



MENTAL HEALTH LOCAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes – September 9, 2019

Welcome and Introductions: Ms. Hume called the meeting to order, calling for introductions around the room.

Approval of Minutes for August 12, 2019: Minutes were not approved due to a lack of quorum.

Old Business

Vacant Board Positions: County Commissioners appointed Amanda Fahlstrom in the Child Provider of Mental Health Services position, and Geary Zale in the Primary Consumer position. The active law enforcement provider position is still open. Suggestions were made to send an invite to Chief Crawford or Sheriff Gootkin and Belgrade PD and MSU Police to recommend an appointment. Two applications have been received for two remaining open positions for Primary Consumer Position or Family of Consumer. A Vice Chair is still needed, and must be a voting member. Invoices from the Bozeman Daily Chronicle will be sent to the Commission office, and then forwarded to Ms. Hume.

New Business

Continuing the Legislative luncheon was discussed. Ms. Kaufman suggested that we stay in touch with the legislators with an email list containing highlights on what is happening every month. A quarterly newsletter could also contain this information. Mr. Kelley asked if there is ongoing work in the interim committees while the legislature is out of session. This could be a rational on connecting with them, and a better way to target ideas. There is a notification system on which bills are being worked on, and when they would be heard. Collaboration with other LAC's through CSAA could be discussed during the legislative luncheon. October 1st, 2019 is the new roll out date for Medicaid changes. Mr. Kelley explained the two changes are Medicaid rules and is being worked on in the interim committees, not in the legislature. Mr. Kelley will check in on the interim committees and see what is being done. This will be discussed in old business next month.

Ms. Hume asked for thoughts on creating a newsletter to let the public know what the LAC is working on, and possibly dispersing this information to the four different service authorities across the state. This would be a quarterly committee and come before the LAC for approval. Ms. Reynolds was interested in this.

Healthy Gallatin website (Health Department) was just revised, and now includes a placeholder for mental health. Using this platform could be a more efficient way to get this information out to the public, and could eliminate a separate newsletter. Mr. Gale said this is in place on the Veterans websites. Ms. Basta can produce a more structured letter on what the LAC is doing each month, and be the point person for the addition to this site. Ms. Jamison suggested having a county site that could feed other postings. Having everything connect to everything else, the information would be seen by more people and organizations.

Committees

There has been minimal committee engagement over the summer. Ms. Hume asked how the committees are going, and if there needs to be a revisiting of the structure, and parse these back, or focus on certain

projects. Ms. Basta said it would be easier to have the committee chairs present for discussion. Ms. Hume suggested this be tabled for next month to allow time to discuss this with the committee chairs. For committee involvement they must be staffed.

Ms. Pomeroy suggested a year long warming center support could be one of the focused projects. Also, addressing the Bozeman High School students and families that are homeless. Mr. Berg said that Anna Edwards is the expert in this area, and would be happy to talk with the LAC. Ms. Hume suggested having HRDC come in and let us know how we can support them with this.

Ms. Kaufman suggested looking at mini grants from the CSAA grant funding. Ms. Reynolds is the only authorized person to write the mini grant for approval. Mr. Peluso suggested having presentations on the Crisis Tool Kit, this could be a series during the meetings. Fifteen minutes either during or after the meeting. Ms. Kaufman stated that this presentation is well worth it, and could be done in two half hour presentations. This will start in either October or November. Lori Reynolds and Tom Peluso are the contacts for this presentation.

Public Comment

Ms. Hume asked for feedback and input for what the LAC should be doing and focusing on. Ms. Jamison would like feedback about the Man Therapy Campaign, and how to engage men to participate in existing programs. Mr. Bueling is working on this campaign, and will be the contact. This will be added to October's agenda. Ms. Basta suggested two groups that would be helpful with this campaign. Ms. Hart asked if there are enforcement groups on the Red Flag initiative. Florida instituted a law that if a person is deemed a danger to themselves or others, their firearms would be temporarily confiscated. Montana does not have this law. Ms. Jamison said we could work with providers and family or friends to issue gun locks. Mr. Kelley said that the city of Bozeman is excited about this idea, and if we could start this in the community, it could turn into something more in the future. There is energy out there, and we need an organization to sponsor the LAC to coordinate. Mr. Gale said there is a lot of support for this initiative. This is not about taking guns away from individuals, but preventing suicide, domestic and other violence when a person is having mental health issues. Mr. Maloney brought up the second amendment is not possible if you don't know the members. Ms. Jamison asked for a meeting to discuss how groups made the decision to proceed. Ms. Lundgren will assist with the organizing of this meeting. This will be on the agenda for November.

Mr. Gale commented on Patriots Day, September 11, 2019. There will be a breakfast at the American Legion followed by a presentation at 9:03 AM to commemorate 9/11.

Next Meeting: October 21, 2019