



MENTAL HEALTH LOCAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes – August 13th 2018

Voting Members Present: Nancy Filbin, Susan Gregory, Shirley Kaufman, Renee McLendon, Tom Peluso, Vickie Groeneweg, Shelly Johnson, Joe Skinner, I Ho Pomeroy, Chelsey Pengra, Chelsey Voegele, Andrea Lower, Breanna Hume, Hannah Wilson

Non-Voting Members present: Rebecca Adams, Danica Jamison, Edward Sypinski, Betsy Asserson, Chad Berg, Jessica Ruiz, Rowen Schuler, Jenna Rhoads, Denise Albrecht, Molly Basta, Pierre Martineau, Penni Kolpin, Katelyn McAree

Voting Members Absent: Donna Kelsch, Lori Reynolds, Michael Foust, Matt Kelley, Cyndi Schoep

Staff: Sarah Gracey

Deb McAtee called the meeting to order at 12:01 PM.

Introductions and Announcements: Katelyn McAree introduced Hannah Wilson who will be replacing Ms. McAree at Community Health Partners.

Approval of Minutes for July 9th: Ms. Pengra made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Filbin seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

- a. Mr. Sypinski passed out information for SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) and SSI (Supplemental Security Income)/SSDI (Social Security Disability Insurance) Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) and explained the overview of what this organization provides.
- b. Molly Basta distributed an informational flyer for Bozeman Supportive Counseling.
- c. Betsy Asserson distributed information for the 2nd Annual Big Sky Behavioral Health Summit on September 13-14, 2018 in Dillon, Montana.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. White Cards were funded through CSAA, and a designer draft will be finished by the 20th to be reviewed at the next LAC meeting.
- b. Kali Gillette at the Gallatin County Health Department is in the process of revising their website. Lori Reynolds will handle the addition of the Mental Health Clearing House website to the Health Department site.
- c. Michael Foust was absent and not able to report on EECI Crisis Cards or Mental Health First Aid classes.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Ms. McAtee called for nominations for the new LAC Chair. Mr. Peluso nominated Nancy Filbin. Ms. Filbin declined as she is already the chair of a teachers group. Ms. Filbin nominated Chelsey Voegele. Ms. Voegele is unable due to work demands. Ms. Johnson nominated Breanna Hume. Mr. Peluso talked about the CSAA and the idea to get as many advocates as possible that the leadership would not be a provider. Ms. Hume is not a mental health provider. Ms. McAtee described her role as Chair included working on minutes, agendas, attendance, email and phone calls, which total to 1-2 hours max per month per meeting. Ms. Johnson asked if knowledge about the state legislature was required. Ms. McAtee confirmed that her knowledge came with experience. Commissioner Skinner believes Ms. McAtee has downplayed her role. She has taken the Chair position to another level, but it can also continue to the next level adding that new chair needs to have a vision of where this group could go. Commissioner Skinner would like Ms. Hume use her passion toward the leadership role of the LAC. Ms. Hume gave a history of her personal and professional experience, adding that she believes that by identifying and using different tools we can make a greater impact in this community. Mr. Sypinski and Ms. McLendon spoke in favor of Ms. Hume as the new Chair. Ms. Hume would like to see the big picture as working together on one patient, including family members. She went on to state that this is attainable in this community, and will err on the more communication side. United Way is impressed with Ms. Hume's leg work with interviews and research. Ms. Johnson worked with Ms. Hume as a board member of Alcohol and Drug Services, and reported that she is very organized and a good fit. Ms. McAtee called for the vote. All voting members voted in favor of appointing Ms. Hume as the new LAC Chair. Ms. Kaufman said someone should be the vice chair, and nominated Ms. McLendon or Ms. Johnson. Ms. Voegele was nominated, and without a vote, appointed as the new vice chair.
- b. House District 61 Representative Jim Hamilton introduced himself and gave a brief personal history. He is a financial advisor and sits on the Taxation Committee during the regular session that sets the revenue budget. He explained that the Montana State Legislature meets for 6 weeks every two years. The Revenue estimate is set in the summer before the next session. Teams set a view of where the budget should come in, and the committee cannot leave the floor until the spending budget and state budget match. At the beginning of the session, the revenue estimate does not have to be voted on by both house and senate. A special session was called during the last legislative session due to the discrepancy in the budget estimate. There was no money to pay the schools unless this special session was called. Senate Bill 9 stated that a number will be chosen if the revenue comes in higher. The first \$20 million stays in the general fund, and the remaining \$91 million goes to restoring services in proportion. The discretionary part is where you put the money. Each department head gets to decide this, and restore what services they want restored. There is an argument if the special session was really needed. If you have questions or concerns please contact the legislature between now and November to address budget needs with the Governor. The Legislative Finance Committee and the Governor will provide a revenue estimate and will work to reconcile those numbers, then submit one revenue estimate to the senate. Present law is how things are now and can everything be funded. Funding is available for present law. The committee then looks at what are the pressures for spending money. Medicaid expansion is not in present law, and will expire if it is not reauthorized. Present law plus pressures come very close to the top of the revenue estimates. This will create a fight for

money. Please come early in the session so that the committee knows what you need before they meet. They don't control the spending side, but hold a piece of the puzzle.

Commissioner Skinner asked where is increase in taxes, and Mr. Hamilton confirmed on the revenue side, and the Governor's budget will possibly be changed on the first day of the session. Mr. Hamilton said there are limitations on how sales taxes are raised. He will stay after the meeting has adjourned to answer questions.

Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting: September 10, 2018