

North Carolina Advisory Council on Cannabis

Prevention & Treatment Subcommittee

February 6, 2026 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Virtual via Webex Link

Meeting NOTES

Task Force Members: Mark Ezzell; Lillie Rhodes; Dr. Kimberly McDonald; Dr. Carrie Brown; Chief David Hess

Attendees: Kayde-ann Miller-Ford, GHSP; Kaycee Deen, Cannabis Working Group Team Lead; Hanaleah Hoberman, Subcommittee Lead; Kenny Benfield, Forensic Tests for Alcohol Branch; Scott Proescholdbell, NCDHHS; Cameron Clarke

Subcommittee convener Mark Ezzell welcomed the group and disclosed the State Government Ethics Act to the group. No one had a conflict of interest and the meeting proceeded accordingly.

The purpose of today's meeting is to provide updates since our last meeting on January 15, 2026:

- The sub-committee will have a series of meetings up until April 18th as that is the deadline to provide a report to the full committee. Doodle poll links will be emailed to sub-committee members to gauge availability and help determine meeting dates.
- Hanaleah and Mark touched on their meeting with Dr. Jennifer Carroll. Both were pleased with the discussion they had with Dr. Carroll as she possesses a wealth of knowledge and is a great resource. It's possible the sub-committee may invite her to speak at a future meeting.
- Per Dr. Jennifer Carroll: general scare tactics don't work; specific campaigns work better i.e. – safe driving/safe storage; long-term sustained efforts work; campaigns have to be clear and factual.
- Scott Proescholdbell chimed in about tobacco control campaign. Campaigns need to be well funded. Mark concurs. DOSE & SAFE could offer do's/don'ts.
- Dr. Carrie Brown asks if there are any measurements for the use of cannabis. Scott could not confirm or verify.
- Goal is to share information with the public about risks involved with substance use.
- Campaign could highlight effects of driving under influence of cannabis.
- Alcohol and tobacco use (except vaping) are down among youths. Scott concurs.
- Chief Hess is interested in the Conference of DA's perspective as well as the perspective of a drug treatment court Judge or DA.
- Scott Proescholdbell inquired about DPI. Hanaleah has reached out to someone at DPI and is waiting to hear back from him or her.

- Dr. Kimberly McDonald shared her matrix with the group. Very useful tool that will help the sub-committee to answer some of its questions
- Mark shares his PowerPoint slide presentation that he will share with the full working group on Tuesday, February 10, 2026
- Dr. Carrie Brown suggests we bring in a speaker for each discussion topic to help answer the list of questions.

Adjourn/Next Meeting: Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m. Next meeting will be towards end of February.