Data around Congenital Syphilis, Family Planning Campaign, Street Outreach Efforts, Vending Machines, and Nursery and Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome
- Next Task Force will be Virtual held on April 9th – National Alcohol Awareness Month

Next Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee Meeting: **May 28th**

DATE:	Wednesday, May 28, 2025
TIME:	1:00 – 3:00 pm
Location:	Department of Administration 2 nd Floor

THANK YOU



Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee Chairperson:

Brandon DL Marshall, PhD

Professor, Department of Epidemiology

Brown University School of Public Health

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