



MENTAL HEALTH LOCAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes – February 14, 2022

IN ATTENDANCE:

Voting Members Present: Andrea Lower, Breanna Hume, Perrin Lundgren, Linda Gabel, Robyn Carr, Russ McKenna, Tom Peluso, Melaney Swenson, Erin Taylor

Non-Voting Members Present: Betsy Asserson, Edward Szczypinski, Rebecca Adams, Rick Gale, Rowen Schuler, Megan Castle, Kevin Hume

Voting Members Absent: Bekki McLean, Dezri Rochin, Geary Zale, Jay Getten, Lori Christenson, Molly Basta, Susan Gregory, Commissioner Zach Brown

Staff: Harlee Lynch, Cola Rowley

Welcome and Introductions: Breanna Hume welcomed everyone to the meeting and made introductions.

Approval of Minutes for: Breanna will submit the October 18, 2021, November 15, 2021, and January 10, 2022 minutes via email for approval.

Committee Reports: N/A

NEW BUSINESS:

- Update from the County on current Mental Health happenings and how the MHLAC can support, 20 minutes -Cola Rowley & Zach Brown
 - Cola Rowley, Deputy County Administrator, gave a brief update on the Counties current Mental Health happenings. First, she went over the 988 implementation, she has been working with a small group within the Crisis Redesign Committee. They have been working on what dispatching independently of Law Enforcement will look like and they have made good progress on that, this will ideally be active July 1st. Next, she talked about mobile response planning, mainly staffing wise, there is a workforce group set up and they are trying to create some incentive packages to help with recruitment. She talked about the Crisis Receiving and Stabilization Center, there have been some difficulties with licensing at the State level. The Hospital, Connections, and the County have a meeting Thursday to talk about this. The status of the Mental Health Campus is still unknown, the Hospital's offer is still on the table and the County is working on an agreement with them. Cola also touched on the County's possible desire to add a tax to Marijuana purchases in the county to put towards Mental Health Services, this will go on a ballot for a vote. She also talked about the Counties continued struggle to find staffing for Mental Health Services, such as evaluations at the Detention Center. She asked the group if anyone had time to be plugged in for this, even a shift a week, it would be a huge help. The

County would be interested in helping getting people licensed as a MHPP in order to be able to provide these services. Cola will update the job listings so it is easier for group members to share them.

- Breanna asked Erin Taylor for an update on Mental Health calls now that Western is leaving, they have been steadily going up but it is not a huge rise.
- Breanna asked for an update from Perrin Lundgren regarding Mental Health crisis calls at the Help Center, they have risen over the last 2 years and the number of contacts increases every year.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Resource Guides, 10-15 Minutes - Perrin and committee members
- *Note: After an audit of meeting minutes back to May 2020 when the guide was brought back into discussion, no motion to approve printing or approval of printing was documented in the minutes. It was discussed that there was up to \$6900 available for the project but no approval for printing was ever documented. Effectively this means that it did not happen since it was not documented. It was approved to accept \$500 from BCBS for translating the guides into Spanish on 6/15/20. This is the only approval that has been documented for this project to date.*
 - Perrin gave an update on the pricing of printing the Resource Guides, to print 60,000 guides it would cost \$5857.50, 80,000 guides would cost \$7,694.50, and 100,000 guides would cost \$9,658. They would be printed on 11x17 paper then folded down to a 5.6x11 tri-fold brochure. She is working with United Way to be sure they have the correct language in the Resource Guide, as well as, working on getting QR codes integrated in addition to the resources on the guide. Perrin spoke about the changes to Mental Health services in the last six months, specifically with how individuals are accessing these services, with all the changes it may not be in the best interest to print the Resource Guides right now. She wanted to hear from the group on what they thought would be best regarding a digital roll out of the Resource Guides sooner than the printed versions. She suggested the possibility of doing a digital roll out in May in correspondence with May Mental Health Awareness Month and then doing a smaller batch of physical guides later on that way it contains the most up-to-date information possible. Linda Gabel thinks digital makes more sense and gave the idea of possibly putting a flyer out that directs people on where to access it digitally. Tom Peluso asked Perrin to email him the original pricing from the Chronicle compared to what it is now. Tom also told the group that they need to use the funds allocated to them, for the Resource Guides, for what they were intended to be used for. He also suggested the possibility of hiring someone to do the work on these. Tom believes it is important to distribute these physically as well as digitally, such as places like the Warming Center. The overall goal is to have the guide be readily available digitally as well as physically.
 - Planning May Mental Health Awareness Month, create a committee?

- Moved to next month, Tom emailed out some items used in the past for this.
- Open Positions
 - Children's Services position - pending!, Consumer/Family position, Adult Services Provider position, Bozeman Health Position are the vacancies currently
- Reports – No reports submitted
- Public Comment
- Short Announcements or Updates (1-2 minutes)
 - Edward Szczypinski talked about a luncheon that the Chamber of Commerce is holding on February 23rd regarding Mental Health Services in the workplace. He also mentioned there will be a Business after Hours at Providence Mental Health on February 24th from 5:30pm-8:00pm, this is another opportunity to discuss Mental Health.
 - Erin gave a quick update on the CIT Training from last week.

Next Meeting: back to our normal schedule, March 21, 2022

Account Balance Currently: \$11,448.18 as of last check