



MENTAL HEALTH LOCAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes – June 20th, 2022

IN ATTENDANCE:

Voting Members Present: Andrea Lower, Breanna Hume, Erin Taylor, Susan Gregory, Tom Peluso, Commissioner Zach Brown

Non-Voting Members Present: Danica Jamison, Melissa Helton, Rebecca Adams, Rick Gale, Rowen Schuler, Kirsten Smith- Guest, John Kudrna- Guest

Voting Members Absent: Bekki McLean, Dezri Rochin, Geary Zale, Jay Getten, Linda Gabel, Lori Christenson, Molly Basta, Perrin Lundgren, Robyn Carr, Russ McKenna, Melaney Swenson

Staff: Harlee Lynch

Welcome and Introductions: Breanna Hume welcomed everyone to the meeting and made introductions.

NEW BUSINESS:

o **County Crisis Work update- Kirsten Smith**

- **Discuss the crisis now components we are working to implement- status on 988, mobile crisis, and crisis receiving/stabilization**

o **Status on all 3 system elements**

Kirsten Smith spoke about the updated Strategic Plan and Work Plan of the Gallatin Behavioral Health Coalition (BHC). The Strategic Plan was developed collaboratively with representatives from Gallatin, Park, and Madison Counties. The newest additions to the Strategic Plan are awareness and engagement. Kirsten would like to engage with LAC members on what else can be added to the goals of the Strategic Plan. She then shared a Behavioral Health Continuum chart that she put together and spoke about the three system elements they are assisting with.

The first being the implementation of 988, which has a go live date of July 16th. They are expecting a 30-40% increase in calls with this implementation. She explained more about how it would work, it will need to be advertised to users that they call their local help center so they receive the correct services for where they are located. Currently 75% of calls are deescalated. There are still some factors to be considered, such as how this can be funded long term without excise tax. There will be Zoom meetings available around the launch that Kirsten will send to the group.

Kirsten then gave some history about Mobile Crisis within the County. There was one person working for the County that had been running Mobile

Crisis, but it is now in a transition phase. As of January 1st, it will be a Medicare/Medicaid billable service. That will be a great funding source, but it may not be enough. The County is working towards an independent Mobile Crisis Response team which will be a team that is able to respond independent or in joint response with Law Enforcement. The team will be made up of two team members, ideally one paraprofessional and one professional. Everyone is working together to continue to figure the details out including staffing. The goal is to have 24/7 coverage with a specific response time and a care coordinator on the back end to make sure people are being followed up with. The BHC is also working with other counties to see how they can share resources and coordinate together to make this more cost effective across the state. Commissioner Brown shared that the County agreed to fund the start up with one time grant funding and that ongoing funding is still up in the air right now. Brea asked more about Medicare/Medicaid billing, health provider details are still being figured out. The care coordinator will help follow up with people to see if they are eligible. The County Tribal Matching Grant is another source of funding for those not eligible for Medicare/Medicaid funding. There is an additional grant opportunity to enhance Mobile Crisis that they will also be applying for.

Lastly, Kirsten talked about Crisis Receiving. The sale of the Mental Health Campus is still ongoing, and a draft Transition Plan is going to be presented by Bozeman Health at a meeting next week. Connections will be brought into these conversations as well. They are funding the renovation of the 19th Avenue Facility and the hope is to open a Crisis Receiving Center there at the end of this year. They will need to be licensed through the state to operate this facility and they are currently working with them to work around the regulations that are currently in place. Commissioner Brown toured the Phoenix Facility, which is similar to what the 19th Avenue Facility will be, he spoke about the model they use.

Tom wondered if the BHC could become a standing committee of the LAC, Kirsten will share the gap analysis that she has done with Tom.

- Mobile crisis name options for input

Crisis Response Crew, Mobile Crisis Response Team, and CRT. Kirsten would like the group to think about names and they can email Kirsten and Brea their ideas.

OLD BUSINESS:

- o **VOTE:** Mini-grant application for HRDC Community Garden creation and planting on 5/22/22, total cost \$2,295.86 for all materials, request for some support for supplies from John Kudrna
 - John said the Community Garden Event went great. They received a generous donation from Montana Reclaimed Lumber which allowed them to build seven additional planter boxes. They had great participation from volunteers including Melissa who was able to bring her group from Youth Probation over the week before to help as well.

- o Update on MiniGrant from Court Services- Andrea Lower
 - The Peer Support, Peer Coaching, & Volunteering meeting went well. There was good participation and discussion regarding the status of Friends of Treatment Court and how they can be a help to Treatment Court in the future. The Montana Peer Network will be putting on another 8-hour Peer Coaching Training sometime in July. Andrea will email out more information to the group about this.
- o Open Positions
 - There are still some open positions, Brea will send an email out that goes over those.
- Approval of Minutes for: April & May Minutes
 - Not enough members to vote on these.
- Reports- No reports submitted
- Public Comment/Short Announcements or Updates (1-2 minutes)
 - Rick Gale wanted to share some apps that are available on the Veterans Alliance of Southwest Montana American Legion website. They are good resources to have in the toolkit. Brea will forward the group the email from Rick.
 - Tom Peluso shared that the CSAA's fiscal year ends the last day of September. They have money available to distribute out to the 15 counties within their region, so this is a good time to apply for MiniGrant funding.

Next Meeting: July 18, 2022

Account Balance Currently: \$8,848.18 at last check.