



MENTAL HEALTH LOCAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

February 12, 2024

12:00 - 1:30 PM

Gallatin County Courthouse Community Room and Via Zoom

IN ATTENDANCE:

Voting Members Present- Erin Taylor, Ryan Mattson, Andrea Lower, Lori Christenson, Melaney Swenson, Nicole Madden, Anthea George, Yvonne Rudman, Eric Szemes, Susan Gregory, Tom Peluso, Steve Nash

Non-Voting Members Present- Bekki McLean

Voting Members Absent- Commissioner Zach Brown, Jennifer Madgic, Roper Green

Guests- Kirsten Smith, Jessie Holton, Cola Rowley, Brooke Bert, Jen Beaston, Margaret Kachadurian

Staff- Mindy Karl

- Call to Order- Erin Taylor welcomed the group.
- Roll Call- Mindy Karl took attendance.
- Approval of Minutes: January 2024 minutes- Erin Taylor approved the minutes as distributed.
- Public Comment: no comments
- Officer and Committee Reports
 - Strategic Planning Committee- Erin Taylor did not get responses from emails and was unable to get the group together.
 - Outreach Committee- This will be covered in new business.
 - Membership Committee- Anthea introduced visitors. Brooke is here to find out more about the group. Another perspective member, Jen Gleason. Mikaela DiBerardinis is another perspective member. She is not here today but will attend the meeting next month. Jessie Holton is here as a member from Alcohol and Substance Abuse agency. This is his first perspective meeting.
 - Accounting- Tom said there has been no activity.
- Central Service Area Authority- Eric Szemes updated the group. He has attended various meetings. BHAC, this is the oversight group. He has been to the BHAC meetings and the CSAA. There is a lot going on at the state level. He was asked for some written things to report back from his meetings. He is unable to do that. The agendas and minutes can be found on their website. He wants to say that when he was appointed, there was to be an alternate representative appointed as well. He reminded the group they never got around to it. Needs to be added to an agenda. Nominate an alternate representative to the CSAA board. Erin will entertain a motion to add an alternate representative. Steve Nash asked about the frequency of meetings. Tom Peluso said there is a work group meeting every

Friday. They determine and touch base on what assets may be available. 8:30-10:00 a.m. There is also a general meeting once a month. Eric would be the main representative and the alternate would only have a vote if the main representative was absent. Erin suggested if anyone is interested in being an alternate, please reach out to Eric directly.

- Unfinished Business

- Salons and Saloons Event- Yvonne Rudman shared so far, the committee has met twice. They have settled on the Emerson as the location for the event. May 7th, 10-11:30 a.m. Reservation will cost \$540. Looking for food donations. Going to apply for a CSA Grant. Narrowed down content to dispelling myths regarding mental health.

Anthea George added that the marketing is focusing on flyers and early thoughts regarding networking. One thought is to contact the Taverns Association or an involved community member that owns a bar. She thinks they need some inside traction to make this event successful.

Susan Gregory agrees and thinks this will be a good seed program that is worth trying. She asked what the budget for the event is. Yvonne said the grant is \$2400, which should be enough.

Ryan Mattson agrees that this is a great idea. We will never create an event that hits all the right people, but it can never stop us from moving forward.

Erin Taylor reminded the group that this event is inline with their one year strategic plan. He believes Anthea and Yvonne have done a good job on getting this event moving forward.

- New Business

- Gallatin Behavior Health Coalition Update- Kirsten shared that they are developing a work plan for abatement work with opioids. With some interest from members and the community, they are working to create a separate group focused on opioid use and how those ties into the BAC and LAC. There are overlapping opportunities.

Youth Crisis Camps- they are still trying to get the group to purchase the property. They have lowered the price again to \$3.75 million for purchase. The owners have other offers in hand from developers and they are waiting on word from the group.

- Update on Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services in Gallatin County- Jessie Holton, LAC, CBHPSS- Cedar Creek, Integrated Health

Jessie Holton with Cedar Creek. Updated the group on substance abuse in the county. Substance use clinics are lacking in the community. About 200 clients per month. All pre-trial clients, all of probation and parole. Right now, they have 8 FT clinicians. Open invitation to come check out the facility and services at Boot Hill Court. www.cedarcreekintergratedhealth.com

- Adjournment
- Next Meeting is March 11th, 2024.

Erin Taylor, Board Chair