



COLORADO

Division of Homeland Security
& Emergency Management

Department of Public Safety

Meeting Minutes

Purpose: HSAC Access and Functional Needs Subcommittee

Date: Thursday, July 17, 2025

Time: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m MDT (Virtual Only) | Next Meeting July 17, 2025 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. MDT (Regularly scheduled time)

Location: Atlantis Community Inc. | [Visitor Resources](#)

Virtual Join Zoom Meeting [Zoom Link](#) or +16699009128,86721105165,#

Passcode: 45678

Captioning link: [Captioned Meeting Confirmation Code | HSACAFN-CO3](#)

Minutes

Welcome Remarks and Determination of a Quorum

1. Welcome Remarks, Committee Chair Aimee Voth Siebert or Co-Chair Sadie Martinez - Aimee and Hannah have both moved on to new positions.
2. [Introductions/Roll Call](#) – Sadie, Julia, Veronica, Curt, Tim, Candise, Kristina, Clessie, Zoe, Marty, Alison, Amy, Serena, Eileen, Lori. Guest Marissa and Kate from Atlantis
3. New Members – Any Winner replacing Aimee Voth Seibert with CDPHE-OEPR
4. Time to review the Previous Notes for Approval
 - Approve [May 15, 2025](#) meeting minutes - Veronica moved, Marty 2nd

New Business

1. Access & Functional Needs Program Review for the group

- o [DHSEM AFN Training Engagement Dashboard](#) - started creating trainings since 2021. ASL Interpreter training in April with 30 attendees. Shared Hannah's Dashboard data on number of trainings, where registrants came from and tribal participation, other states over the past several years. G197 have 29 states attended. Have changed names of trainings to increase chances of grant funding. Public Health and Human Services always served underserved and underrepresented. Moved to focusing on AFN Resources and away from AFN as a label.
- o G197 resulting in good results and are able to better reach out to community members, provide training at LEPC conference and break down units into separate workshops focusing on people, places, things, and money. Using a social model. Another topic will be How to develop an AFN steering committee
- o Move CMIST Teams to CMIST Assistance Teams so they can be used in teams that already exist.
- o Priorities from Team Members
 - Curt - needs community partners to be more involved in new CDOO grant, including emergency management. Atlantis will develop an engagement group. Looking to increase more individual EP plans and work with local EM. Disseminate and collaborate more with state.
 - Candise - doesn't currently have anything scheduled, but has been in contact with Jaclyn to get something for this fall.
 - Amy - CDPHE is holding off for now because of funding.



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- o Set example goals for [AFN Advisory Committee](#) - for the next meeting,
 - What are priorities or projects you know are in focus for the next five years that may be supported with the AFN conferences or other program resources?
 - what are your goals or priorities for the next 5 years.
- o CMIST Resources Planning Infographic

2. Strategic goal - [AFN Key Results - Strategic Plan](#)

- o Data highlights that might inform AFN Planning needs across Colorado
 - Colorado Emergency Preparedness Assessment (CEPA)
 - Disaster Behavioral Health Capabilities Assessment
 - Community Surveys
 - Others?
- o (in process) Strategy for building CMIST Response teams if the funding is intermittent for state employees → redesigning CMIST Response Team trainings to be embedded with IMTs and other standing teams that have capacity to develop these skills and missions.
- o Please bring any of your organization's mission
- o What are your current year priorities
- o What are priorities or projects you know are in focus for the next five years that may be supported with the AFN conferences or other program resources?

3. Research ideas: opportunities for us to strengthen what we do by evaluating different strategies like a research project. - what research assistance is needed

4. Tracking Updates - Please fill out for annual report

- o [2025 HSAC Annual Reporting tool \(Monthly\)](#) (specific to community members who need access to resources in order to function in emergency management planning, training, and exercises)

5. Missing Partner connections:

- o DOT partners
- o Tribal partners
- o New Americans [New Americans Community Advisory Committee](#)
- o HCPF
- o Others?

6. Updates from the group

- o How programs are being affected financially by changes at National and State levels
- o Sadie - National events are not affecting the DHSEM AFN program, some emergency management programs are affected. In fiscal year 2027 may lose \$7,000. ASL and captioning activities can ask for reimbursement.
- o Amy - public health ep and hospital preparedness grants will receive less funding. Health Care Coalitions have received stop work orders until hospital preparedness grants are reinstated. All 9 regions using coop plans. Adjusting to lower funding. Not replacing positions and redistributing staff.
- o Candise - funding cut some, but don't know what changes are coming. Helping AAAs deal with less funding. Medicaid and SNAP programs will cause a large impact.



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- o Kristina - fully funded through this fiscal year, but looking at future cuts. Disability Law Colorado looking at cuts and UCEDDs have no funding.
- o Eileen - no federal funding so not affected. State funding (dental program) not affected. Awarded grant through Denver for mental health services for unhoused individuals.
- o Clessie - no federal funding used for payroll, but changes made for programming, large program changes with Medicaid, Medicare and SNAP. Lack of health care coalitions making a huge impact. Found some grant monies for the health care coordinator through the end of the month.
- o Marrisa - grant writer for Atlantis, 60% federal, 40% state funding. Received CDOOE grant to support Curt's EP program. Having conversations about the future with community partners.
- o Alison - no federal funding. All funding from old license plates. Don't have access to \$\$ until legislation gives it to them. Looking at significant reduction this year, but looking at an increase next year. Question regarding use of DEI language. Try to push back on removal of DEI language.
- o Serena - all four public health staff funded through CDC, working with partners to help with stop work orders. Have funding through the end of August with grant funds, but waiting for final notice for PHEP funding. Looking at large cuts next federal year. Being creative. Other jurisdictions are also looking at other funding opportunities.
- o Veronica - don't anticipate getting any more funding. Removal of DEI language will make a big impact. Won't impact financial contributions for the conference.
- o Sadie - AFN University coming up in August - have 60 registrations with a sizable number from out of state. Have completed 7 G197 trainings with 2 scheduled for the fall. Need to include agricultural industry and college campuses. Looking to make a stronger rural focus.
- o Curt - 35th ADA celebration with RTD on August 1st from 9-3 and Atlantis turns 50 this year. Registration required.

Upcoming Meetings

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Public Comment Period/Open Discussion

- Sadie - articles from California on registration and transportation issues encountered during the recent fires.

Closing Remarks & Motion to Adjourn: Curt moved, Marty 2nd.

- Next meeting: September 18, 2025 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. MDT (Regularly scheduled time)