



## Georgia Opioid Settlement Advisory Commission

### Meeting Summary

Thursday June 26, 2025, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. (Hybrid Meeting)  
200 Piedmont Avenue, S.E. West Tower, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Board Room 512  
Atlanta, GA 30334

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Chair Sam Hatcher called the meeting to order at 2:02 P.M. The hybrid meeting was held at 200 Piedmont Avenue, S.E. West Tower, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Board Room 512 Atlanta, GA 30334 and online via WebEx; the following GOSAC members participated:

**Commission Members Attending in Person:** Chair Sam Hatcher (*Office of the Governor*), Cassandra Price (*DBHDD*), Clay Davis (*Spalding County BOC*), David Kidd (*Georgia Association of Community Service Boards*), Mayor Ed Reynolds (*Bainbridge, GA*)

**Commissioners Attending via WebEx:** Dr. Chris Rustin (*DPH*), Mayor Betty Cason (*Carrollton, GA*), Sheriff Gary Sisk (*Catoosa County*)

**Commissioners Absent:** Grant Thomas (*DCH*)

**Georgia Opioid Crisis Abatement Trust (GOCAT) Leadership in Attendance:** Holly Lynde (*GOCAT Executive Director*), Melissa Malcom (*Opioid Litigation Attorney*), Taylor Peyton (*Opioid Abatement Liaison*)

### Meeting Summary:

Chair Sam Hatcher welcomed each of the members to the Georgia Opioid Settlement Advisory Commission's (GOSAC) Q4 meeting.

Chair Hatcher brought the first order of business of approving the minutes from the March 24, 2025, meeting. After giving the Commission Members a chance to review the minutes, which had been emailed in advance of the meeting, the Commission Members unanimously voted to approve the minutes from the March 24, 2025, meeting.

Chair Hatcher invited Holly Lynde to present the next three (3) agenda items, and she in turn invited Taylor Peyton, to introduce the meeting's recovery speaker. After the introduction, Taylor Peyton welcomed Lisa Anderson-Akine, Opioid Settlement Coordinator for DBHDD, to share her story of recovery. Lisa Anderson-Akine shared her story of personal recovery and underscored how her lived experience has provided her with the perspective and motivation to work as a mental health professional and advocate for recovery. Chair Hatcher thanked the recovery speaker for her willingness to participate.



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Holly Lynde then introduced the 2024 Contractor Experience speaker, who was Chanda Santana, founder of DIVAS Who Win Freedom Center. DIVAS Who Win Freedom Center received a grant award from the Trust to facilitate a recovery project focused on the expansion of warm hand-off programs in Athens, Georgia and the surrounding communities. Chanda Santana shared updates since the GOSAC recommended her organization receive a grant award at its November 2024 meeting. DIVAS Who Win Freedom Center focuses its recovery efforts on pregnant and post-partum mothers, especially those who may have been sex trafficked or are working to leave the sex industry. Chair Hatcher thanked Chanda Santana for sharing her personal background and how DIVAS Who Win is and plans to make an impact to abate a portion of the opioid crisis.

Next, Holly Lynde provided an update on the 2025 application process. She reported GOCAT had received 460 applications this funding cycle and provided a breakdown on these applications by region and project category. Mrs. Lynde reported that the GOCAT's Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) announced \$30 million would be available from the Trust this funding cycle. As of the meeting date, the GOCAT staff were checking the completeness of all applications. After the completed checks are finished, the Interagency Work Group, GOSAC Commission Members, and members of the RACs could begin their review of applications.

Chair Hatcher thanked Holly Lynde for her report and asked that the Commission set dates and locations for the remaining 2025 meetings. Chair Hatcher reported that the Georgia Sheriffs' Association offered their offices in Madison, Georgia, as a venue for GOSAC's Q1 meeting and suggested this meeting be held the week of Monday, August 11<sup>th</sup> with the specific date pending coordination with the Georgia Sheriffs' Association. The date, location, and time were generally accepted by the Commission Members. Lastly, Chair Hatcher proposed the GOSAC meet the week of Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup> in the DBHDD Board Room for their Q2 meeting. This date, location and time were generally accepted by the Commission Members.

Chair Hatcher announced it was time for public comment for those who had signed up to do so. Pete Clark from Aintree Hill Consultancy and Sydney McKee also from Aintree Hill Consultancy made public comment to inform and advocate for projects focused on harm reduction.

Chair Hatcher thanked those that participated in public comment and adjourned the meeting at 2:44 p.m.