

Cascade County Mental Health Local Advisory Council (CCMHLAC)

Minutes

Monday, September 11, 2017

Largent Center - McFadden Room

915 1st Ave. South

3-5 pm

Members Present Shelly Heilweil, Jane Wilson, Shawn Matsko, John Schaffer, Dawn Handa, Angela Meyers, Linda Daggett, Ginny Carnes

Welcome and Introductions: Shelly Heilweil, Chair opened the meeting at 3:06 PM.

The members introduced themselves with an update/report from their sectors:

John- Police Dept. He is working on the upcoming workshop October 5th and 6th featuring Dr. Frank Gallo on the subject of stress in public safety and treating the uniformed services culture. It is based on Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT). John attended the Crisis Response Team (CRT) meeting and they continue to make progress toward forming a Crisis Response Team. Adam Hunt, who is a downtown officer has made some progress with the homeless population with the support of the Police Dept.

Dawn- Probation and Parole. They are working with mandated 10% budget cut. The mandated budget cuts are together with increased requirements. There is a webinar on Stalking October 11th and 18th.

Angela- She will be attending a conference for Montana Addiction Counselors on October 13th and 14th. The subject is trauma and addiction.

Linda- Mental Health America Great Falls (MHAGF) met and is formulating priorities for the coming year. Linda and Jane helped with a memorial service for Robin Johnson and her family.

Jane- Jane announced that she is now retired and willing to sit on the Council as an advocate and be the Co-Chair.

Shelly- She attended the Central Service Authority Association (CSAA) meeting in May and the Service Area Authority (SAA) meeting in July. The CSAA is negotiating a contract with the Addiction and Mental Disorders Division. AMDD, through Health and Human Services, which has been funding the mandate for our LAC structure. There has been a lot of back and forth negotiating about the prospect of this contract.

Ginny- She attended a Yellow Ribbon Conference on military families that addressed topics of coming home, pre-deployment and their effects on the children and families along with resources available.

Ginny is on the NAMI board, and they are doing the NAMI walk in Helena on September 24th.

Review and Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting: The Minutes of the last (July) meeting were not sent out to the membership, so Linda will get them sent and submitted for approval at the next meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Linda reported that we have \$4,724.58 in the checking account. The statements are now available electronically and the account information can be shared with the signers. Linda will share account formation to Shelly.

Continuing Business:

Website- Shelly will be revisiting the web master to set this up and get it going.

Suicide Prevention- Ben Wight is now the Chair of the Committee, Greg as is stepping down after more than a year as Founder & Chair.

New Business:

Notification of upcoming events- Since there are so many events coming up, Linda will email a list of the events to the members. Those who want their events listed will email Linda with the details.

Veterans Stand-Down- The Stand Down is Sept 28th and 29th. We do want to support that. Jane, Ginny, and possible Greg will man the table. Ginny will ask James if he can help. Linda has access to printed information through MHAGF.

Possible Speakers for Meetings- Shelly asked if we would like to host speakers at our meetings with the goal of community resource connections. The group was OK with that and the facilitator of the Yellow Ribbon conference might be one possibility.

Discussion on Statewide Budget Cuts-

- Shawn noted that the cuts are hurting the most vital services the hardest.
- Dawn reminded us that there are 10% cuts across the board for all State departments and are requiring more from them at the same time.
- Jane commented that the cuts target Case Managers even though there is an emphasis on the community services rather than institutionalization.
- John observed that when funding is cut, somehow needed services are still provided through alternative solutions.
- Linda commented on the need for a mix between alternative private or non profit funding and providing of needed public funding through responsible increases in State taxes.

Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned by Shelly Heilweil, at 3:53 PM

Date of next meeting: October 2nd, 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/891119197574568>