



## MENTAL HEALTH LOCAL ADVISORY COUNCIL Meeting Minutes – August 14, 2017

### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

**Voting Members Present:** Deborah McAtee, Susan Gregory, Shirley Kaufman, Renee McLendon, Tom Peluso, Lori Reynolds, Vickie Groeneweg, Shelly Johnson, Joe Skinner, Chelsey Voegele, Breanna Hume, Jenna Londynsky

**Non-Voting Members present:** Pierre Martineau, Sarah Webb, Rick Gale, Edward Sypinski, Betsy Asserson, Katy Fritz, David Carlisle, Angela Lehr, Jenn Walker

**Voting Members Absent:** Nancy Filbin, Dr. Donna Kelsch, Betty Stroock, Carol Townsend, Matt Kelley, Anna Saverud, Chelsey Pengra, Andrea Lower, Katelyn McAree

**Staff:** Sarah Gracey

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**Welcome and Introductions:** Breanna Hume and Jenna Londynsky are new voting members to the MHLAC. Ms. Hume is the case management director of Winds of Change, and a consumer of mental health services. Ms. Londynsky is the Housing First coordinator at the HRDC, and chair of “Out of the Darkness”.

Ms. Lehr is a licensed counselor in Three Forks, and is attending MHLAC to better understand what takes place here. Mr. Carlisle is new to the Bozeman area, and works as the MSU recruiter for international students. He has been an advocate for mental health at the local, state and national level. Ms. Walker works at Journey Church with their mental health outreach program, and wants to learn more about MHLAC services.

**Public Comment:** Rick Gale spoke about the GGHAC showers that are now up and running for homeless people to use. GGHAC is working on a demonstration model for the tiny house project to be on display at the HRDC. Vietnam Veterans of America is moving forward with Housing First. Mr. Sypinski reported that he received the check from mini-grants for the drug guidebooks to be printed and distributed to Youth Dynamics, YMCA, AWARE, and Hope House. Ms. Webb stated that there will be a training for Bridges Out of Poverty on September 13 and Trauma Informed Care on September 21 for those who would like to attend.

### **Approval of Minutes for July 10, 2017**

Ms. Kaufman made a motion to approve the July 10, 2017 minutes. Ms. McLendon seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

**Committee Reports:** Ms. Kaufman volunteered Ms. Londynsky to lead the Homelessness committee. She also reported that the Salvation Army has been approved to build a homeless shelter in Bozeman. They are waiting to purchase the land and it will be completed in two to three years. Mr. Sypinski stated the Bozeman City Commission will have a meeting on housing initiatives at the EDC meeting. GGHAC will meet from 11:30-1 PM every other Thursday.

There was no news from the Minigrant Committee.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Ms. Groenweg spoke about the October 9-10, 2017 Mental Health Symposium. The symposium would be a gathering of mental health and non-mental health area leaders to discuss ten focus areas of mental health. There will be keynote speakers and work groups of leaders from local businesses, education, industry, and government to identify the gaps and find out of the box solutions. Ms. Groenweg explained Bozeman Health intends to be a facilitator only and not the focus of this gathering. Attendees will be by invitation. MHLAC members are included on the invite list.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. McAtee suggested holding off on a strategic plan to see what comes out of the symposium to avoid doubling up on ideas. Mr. Peluso explained that funding is a current issue when caring for the mentally ill in nursing home care. Medicaid is facing a 37.5% reduction in funding, which will be pushed on to the community to cover those expenses. Ms. Reynolds spoke about Rose House in New York City. This bed and breakfast is run by peers who are trained in de-escalation, and uses very little funding.

Ms. McAtee asked if the council wanted to have all seven committees on the priority list, or narrow the list down and park the rest. Ms. Gregory suggested narrowing the list. Mr. Peluso suggested dedicating the next meeting to go through the list. Ms. Londynsky suggested a doodle poll or survey monkey to see who and what members would like to discuss. Ms. Webb asked to dovetail what comes out of the mental health symposium, bring all the information together and break it down into groups.

Ms. Johnson asked if the council could put out the resource guide for the current school year. Ms. McAtee said having a smaller committee handle this could be more efficient.

Ms. Hume said that the 211 information line is having technical issues, and suggested having someone meet with the Help Center on how to fix them. Ms. Johnson confirmed that Danica Jamison with Greater Gallatin United Way is working on this project.

Mr. Peluso is very concerned about commitment law. The three reasons to commit someone are danger to self, danger to others, and gravely mentally ill (neglects or deteriorates themselves). He stated the County Attorney must be involved in this process.

Ms. McAtee reminded the council to send all discussion items to her so they can be added to the agenda.

Meeting adjourned.

**Next Meeting: September 11, 2017**