



MENTAL HEALTH LOCAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes – April 18, 2022

IN ATTENDANCE:

Voting Members Present: Andrea Lower, Bekki McLean, Breanna Hume, Erin Taylor, Geary Zale, Jay Getten, Linda Gabel, Lori Christenson, Robyn Carr, Susan Gregory, Tom Peluso, Commissioner Zach Brown, Melaney Swenson

Non-Voting Members Present: Danica Jamison, Melissa Helton, Rowen Schuler, Kevin Hume, John Kudrna, Steve Ette (Guest)

Voting Members Absent: Dezri Rochin, Molly Basta, Perrin Lundgren, Russ McKenna

Staff: Harlee Lynch

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

Approval of Minutes for: Minutes arrived late. The group took a minute to review the minutes from last month's meeting.

Erin Taylor moves to approve the minutes. Commissioner Brown seconds the motion. All in favor say aye. Aye. Motion Carried.

Committee Reports: N/A

NEW BUSINESS:

O Mini Grant Application from Andrew Lower and Court services

Andrea Lower and the Treatment Court Team have been looking into working with past graduates of Treatment Court to come back and help volunteer and mentor current members. They do have the Friends of Treatment Court program, which is a volunteer group in the community, but they mainly deal with donations not peer support. The Peer Network volunteered to come do a presentation for interested volunteers to help walk them through peer support, mentoring, and coaching. May is National Drug Court Month so she would like to try to host this training during the month of May at the Detention Center. Andrea's ask for the MHLAC is a donation of \$500-\$600. Commissioner Brown mentioned that there is a desire in the community for peer support and wondered if Andrea could engage with these members (Bozeman Health, Connections) who have this desire and have them be a part of this training, she will send an email and ask them to be involved. He thinks this could be a great outreach opportunity, Andrea agrees this is a good long term community benefit. John Kudrna, HRDC, is a licensed peer

support person and he talked about his experience with this and offered to help as needed.

Tom Peluso moves that we approve spending up to \$1,000 for this project that Andrea has laid out and that we use available funds for that purpose. Geary Zale seconds the motion. All in favor say aye. Aye. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

- o Planning May Mental Health Awareness Month cont.

Brea started talking about May Mental Health Awareness Month, she would like to get a calendar put together. John Kudrna gave an update on the HRDC Community Garden. He has a meeting with the horticulture specialist at MSU today and the next step would be to start building planters. He thinks they could tentatively set the planting date as May 22nd and it would occur at 2015 Wheat Dr (Warming Center) from 10am-2pm. Melissa Helton wondered if some of the kids she works with could be involved in this in some way for community service needs, John said absolutely. They will need some funding assistance; he will put together something this week. Commissioner Brown suggested an email vote once John sets a budget. Danica Jamison stated that the Elevating Behavioral Health Committee will be doing social media posting for the month of May. They would like to invite the members of the LAC to be a part of this by liking and sharing posts and if they would like to further be a part of that please email Ellie Martin. Brea will get in touch with Molly who runs the LAC social media and get her connected with Ellie. Danica spoke about some more ideas she had; she will email them to Brea. Lori Christenson stated that they work closely with Elevating Behavioral Health, so they will be sharing those social media posts and she is happy to support in whatever other way that they can. Tom Peluso spoke about the past year's calendar that he sent out. He talked about some past trainings and speakers they have had; he thinks they should have at least one event per week. Commissioner Brown gave some ideas for speakers, such as John Hill, someone from Bozeman Health, or someone from MSU Mental Health Research and Recovery. He also stated that the Courthouse Community Room could be an option for hosting a speaker. Tom will reach out to Carl Roster to see if he can host a QPR training via Zoom. Nami Bozeman is holding the Resource Fair on May 1st, Tom wondered if Erin Taylor would be interested in speaking about CIT. John Kudrna is a yoga and mindfulness coach and he offered his services to be a part of May Mental Health Awareness Month. Commissioner Brown talked about the Mobile Crisis Response Unit. The County has funded the start up for this and they are working on putting this program together. He thinks this could potentially be publicly rolled out during May, it may be premature, but he will talk to the involved parties and follow up with the group. Brea will ask Molly to put together a calendar.

- o Open Positions
 - Updates to come

- Reports – No reports submitted
- Short Announcements or Updates (1-2 minutes)

Tom spoke about some ideas he had for the group. He would like the group to do more than they are now. He wanted an update on the Resource guides, Brea said they are planning to do a digital roll out by July.

Next Meeting: May 16, 2022

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