

From: Central Service Area Authority (CSAA)
To: LAC's in Central Montana
Date: April 4, 2013

Your Local Advisory Council (LAC) was given \$406.00 in November 2012 by the CSAA Board of Directors. This was contingent on a report detailing how the funds were used. We were pleased to be able to support your efforts and would like to celebrate with you. Please complete this form and return to alicia@aliciasmith.com as this will help inform the CSAA Board as to how your community benefited. To be considered for any future funds we need your answers by May 1, 2013. Thank you in advance for your response.

Contact Information

LAC Name: Gallatin County Mental Health Local Advisory Council

Primary Contact Person:	Chair Susan Wordal	Vice Chair Jacob Wagner
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If checks are written, to whom should they be made out?

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Please answer the following questions; See attached.

1. How did your LAC use the funds from the CSAA?
2. What was accomplished or done as a result of these funds? It's okay to brag. We want to hear from you.
3. If your LAC were to get funds this year what would you hope to accomplish or do with those funds?
4. How many meetings did you have in your fiscal year?
5. How many active members are in your LAC?
6. What are your top three priorities?
7. What are your top three challenges?

- 1) How did your LAC use the funds from the CSAA? To date, we have spent \$201 of the current allocation of \$406 for a legislative luncheon to bring legislators in our area up to date on our concerns. We have a proposal to spend another \$108 for a printing of 300 of our Mental Health Resource Guides. We plan to use the remaining funds to further our "Faces Campaign" - an initiative designed to address the stigma associated with mental health issues by putting real faces and real stories before the public.
- 2) What was accomplished or done as a result of these funds? Three of our local legislators attended the luncheon and we provided folders of facts and county priorities to each Gallatin County legislator. The Council and advocacy members spoke candidly about the mental health needs in our community and legislative priorities. In turn, the legislators that attended presented their view on funding of things such as Medicaid Reform.

The Mental Health Resource Guide is a useful tool for providers, physicians, churches and other agencies and organizations that work with people from the community and often encounter folks in need of services of one kind or another. Copies are distributed throughout the community as well as made available throughout the year for various programs such as CIT Training.

The Faces Campaign has recently kicked off with the creation of a Facebook page (Gallatin County Sharing Stories) as well as a beautiful brochure that discusses stigma and invites community members to share their stories. Remaining funds from the CSAA grant will allow us to begin the printing and distribution of the pamphlet.

- 3) If your LAC were to get funds this year what would you hope to accomplish or do with those funds? In addition to furthering the efforts of the Faces Campaign (we will need additional funds to cover printing costs), we are seeing an increased need for education and outreach and are considering possible workshops for the school district, local churches, and others. These programs are in the initial planning stages, but we see this as an area where the money may be best spent. We have programs we support which are in dire need of funding, but the CSAA funds could not hope to make a dent in the funding need. We will work for programs which may have some tangible benefit.
- 4) What are your top three priorities? Our top 3 LAC priorities according to our current list are: Drop-in Center for Mental Health Consumers; Expand peer support recovery programs in the county; Mental Health and Criminal Justice. However, Bazelon made the following suggestions for priorities: A Detox Unit locally, a Ride-Along program for Mental Health professionals with Law Enforcement, and additional Supportive Housing units. Our current work has been focused on : a campaign to address the stigma associated with mental health and addiction issues.
- 5) What are your top three challenges? Our top three challenges continue to be: 1. Consistent participation/attendance by those appointed members. This is improving, but still not where we want it to be. 2. Maintaining focus in the midst of economic budget cuts, which create distractions for our members as they deal with the real-world issues of maintaining programming. 3. Moving our agenda forward between meetings.