



MENTAL HEALTH LOCAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes – August 17, 2020

IN ATTENDANCE:

Voting Members Present: Susan Gregory, Shirley Kaufman, Molly Basta, Tom Peluso, Michael Foust, Vickie Groeneweg, Joe Skinner, I-Ho Pomeroy, Andrea Lower, Breanna Hume, Cyndi Schoep, Dani Stack, Geary Zale

Non-Voting Members present: Rick Gale, Edward Sypinski, Betsy Asserson, Jessica Ruiz, Rowen Schuler, Bradley Hickok, Bekki McLean

Voting Members Absent: Shelly Johnson, Matt Kelley, Chelsey Pengra, Dezei Rochin, Amanda Fahlstrom, Perrin Lundgren

Staff: Sarah Gracey

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

Approval of Minutes for June and July: Ms. Groeneweg moved to approve the June and July 2020 minutes. Ms. Basta seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

There are two vacancies on the board. No new applications have been received. Please send any interested parties to the LAC for information.

Resource Guide Group Update: No members from the work group were in attendance. The Resource Guide and list will be emailed next week.

AMDD Update: Mr. Peluso was having audio issues. Ms. Hume will ask for an update next month.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Chair and Vice Chair: Ms. Hume's term as chair has expired. Ms. Basta moved to nominate Ms. Hume. Ms. Pomeroy seconded the motion. Chelsea Voegele was Vice Chair, but has since moved away. There has been no interest in a Vice Chair from the group. Ms. Gregory asked if there was any other interest in this position. Ms. Hume would entertain a nomination for vice chair. Ms. Hume is willing to serve as chair for another term. All voted aye. Motion to appoint Ms. Hume as Chair for the next year was approved.

Public Comment: Mr. Gale announced the Elks' Foundation presented lessons for parents and teachers, and will include lessons on conflict resolution, grief and self-esteem. This is through the Elks' Teen Zone, and can be found on elks.org. Mr. Gale will send this to Ms. Hume.

Ms. Basta reported that The Art for Resilience Compassion Project has started. Pairing mindfulness with art projects. Ms. Basta will send this link to Ms. Hume.

Ms. Lower added AMDD sends weekly updates as part of the central service authority, and asked if everyone would want these sent to the account list. There were no objections on sending this information to the LAC email list. This will start as a trial, and could change in the future.

Ms. Hume confirmed that the account balance has not changed. Funding for the translation of the resource guide to Spanish has not sent out an invoice to Mr. Zale.

Mr. Hickok spoke about the international CIT conference will be virtual this year will take place on August 24-27. Topics may pertain to different agencies in rural areas. Registration is now \$100. This differs from the CIT local as it deals with national issues. Ms. Hume will get this information out to the group this week. Ms. Pomeroy asked for any information on suffering from COVID in Gallatin County and how we can help them. Mr. Foust said there is an increase in individuals who are dealing with anxiety during this crisis. Existing mental health issues are increased with the added stress from COVID. Urgent care has been opened to help patients as soon as possible. Sometimes, schedules are so full patients must wait until the next day for care. There is an 80% retention rate and 18% no show rate. Help Center calls are up, but not suicide calls. Co-responder 130% increase in calls (1 call per day to 4 calls per day). Substance abuse calls are also increasing. Ms. Hume said the services that provide these have remained consistent in alcohol and drug services. Mr. Foust wanted to plug Urgent Care as a great service to help patients before needing higher level of care. Good care coordination stems from the communication with urgent care, hospitals, and medical providers. Mr. Foust will send out information regarding this. Ms. Hume suggested adding this to the school resource program as well. Call the main number or "Bat Phone" for urgent care. Care coordination calls should be sent to providers and not overwhelm the phone system. Please send any agenda items to Ms. Hume on anything that the group should be educated on, structure for these meetings would be a better format.

Account Balance is \$584.79

Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting: September 21, 2020