



MENTAL HEALTH LOCAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes – March 21, 2022

IN ATTENDANCE:

Voting Members Present: Andrea Lower, Breanna Hume, Erin Taylor, Linda Gabel, Robyn Carr, Russ McKenna, Susan Gregory, Tom Peluso, Commissioner Zach Brown, Melaney Swenson

Non-Voting Members Present: Megan Castle, Rowen Schuler, John Kudrna, Ellie Martin (Guest), Lindsey Klebenow (Guest), Lori Reynolds (Guest)

Voting Members Absent: Bekki McLean, Dezri Rochin, Geary Zale, Jay Getten, Lori Christenson, Molly Basta, Perrin Lundgrin

Staff: Harlee Lynch

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

**Approval of Minutes for:** Approval of minutes from October, November, January, and February.

**Linda Gabel moves to approve all minutes as written for October, November, January, and February. Susan Gregory seconds the motion. All in favor say aye. Aye. Motion passed.**

**Committee Reports:** N/A

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- Info and engagement opportunity with the Awareness Campaign by GGUW, Ellie Martin

Ellie Martin, Greater Gallatin United Way, is here to talk about the Awareness Campaign process they are engaged in and why they are moving in that direction, this is part of elevating behavioral health. In the spring of 2020, they joined in on a campaign called Man Therapy. The goal of this campaign was to engage with working age men (25-65yo) and the people who care about them. GGUW decided not to continue a license with them after doing research locally and looking at what is happening in our community, they identified a stronger need to support people around healthy coping skills. The goal of this is to elevate a behavioral health committee and to plan and develop a new campaign the focuses on healthy coping. They will put out an RFP, interview qualified agencies, then choose one who will be responsible for developing content and a distribution plan for this regional campaign. Ellie shared some ideas her team has for distributing these healthy coping strategies.

They have a couple asks for the MHLAC. The first being monetary support, this campaign will last a year. She would also like to encourage participation in some way,

such as help with content development and production. There will also be opportunities for participation in focus group conversations, sharing ideas, and help with distribution of materials. Tom Peluso said there is money available through the State or through mini grants that Ellie may have access to. Linda thinks it is important to work in conjunction with GGUW during May Mental Health Awareness Month. Ellie stated it is their goal to roll this material out some time during May Mental Health Awareness Month. If anyone would like to be involved, please email Ellie.

## OLD BUSINESS:

- Planning May Mental Health Awareness Month, create a committee?, Tom Peluso requested time

Brea spoke about creating a committee to head up May Mental Health Awareness Month. Tom spoke about some ideas he had for this. Lori Reynolds spoke and invited everyone in the group to the Resource Fair that Nami Bozeman is sponsoring on May 1<sup>st</sup> at the MSU Sub Ballroom from 2-4pm, it is all free. Providers will have tables to sit at. They will have speakers, raffles, and giveaway prizes. Please submit pre-registration by April 15<sup>th</sup> to [nami.resource.fair@gmail.com](mailto:nami.resource.fair@gmail.com).

Lori said that they will be advertising in the newspaper, at MSU, via email, and by flier, she will also send the marketing materials to Brea. Tom thinks it is important that the following people are invited: Connections, the hospital, CIT Program, MHP Providers, and the work groups that are involved in these Mental Health services. Lori spoke more about what they have done in the past for this. They have held a community BBQ, posted green ribbons on light posts downtown, they did a Stomp out Stigma walk, held movies at the Ellen Theatre, had lecturers speak and providers hold seminars, and more. They are requesting a mini grant of some sort through the MHLAC (\$1,000-\$2,000) to help with prizes and giveaways.

Lastly, Lori also mentioned some classes that Nami is starting. They will be starting a Peer to Peer Class that will be held every Saturday morning from 10am-12pm and they are needing more participants for this. They have also started Family to Family Classes, and they also have a couple openings for that.

**Susan Gregory moves that the MHLAC donates \$1,500 to Nami to utilize towards the Resource Fair on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Linda Gabel seconds the motion. All in favor say Aye. Aye Motion passed.**

John Kudrna had spoken in the past about doing a community planting during May Mental Health Awareness Month. He still has some details to iron out, but he would like to shoot for an official day of planting towards the end of the month. John will create a plan of what this will look like and get it to Brea for discussion on the April MHLAC agenda.

- Open Positions
  - They do have a few applications in the works, may have all voting positions filled coming up.
- Reports – No reports submitted

- Public Comment
- Short Announcements or Updates (1-2 minutes)

Linda requested that someone from Connections come to one of the future meetings and explain how they are handling things. Brea will reach out to Connections and try to get them on the agenda for April or May. Commissioner Brown explained briefly who they are. He also talked about the County funding a Mobile Crisis Unit. The goal is to mobilize a truer Mobile Crisis Unit System starting in July, Staff is working hard on that goal. Brea asked that the group send her any questions they may have for Connections.

Tom also mentioned that the Central Service Area Authority needs a representative/alternate representative from the MHLAC. Brea will place this on next month's agenda for further discussion as well.

**Next Meeting: April 18, 2022**

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