



MENTAL HEALTH LOCAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes – May 16th, 2022

IN ATTENDANCE:

Voting Members Present: Andrea Lower, Breanna Hume, Erin Taylor, Geary Zale, Linda Gabel, Lori Christenson, Perrin Lundgren, Susan Gregory, Tom Peluso, Commissioner Zach Brown, Melaney Swenson

Non-Voting Members Present: Danica Jamison, Edward Szczypinski, Rebecca Adams, Lori Reynolds- Guest, John Kudrna (HRDC), Kirsten Smith- Guest, Kevin Hume (CHP), Bob Mullen- Guest (Jefferson County Commissioner), Lori Reynolds- Guest (Nami Bozeman)

Voting Members Absent:

Staff: Harlee Lynch, Deputy County Administrator Cola Rowley

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

NEW BUSINESS:

- O Presentation on what the CSAA does and how they can support and assist the MHLACs around the region by Bob Mullen, Jefferson County Commissioner, and a member of the Central Service Area Authority (CSAA) board of directors

Bob Mullen, Jefferson County Commissioner, gave some history about the CSAA and what the purpose of it is. He also spoke about the duties of the CSAA, they want to help the MHLAC in any way they can. Bob also went over a handout that talks about the MHLAC and what they do. He believes the most important things the LAC can be doing are to educate, fill gaps, coordinate services, and train the public. He talked about some of the things they have done in Jefferson County regarding education on Suicide Prevention. Lori Reynolds, NAMI Bozeman, spoke about the CSAA website and what resources are available on there, including the LAC Tool Kit. The most unique thing about LAC's is that they are made up of 50% families and consumers of mental illness, where most other Mental Health Advisory Groups are not. Tom Peluso says that the group needs to think about the money they have available and what they can do with it. Strategic planning is what Bob is most interested in; he thinks it's lacking in most LACs around the state. Specifically planning around crisis facilities, crisis receiving and stabilization services and ways to help the State Hospital. He also mentioned regionalizing crisis care. They could use more help from the state.

- o Community involvement and engagement of the MHLAC with newly created Gallatin County Behavioral Health Coalition, Danica Jameson, and Kirsten Smith

Danica Jameson talked about what she has noticed about this group, there is a large workload. The Elevating Behavioral Health Coalition (EBHC) was created to fill in some gaps in the community, then the Crisis Redesign Group was formed, these groups have both accomplished a lot of work. She has a vision for the LAC to be more valuable in the community. Most of the work in the community has been guided by providers and not consumers, that is something she believes the LAC can focus on. Danica thinks the monthly LAC meetings could be a place for any interested community member to come to better understand what is happening in the community regarding Mental Health. She thinks it can be a place for community voices to share stories, guest speakers to give education, and a place to share updates from other work groups within the community.

Kirsten Smith also shared her ideas; she wants to figure out how to come to a place where things work well among all these groups in the community. She thinks it may be helpful to bring on a member of the LAC to be a part of their Crisis Redesign meetings. She would like the LAC to be able to share and get feedback on items, specifically from consumers and family members of consumers. The EBHC and Crisis Redesign Committee are now coming together as one larger group, she talked more about what they do in the community, engagement is their new goal.

Rebecca Adams shared some of her thoughts as well. She believes we need more direct action and support services for people in our community, we need these services, and we need them now. She thinks the group needs to be more community focused.

Erin Taylor thinks the LAC members should be engaging in the materials that Kirsten Smith sends out weekly from the Crisis Redesign Committee Meetings. It could give good in site on things they can get involved in.

Linda thinks there is too much overlap between these groups, and the LAC does not meet often enough to get done what they need to.

This will be a continued conversation at the June LAC Meeting.

- Possible names for the Mobile Crisis Unit, Kirsten Smith

OLD BUSINESS:

- o Mini-grant application for HRDC Community Garden creation and planting on 5/22/22, total cost \$2,295.86 for all materials, request for some support for supplies from John Kudrna
 - o Brea emailed this out to everyone and will have the group vote via email for this.
- o Open Positions
 - Updates to come
- Approval of Minutes for: April Minutes

- o Brea will email these for voting as well.

Next Meeting: June 20, 2022

Account Balance Currently: \$8,848.18