



MENTAL HEALTH LOCAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes – January 11, 2021

IN ATTENDANCE:

Voting Members Present: Shirley Kaufman, Molly Basta, Tom Peluso, Michael Foust, Shelly Johnson, Breanna Hume, Cyndi Schoep, Dezri Rochin, Joe Skinner

Non-Voting Members Present: Rick Gale, Edward Sypinski, Rowen Schuler, Maureen Womack

Voting Members Absent: Susan Gregory, Vickie Groeneweg, Matt Kelley, I Ho Pomeroy, Chelsey Pengra, Andrea Lower, Dani Stack, Amanda Fahlstrom, Geary Zale, Perrin Lundgren

Staff: Sarah Gracey

Welcome and Introductions: Ms. Hume welcomed everyone and started the group introductions.

Public Comment: Brea announced the CIT training is February 8-12th for Law Enforcement Crisis Intervention Training.

Approval of Minutes for: Ms. Basta moved to approve the December 14, 2020 minutes. Ms. Kaufman seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

OLD BUSINESS

Open positions:

Ms. Groeneweg has retired, and Ms. Womack is interested and will apply for the BDH position. The CHP position is still open. Linda Gabel has applied.

Communities that Care:

Mr. Sypinski announced that Communities that Care put on a presentation on three questions for the 2021 legislative session. The governor will sponsor 20% of the recreational marijuana fund for DPHHS for addiction prevention. They will send out a slide show on the webinar.

Commissioner Skinner thanked Ms. Hume for handling the Frank Seitz email.

NEW BUSINESS

Jim Hajny and Brent Morris from Montana Peer Network gave a presentation on Peer Services. This is a 501-3c organization that deals with recovery from addiction. Peer advocacy is a three year project that trains members to be good peer leaders. One target is to reach out to LAC's, to see who is a consumer or survivor, and to reach out to our members and give them training and education to be more effective. We developed these virtual trainings for free and offer two rotating sessions per month. We interested in partnering with this peer network, and would like to know how to be more effective on boards. Mr. Morris explained the fear that goes with becoming part of a board, and how training can provide more confidence and skills for board membership. This will help with gathering peers and members to build a bigger more confident board. Ms. Hume said this would be

helpful to fill the open Family of Consumer Position. Balance is importance for this position, and should be spoken by the role of the first position and not the job that is filled.

Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting: February meeting to the 22nd.