



## MENTAL HEALTH LOCAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

April 14, 2025

12:00 – 2:00 PM

Gallatin County Courthouse Community Room and Via Zoom

Voting Members Present- Commissioner Jennifer Boyer, Ryan Mattson, Andrea Lower, Melaney Swenson, Yvonne Rudman, Eric Szemes, Susan Gregory, Tom Peluso, Lori Shanahan, Shawna Lockhart Zach Ehrhardt, Amanda Rosenkoetter

Non-Voting Members Present- Chad Berg, Rick Gale, Ben Frentsos, Todd Lester, Raven Yurtal

Voting Members Absent- Erin Taylor, Jennifer Madgic, Lori Christenson, Nicole Madden, Anthea George, Steve Nash

Guests- Courtney Giles, Cola Rowley, April Smith, Caitlin Avery, Steve Ette, Marissa Done, Shellie Brady, Taylor Doty, Kirsten Smith, Stephanie Quayl

Staff- Raven Yurtal

- Call to Order- Ryan Mattson called the meeting to order.
- Roll Call- Ryan Mattson took attendance.
- Approval of Minutes: March 2025 minutes – Ryan Mattson approved the minutes as distributed.
- Public Comment- none
- Committee Reports and Updates
  - Strategic Planning Committee- No Updates
  - Membership Committee- No Updates
  - Accounting- No new changes but the addition of \$1,000 grant.
  - Central Service Area Authority- n/a
  - Gallatin Behavior Health Coalition Update-
    - Kirsten Smith updating the strategic direction and focused on crisis services from 988 to mobile crisis to a place to go (14 bed inpatient) and jail diversion. Working on outpatient support AOT and services and clubhouse. More progress on community information and data sharing so we can understand outcomes and trends of system performances. Infrastructure of the coalition and sustainability – especially with federal funding concerns.
    - Kirsten is transitioning from the position at the end of the fiscal year and Caitlin is transitioning into the role.
    - Meet with Cedar Creek to understand their services and capacity.
  - Gallatin County Commission- SB 435 was amended and still working through – 72-hour hold.

- Unfinished Business
  - Clubhouse Proposal- No Updates
  - Greater Impact is doing recovery home and Kirsten is connecting with them. HRDC drop-in center has stopped state funding to support those services. New shelter with day services will be open this summer.
  - CSAA Grants Update- No Updates
  - Salons and Saloons- Monday May 19 4pm at the Labor Temple across from Hawthorne. Need help with publicity but we are doing less for fund and will have a sign up to help with food.
  - May is Mental Health Month – we publish a list of events that are happening throughout the month.
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- New Business
  - PIVOT Pretrial Diversion Program – Steve Ette: Shelly Brady, Caitlin Avery and Taylor with treatment court, AOT program, PIVOT program and testing services ad DUI task Force coordinator.
    - PIVOT – pretrial diversion program that is an alternative to sentences. They enter an agreement that is a minimum of 1 year with supervision and then the (criminal) charge is dismissed. First time felony and misdemeanor offenses. There are evaluations and an agreement covers all the needs of individual. The application can be self-referral or defense attorney etc. They must be in Gallatin County, no DUI or sex offender. The applicant is generally low risk and if not, there is a specific case plan developed. Most are referred by county attorney or attorney offices – we are 4 months in and over 40 applicants with over dozen people in the program. The county attorney office is notified if a participant does not follow through with their plan. The mobile team may also be able to step in and support if a person is not doing well or participating in the program.
    - AOT Program – Caitlin – supported by SAMPSA grant last year and staff began in March. 2-year grant with potential for 4 years based on success and data that we monitor and submit. The program seeks to provide the most supportive programs in the least restrictive environment. Services are mental health providers, social services, HRDC, law enforcement, Hospital, Cedar Creek.... We develop a case management plan for people who may be considering inpatient treatment (civil) / involuntary commitment. A community commitment may be AOT and an order for the state hospital the AOT program may be an option once the person is stabilized. It is based on judge order not to exceed 90days.
  - VA services and American Legion (ap on cell phone) are resources and have benefits that the individual can link with.
  - County has ESL support, but it is sometimes difficult to find service providers that are Spanish speakers (or other languages).
- Agenda Suggestions- Stephanie Quayl – Armory on May 3 benefit concert.
- Announcements-

- Adjournment- Ryan Mattson adjourned the meeting
- Next Meeting is Monday May 12 at 12 pm.

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Erin Taylor, Board Chair



## PIVOT

The PIVOT Program is an initiative developed by the Gallatin County Attorney's Office and Court Services designed to offer an alternative to traditional sentencing. This program enables defendants to engage in behavior modification, restore victims through restitution, and potentially avoid a criminal conviction.

Participants in the PIVOT Program undergo a comprehensive assessment that identifies their specific needs related to criminal behavior. Based on this assessment, they receive tailored support including substance abuse treatment, mental health therapy, and access to various community services and programs.

Additionally, the prosecutor will offer a Deferred Prosecution Agreement. This agreement removes the case from the court's active docket and ensures that the defendant will not face a conviction if they adhere to the conditions set forth in the agreement.

**Committed to  
Community**

**Gallatin County Court Services  
Judge Guenther Memorial  
Center  
1709 West College  
Bozeman, Montana 59715**

**Phone: : (406-582-3700)  
E-mail: [PIVOT@gallatin.mt.gov](mailto:PIVOT@gallatin.mt.gov)**



# PIVOT

Pretrial Intervention Via  
Opportunities and Treatment



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COUNTY

## Vision

Through addressing the root cause of the behaviors and focusing on criminogenic needs of individuals, we can reduce recidivism and increase public safety.



## Sample Conditions\*

- Treatment (Mental Health, Chemical Dependency, Domestic Violence)
- Alcohol or Drug Testing
- Community Service
- Electronic Monitoring
- HRDC Housing Assistance
- Employment

\* All programming has associated fees. Fee waiver available upon request.



## Referral, Screening, and Intake procedures:

Defense Attorney, Prosecutor, or Defendant complete application

Officer checks Applicant for initial qualification

Officer confers with Prosecutor for approval to process request

Officer schedules Defendant to complete a risk/needs assessment

Officer's assessment results determine need for Case Plan

If needed: Officer completes follow-up appointment for Case Planning

Officer recommendation (and case plan if applicable) sent to Prosecutor and Defense Attorney

Prosecutor drafts and offers a Deferred Prosecution Agreement (DPA)

All parties sign Agreement and defendant reports to Court Services to enroll in supervision



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## Am I eligible for the PIVOT Program?



- 1** You must live in Gallatin County
- 2** Past convictions of sexual offense as defined in MCA § 46-23-502 will not be eligible
- 3** Current charge must not be a misdemeanor/felony DUI
- 4** Must determine that PIVOT can meet treatment needs within Gallatin County.
- 5** No prior or current enrollment in the PIVOT program
- 6** May not be acting or engaging as a confidential informant





# AOT

The AOT Program was created for people with serious mental illness (SMI) who are in danger to themselves or others. Montana Code Annotated § 53-21-149 provides the court the authority to order a person participate in mental health treatment. Most importantly, if you have a serious mental illness, AOT can help you receive treatment services that may allow you to live and receive treatment in the community.

## Team

Our Team consists of professionals from the following agencies;

Citizens and Family Members  
Connections Health Solutions  
Bozeman Health  
The Help Center  
Peace of Mind Montana  
HRDC

Community Health Partners  
Cedar Creek Integrated Health  
18th Judicial District Courts  
Office of Public Defender  
Gallatin County Commissioners  
Gallatin County Court Services  
Deputy County Administrator  
Gallatin County Attorney's Office  
Gallatin County Sheriff's Office



## Gallatin County Court Services

**Community Programs Coordinator**  
**Judge Guenther Memorial Center**  
**1709 West College**  
**Bozeman, Montana 59715**

**Phone: : (406-209-5745)**  
**E-mail: [Caitlin.Avey@gallatin.mt.gov](mailto:Caitlin.Avey@gallatin.mt.gov)**



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# Gallatin County AOT Program

Assisted Outpatient Treatment



## Vision

**Provide an effective, cost efficient, integrated judicial and mental health system to persons in our community.**



## Mission

**Implement a collaborative Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) program to better support individuals with serious mental illness.**

## Why am I being considered for AOT?

The Court may consider you for placement into the AOT program if you are diagnosed with a serious mental illness.

The court may consider ordering case management services, medication, short-term inpatient treatment, chemical dependency treatment, assertive community treatment, or a combination, as set forth by the designated community facility or program or the individual responsible for the management and supervision of the person.

### Rights

**You have the right to an attorney who will help you voice your legal concerns. If you do not have an attorney or cannot afford an attorney, one will be appointed to you.**

**Public Defenders Office  
(406) 582-2450**

The AOT Team is committed not only to supporting recovery but also to protecting the rights of all participants. We strive to eliminate barriers and treat everyone with dignity and respect, regardless of their race, color, creed, national origin, age, or identity. The AOT Team guarantees each participant their civil rights as protected under the U.S. Constitution, Montana State Constitution, Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Additionally, the AOT program safeguards participants' Protected Health Information (PHI) in accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). We also protect Personally Identifiable Information (PII) from unauthorized release of all of the participants.

## Am I eligible for the AOT program?

- 1** Be 18 years of age or older
- 2** Be diagnosed with a severe mental illness
- 3** Live in Gallatin County
- 4** Determine AOT resources meet your needs
- 5** Be Court ordered to participate in AOT
- 6** The Court must consider AOT the least restrictive placement necessary to ensure recovery and stability



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