



MENTAL HEALTH LOCAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes – November 15, 2021

IN ATTENDANCE:

Voting Members Present: Breanna Hume, Linda Gabel, Geary Zale, Perrin Lundgren, Robyn Carr, Susan Gregory, Tom Peluso

Non-Voting Members Present: Bekki McLean, Lori Christenson, Dave Wysoski, Rebecca Adams

Voting Members Absent: Joe Skinner, Jay Getten, Andrea Lower, Erin Taylor, Russ McKenna, Dezei Rochin, I Ho Pomeroy, Michael Foust, Molly Basta, Shirley Kaufman, Maureen Womack

Staff: Harlee Lynch, Deputy County Administrator Cola Rowley, Kirsten Smith (Coordinator, Crisis Redesign Committee)

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

Approval of Minutes for: Short for Quorum to vote on October 18, 2021 minutes approval, will vote for minutes at the next meeting in January.

Committee Reports: N/A

NEW BUSINESS:

- POWER POINT PRESENTATION WAS MADE BY KIRSTEN SMITH, TO UPDATE ON THE CRISIS REDESIGN COMMITTEES WORK WITH MENTAL HEALTH AND TO SHARE WHAT THE COUNTY'S CONTRIBUTION IS. MS. SMITH SHARED THEIR PROGRESS SO FAR AND SPOKE ON THEIR GOALS MOVING FORWARD. THE CRISIS REDESIGN COMMITTEE WORKS WITH COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, THE CITY, AND THE COUNTY AND IS MOSTLY FUNDED BY GRANTS. THEY DO REPORT BACK TO ALL THE STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED AND THEY'RE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR MORE LEADERS AND FUNDERS. COLA ROWLEY SPOKE ON THE HISTORY OF THE COUNTY'S MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES. THE COUNTY HAS A CONTRACT WITH WESTERN MT MENTAL HEALTH WHICH ORIGINALLY PROVIDED FIRST AND SECOND EVALUATIONS, VOLUNTARY, A CORRESPONDANCE TEAM, URGENT CARE, AND A CRISIS RESPONSE TEAM, THESE SERVICES ENDED IN JULY 2021. THE COUNTY THEN ENTERED INTO A SHORT TERM 3 MONTH CONTRACT WITH WESTERN MT MENTAL HEALTH THAT EXCLUDED THE SECOND EVALUATIONS, WHICH ENDED SEPTEMBER 30TH, 2021. THE COUNTY EXTENDED AGAIN BUT ALL WESTERN PROVIDES NOW ARE FIRST EVALUATIONS AND VOLUNTARY SERVICES, THIS CONTRACT ENDS IN DECEMBER 2021. THE COUNTY IS CURRENTLY WORKING ON EXPANDING THEIR CRT TEAM. WE WILL ALWAYS FUND EMERGENCY DETENTION BEDS AT THE HOPE HOUSE BUT WE MAY BE ABLE TO FUND MORE OR TOWARDS OTHER THINGS MOVING FORWARD DEPENDING ON WHO WE CONTRACT WITH AFTER DECEMBER. KIRSTEN SMITH SPOKE MORE ON THEIR VISION FOR MOBILE RESPONSE IN FRONT OF CRISIS, DURING CRISIS, AND POST CRISIS. THEY'RE ALSO LOOKING AT A MOBILE

RESPONSE TEAM, BOTH THAT IS INDEPENDENT OF THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE AS WELL AS A CO-RESPONSE TEAM, FOR BETTER FOLLOW UP SERVICES. THEY'RE REALLY WORKING ON ELEVATING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES AND HOW THEY CAN WORK BETTER TOGETHER WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS SO EVERYONE IS ON THE SAME PAGE. LINDA GABEL SPOKE ABOUT A BOARD SHE USED TO SIT ON THAT WAS SIMILAR TO THE CRISIS REDESIGN COMMITTEE AND WONDERED IF THEY ARE LOOKING INTO WHAT OTHER ORGANIZATIONS IN DIFFERENT AREAS ARE DOING. MS. SMITH SAID THEY ARE, AS WELL AS LOOKING AT ALTERNATE FUNDING SOURCES. MS. SMITH WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE COUNTY BE THE BACKBONE OF THE COMMITTEE. SUSAN GREGORY WONDERED HOW WE WOULD CONTINUE TO PAY THE SOCIAL WORKERS, MS. SMITH SAYS THEY'RE PAYED THROUGH GRANTS AND CITY/COUNTY CONTRIBUTIONS, WE ONLY HAVE ONE CURRENLTY. MOVING FORWARD THE COUNTY WANTS TO SEE A MODEL THAT WORKS AND THEN PROVIDE CONTINUED FUNDING, WE MAY HAVE OTHER FUNDING AVAILABLE TO GET A TEAM BUILT FOR MOBILE RESPONSE. COLA ROWLEY WANTED TO NOTE WE ARE STILL LOOKING FOR MHP'S AND THAT WE ARE HAPPY TO WORK WITH PEOPLE INCLUDING THOSE WORKING TOWARDS THEIR MHP. WE ARE ALSO OPEN TO PROPOSALS FROM ORGANIZATIONS BUT WE DO NEED IN PERSON. TOM PELUSO WONDERED IF AMDD WAS INVOLVED, MS. SMITH SAYS THEY HAVE COLABERATED. HE ALSO STATED THEIR MAJOR FUNDING WILL COME FROM MEDICAID, MS. SMITH AGREED. LASTLY, HE WONDERED IF THIS PLAN INCLUDES YOUTH CARE, MS. SMITH SAYS THEY JUST STARTED ENGAGING ON THAT AND THAT THERE IS A GAP IN YOUTH CARE.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Open Positions-
 - Children's Services position, 2 Consumer/Family position, Lori Christenson applied for the Health Department position
- White Card distribution update, Andrea Lower is working on distribution, she also wanted to clarify that the White Card Project is not the Trifold Crisis Card Project. We may look at doing a reprint.
- Start to think about May Mental Health Awareness Month and come up with ideas. It may be helpful to create a committee. Tom Peluso will send Breanna Hume an outline of what they have done in the past, so they can work off of that.
- Resource Guide update by Perrin Lundgren, she contacted the printer at the Chronicle, they will charge \$5,600 to print 60,000 copies of the Resource Guide, working with Danica to make sure all the resources are up to date. Tom Peluso wanted to know what additional copies would cost, Perrin will get quote for an additional 20,000 and 40,000 copies and let him know.
- Tom Peluso wants to make a distribution plan for the Resource Guides, will put it on the agenda for January.
- Breanna Hume will send an email update if anyone has anything they want to add

Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting: January 10, 2022

Account Balance Currently: \$11,448.18 as of 10/18/2021