



GALLATIN COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH LOCAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

LAC Minutes – May 2026

Mental Health Local Advisory Council
May 11, 2026

Call to order

Roll call

Present: Erin Taylor, Ryan Mattson, Jenifer Boyer, Andrea Lower, Lori Christenson, Susan Gregory, Margaret Kachadurian, Shawna Lockhart, Malcolm Horn

Non-Voting: Rick Gale, Ben Frentsos

Absent: Nicole Madden, Anthea George, Yvonne Rudman, Eric Szemes, Tom Peluso, Lori Shanahan

Approval of the minutes

Minutes approved unanimously

Public Comment

No public comment

Committee reports and Updates

Strategic Planning Committee

Membership Committee

Erin Taylor introduced proposed language for the by-law updates schedule in August:

Voting Members (Civilians)
Shall serve four (4) year terms
Members may serve up to two (2) consecutive terms

Upon completion of two consecutive terms, members may be subject to replacement through the application and appointment process.

If no qualified applicants are identified, the member may:

- (a) be reappointed to an additional term; or
- (b) transition to Member-at-Large status.

Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to require reappointment or continued service; the Council or appointing authority retains discretion to appoint a new member or leave the position vacant.

Membership Committee:

Erin Taylor reported:

Expiring 7/31/26: Ryan Mattson, Nicole Madden, Anthea George, Amanda Rosenkoetter, Eric Scemes, Yvonne Rudman

Vacancy: Child and Mental Health Services, One Health candidate, City of Bozeman Commissioner, Two consumers or family members of consumers

Accounting

Erin Taylor reported a balance of \$10,236.60 with an expected \$1,300 going to Amanda for Web Site development

Central Service Area Authority

No report

Gallatin Behavioral Health Coalition

No report

Gallatin County Commission

Commissioner Boyer Reported: Commission appointed a third Commissioner Ryan Finn who will begin July 1, 2026, and plans to be a write in candidate.

Media Committee

Amanda shared website updates. With January minutes approved, the highlights from the agenda will be on the main menu, for example the HRDC presentation from the January meeting are now available and featured. Future collaborators

will also be on the main menu and on the news and discussion page. Amanda also reported that there were few more followers on each social media account and more individuals have signed up for our mailing list. Amanda asks that our members share social media information to help share posts.

Question: What is the process for being a collaborator of the month?

Amanda replied: Ultimately up to you all, but currently they are the presenters at the meeting, and then once meetings minutes are approved make a newsletter article and feature on the main page.

Unfinished business

None

New Business:

Precision Brain Health Matt Kuntz - NAMI

Presentation by Brian Health with NAMI about “Brian Health”: Showed the LAC a YouTube video geared for high school students and they are working on building out more information for high school students in health classes with MSU and Johns Hopkins. The LAC saw the preview of this and Brian will share the link when it is ready to be shared and broadcast publicly.

Brian shared his personal story about his family and the loss of Brian’s brother Chris to suicide. As a family they wanted better mental health screenings, and specifically geared toward how the National Guard conducted screenings. Shared the need to improve diagnostic screening if we are going to improve treatments and outcomes. They worked closely with MSU researchers and met the best of the best, to really understand brain chemistry and are working with some of the best mental health precision researchers. Brian shared the importance of using technology to get the right treatment at the right time. Sensors and algorithms get better overtime and we need to keep advancing this work. The purpose of the videos in particular is to help the kids learn about brain health from the beginning to help reduce the stigma that surrounds mental health and lets let them learn from the best of the best. Brian adds, we need to be able to some kind of hope that this will get better- and a pathway for when people really need it.

For more information about Precision Health and notable accomplishments mentioned during the meeting are highlighted here:

<https://www.namimt.org/news/2025-a-year-of-precision-brain-health-building-momentum-not-just-promise>

Question: Erin Taylor asks a question about brain health

Answer: We are in a survey-based system, you answer these questions, you will be started off with a “label” and it’s a difficult way to diagnose. Using technology to get a

better treatment plan. It's not getting away from all the other treatments, its getting us closer to a more precise treatment for individual brain types and types of depression. Using modern techniques to treat

Question: Will this initiative be available to others outside of the VA

Answer: Yes, not just for veterans.

Greater Impact Staci Anderson

Staci shared a PowerPoint presentation. Greater Impact started in Bozeman in 2017 and stepped in to support a Women's Sober Living Home because of need in 2019.

In November opened a Resource Point Resource Center, can't be isolated when experiencing One predictor of sober living is a community. This is place for sober living activities, resource connections, walking alongside individuals to connect to resource, peer support specialists with lived experience. Available for all aspects of recovery, can come to the center and provide the resources. Sober activities and a place for people to connect. Need to grow as they've already outgrown. Demand exceeds the supply, lots of applications and waitlist. We do believe you need to be a program for 12 months, and commit to 12-18 months. Current capacity is 21 beds, we are also trying to find what works best. High accountability, zero tolerance for substance abuse, do group activities, more restrictive when you start and then steps down as you move through recovery.

YouTube link at the front page of the Greater Impact website, please watch to learn more about the Recovery Point.

Greater Impact to start by end of the summer as a licensed outpatient program, August 26 for a full clinical licensure for local addiction services.

Wellness Kiosks: 24/7 centralized access point for health education, mental health resources, and peer support. Looking for final location and looking to get feedback on products to put in the kiosks. Opportunities for partnerships.

- Harm reduction
- Health and Wellness Referrals
- Stigma free access

Upcoming projects also include Family Recovery House and Recovery Point Temporary Housing – looking at 30 day temporary home, for beds for the hospital or have a date to a recovery center, can stay in this home until recovery bed is available.

Comment from Dr. Horn, do you want help with figuring out treatment plans and licensure? RimRock will help.

Comment from Ruby an AmeriCorps serving with Greater Impact, with Community Health Corps Montana. Looking to support future growth in the Community Health Corps to help support future members and placement sites.

Margaret also offered to connect with Staci about Montana Mindfulness Project

Agenda Suggestions

- Margaret Suggested: Montana Mindfulness Project for Sept/October presentation

Announcements

- Shawna Lockhart- Montana Able Project; federal and statewide program. Had some questions for the committee if they were aware of the program and will continue to do some research as she has some questions as it appears to be losing investments instead. Ryan Mattson to investigate it and report back.
- Ben Frentsos – In June Greater Gallatin will be opening its grant process serving Gallatin, Park and Meagher Counties. One of their impact areas is mental health. Reach out to Ben@gguw.org with questions about the process or interest in applying.
- Rick Gale – Aging Veteran resources available. Town Hall event at the GranTree event this Saturday, information is posted on the website:

Adjournment

Erin Taylor ended the meeting at 1:22 PM