

Cascade County Mental Health Local Advisory Council (CCMHLAC)

Minutes

Monday, February 6th, 2017
Largent Center - McFadden Room
915 1st Ave. South
3-5 pm

Members Present Karen McDaniel, Jane Wilson, Shawn Matsko, Richard Ferry, Bill Garberg, Marin Vining, Faith Jordan, John Schaffer, Dawn Handa, Vonnie Brown, Shelly Heilweil, Dawn Goulet, Lacey Spencer Linda Daggett, James Gustofson, Greg Tilton, Ben Wight

Call to Order Welcome and Introductions Shelly Heilweil, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:05 PM. Individuals introduced themselves.

Review and Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting The minutes of the January meeting were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report Linda reported that the checking account stands at \$2,563.08. No changes from the last report.

Continuing Business:

Finalize discussion of LAC Priorities for 2017

- A copy of the LAC Definitions & Purpose from our Bylaws (see attachment) was reviewed. For our newcomers, there was a brief explanation of how LAC fits into the structure of the State organization.
- Our role is as an advisory group rather than a work group and networking is important.
- The list of proposed projects was reviewed and finalized:
 - Crisis Intervention-* Continue to partner with the Crisis Intervention Task Force to build on the training and address the gaps in services.
 - Suicide Prevention Committee-* Continue to support the Committee.
 - Website development-* Develop the website under the auspices of a hired webmaster to be a useful tool to the community and providers. Website could include a “map” of different services in community and how the flow of the services might happen depending on the need.

Reports from our Committees:

Crisis Intervention Committee:

- Dawn Handa reported that the first CIT training in 6 years was held here in Great Falls, Jan 31-Feb 3 and 30 people (Sheriff deputies, Probation and Parole, Firefighters, Police, Great Falls Clinic). It was funded by a grant, tuition, and some State funds.
- The Committee will be working on developing a crisis line to call when a person in crisis is identified by law enforcement.
- Shelly will continue to work on the Steering Committee to help them identify gaps in service and bring information from the LAC.

Suicide Prevention Committee:

- Suicide Prevention Committee: Greg reported that the 3 committees- Marketing, Outreach, and Research are continuing. The Outreach Committee is setting up depression screenings beginning this month.

Web & Media Committee:

- Vonnie agreed to help Shelly to investigate a webmaster to hire and develop the website.

Membership & Mailing List- Community Stakeholders: We need to continue to take stock of who we might need at the LAC table. One suggestion was a Center for Mental Health administrator.

New Business:

Website input:

- Shelly requested input to create a Cascade County mental health systems map for illustration, edification of stakeholders, to post to the website.
- Members were asked to make suggestions to help create a wish list for the Website. :
 - A calendar that we could feed into. It might be useful to have one for providers and one for the general community.
 - Reports from other counties' LACs.
 - Link to Facebook page
 - Archives for minutes, etc.
- Facebook page may need a shorter URL, Ben Wight was willing to help with that.

2017 Montana Legislative Update:

- James reported that there are 2 bills in support of PEER Support credentialing and only SB 62 is moving forward.
- HB 309 is in support of housing for people transitioning from the State Hospital and from prison. Housing is a problem in Cascade County and statewide.
- There is a Suicide Prevention Rally at the Capitol this Friday the 10th.

MSUGF Health Fair: Greg has volunteered to set up a table for MHAGF at the Fair, and requested someone to accompany him. Lacey explained that this Fair emphasizes prevention and United Way will have pertinent information. Shelly volunteered to bring business cards, other information and help Greg out.

Brief Community Reports/Announcements from our Stakeholders present:

Probation and Parole- Dawn Handa reported. They are working on implementing Marcy's Law. They are dealing with full jails.

Great Falls Police Dept- Capt. John Shaffer reported he is at the legislature weekly for law enforcement concerns. They are busy with yearend data collection and noted they don't have a reliable tracking method for mental health data but are getting a newer system early summer.

Juvenile Probation and Parole- Faith reported they are working on a tier system that better diverts kids from more serious consequences.

Family Services- Marti Vining reported. They are hoping the Legislature will give funding for more staff. The number of families in the system continue to climb. Meth addiction is a big factor.

Vets 4 Vets- Bill Garberg reported they are working on the Stand Down beginning in March and continue to support the Grace Home for homeless Vets.

Vets Center- Richard Ferry reported they are developing an advisory council for helping Vets. The goal of the Center is to be a hub for community Vets services. They now have an intern counselor for appointments and groups.

Addiction and Mental Health Division- Jane Wilson reported that 1 in 5 discharges from the state hospital are homeless. The CSAA is requesting to visit LACs.

Central Service Area Authority- James Gustafson reported the CSAA Congress is coming up and urged anyone interested to attend. They do need more board members.

Full Circle Counseling Solutions- Karen McDaniel reported that they work with children with severe disturbances.

United Way- Lacey Spencer reported the County Health Improvement Plan for 2017- 2019 is being formulated with the input of School District, Sheriff, Health Dept, Benefis, Clinic, Center for Mental Health, UGF, and others. Dawn G. and Shelly will be part of it as well.

Mental Health America Great Falls- Linda Daggett reported that the group is planning to host speaker Eric Newhouse May 12th. There will be hors d'oeuvres, wine and deserts. This will be in lieu of the annual meeting.

AWARE- Dawn Goulet reported that they have lost their psychiatrist and are in search of replacing her. They are getting more out in the community and working with families in the community. One problem is the waiting list for youth inpatient treatment and group homes.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 by Shelly Heilweil, Chair.

Date of next meeting: March 6th, 2017

Link for CCMHLAC web page: <http://ccmhlac.org/>

PSA Website link: wecanhelpmt.org

Link for CCMHLAC on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Cascade-County-Mental-Health-Local-Advisory-Council/>

From the LAC Toolkit:

<https://ccmhlac.files.wordpress.com/2014/11/mhlactoolkit.pdf>

“Definition of Mental Health Local Advisory Councils (MHLAC)

A Mental Health Local Advisory Council (MHLAC) is a coalition of community members interested in assessing, advocating, planning and strengthening public mental health services in their community. “

From our Bylaws: <https://ccmhlac.wordpress.com/lac-bylaws/>

Article 2: Purpose

The purpose of the LAC is to assist in the improvement of public mental health services in the local community and to review and make recommendations about local public mental health services as well as provide input and recommendations to Mental Health Oversight and Advisory Council (MHOAC) and the Central Service Area Authority (SAA)

that serve the state and regional communities.

Specific objectives include providing the following via a welcoming, approachable, respectful, supportive, accommodating, and safe place for all to have a voice:

- Examine gaps in child and adult services.
- Identify potential additions to services within the community.
- Analyze and discuss local problems with local service providers, advocacy groups, public officials and the general public.
- Facilitate accurate and timely communications between the local community and MHOAC and the regional SAA.
- Assess the effectiveness of local mental health services and suggest ways of making services more effective.
- Serve as a catalyst and facilitator in solving local mental health service problems.
- Organize and coordinate needed mental health-related services in the community.
- Educate the local community on mental health issues.

[891119197574568](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Cascade-County-Mental-Health-Local-Advisory-Council/)

From our LAC Flyer:

Objectives of a LAC may include the following:

- Identify gaps in services
- Recommend potential additions to services within the community
- Analyze and discuss problems with service providers, advocacy groups, public officials and the general public
- Facilitate accurate and timely communications between the local community and other governing entities
- Assess the effectiveness of local mental health services and suggest ways services may be more effective
- Serve as a catalyst and facilitator in solving local mental health service problems
- Organize and coordinate needed services in the community
- Educate the local community on mental health issues

If you have or someone you know has been impacted by depression, anxiety, or other serious mental health problems, your mental health Local Advisory Council needs your voice, ideas, skills and talents.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Local Advisory Council (LAC)

"Community to Community...
making a difference across Montana
for people with mental illness"

• **What is a Local Advisory Council?**

A coalition of community members interested in assessing, planning and strengthening behavioral services in their community.

• **What does it mean for my community?**

Those impacted by the effects of mental illness can ensure that their voice, suggestions, and ideas can make a difference in how services are planned and provided.

• **Who can participate?**

All those concerned and interested in how persons with mental illnesses are treated and helped to achieve independence and health.