



MENTAL HEALTH LOCAL ADVISORY COUNCIL Meeting Minutes – August 16, 2021

IN ATTENDANCE:

Voting Members Present: Joe Skinner, Breanna Hume, Michael Foust, I Ho Pomeroy, Tom Poluso, Shirley Kaufman, Linda Gabel, Maureen Womack, Geary Zale

Non-Voting Members Present: Bekki McLean, Chad Berg, Edward Sypinski, Melissa Helton, Danica Jamison, Betsy Asserson, Lynn Sawyer, Jon Kudrman, Lori Reynolds,

Voting Members Absent: Amanda Fehlstrom, Andrea Lower, Erin Taylor, Dezei Rochin, Molly Basta, Perrin Lundgren

Staff: Jessica Dixon

Welcome and Introductions: Breanna Hume welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Approval of Minutes for: Meeting Minutes were not approved because there was not a quorum for approval. Not enough members so they will be tabled for this month.

We do not have quorum for voting purposes to approve the minutes.

Three other voting members joined later, so we do have quorum for the first time since April.

Linda Gabel motioned to approve all additions to the minutes for April, May, June and July. Maureen Womack seconds. All in favor say aye. Aye.

Committee Reports:

NEW BUSINESS

- Meeting Attendance- Things are getting pretty bad attendance wise. Breanna opened the floor for discussion. Commissioner Skinner asked if in person would help instead of Zoom. We aren't sure if that will help but willing to give it a chance. Edward Sypinski has moved his meetings to in person and attendance has gone up. Linda Gabel agrees. Shirley Kaufman agrees as well. Next month we should meet in person with an option of zoom for those who can't make it.
- Resource guides will have to be postponed until next month. It will be emailed out.
- Tom Peluso mentioned the Account Balance needs to be used before the end of the fiscal year, using a mini grant would be useful.
- Linda Gabel wants to say that she appreciates that we put the community mental health first, that we do more than just putting out a resource guide. How can we provide better services for the people of community of Gallatin County? When she joins a committee she wants to feel like she can really help improve things effectively.
- Commissioner Skinner says that the county has ARPA funds that they are planning on using towards mental health. Our deputy county administrator would like to be put on the agenda to help describe to the group how those funds could help. Breanna will put that on the agenda for September.

Old Business

- Open Position –

- Consumer/Family- vacant, Thank you Cyndi for all of your hard work, we will miss you serving with us. Dani Stack will not be renewing as well. So we will have two vacant positions.

- Amanda Fahlstrom- Child provider of MH Services, has not been in contact. This position will be most likely vacant.

- CHP Position still vacant-

- Law Enforcement Position- Filled, Congrats Erin Taylor!

- Health Department still vacant-

- Andrea Lower renewed!

- Update from Erin on possible Detention Center voting position

- Resource Guide

- Progress update** – Perrin to present on current happenings for feedback and discussion- will be postponed until next month. Will be discussion on funds and how to use them.

- Michael Foust asked if they could get a better understanding on how that money can be spent. What could a mini grants fund? Mini grants could be fund the CSAA. Tom Peluso said that they are mobilizing new LAC's within our 15 counties to get started. A couple from the Reservations are popping up. Lewis and Clark County is getting a lot of help from vendors and others. We can use it for anything that will promote the LAC. I Ho helped support teens that were homeless, Tom is thinking that we may have missed an opportunity for a grant match. Shirley thinks that I Ho could submit a grant match to the LAC that we could use that money for.

Michael Foust asked about some type of medication reimbursement- Good Sam write offs for medication could be a possibility. The new CNO at the hospital would be able to help. Tom could send Michael a grant that has gone through the process if that will be helpful. Shirley Kaufman thinks that Michael can apply for a mini grant from the CSAA for this too.

Reports – No reports submitted

Public Comment- NAMI- Lori Reynolds and Lynn Sawyer are here. Peer to Peer class is designed to promote mental health and recovery. It is important for the person to be at the point of recovery in order to register for the class. Just to make sure that they will get the most out of the course. They will screen the applicants. They would love to populate this class as much as possible. Class will start Saturday, September 11th from 10-12pm, will serve lunch. Location is still TBD. NAMI Montana Walk- September 19th in Helena. Would love to do a NAMI walk in Bozeman as well for next year.

Danica mentioned in the chat about the Out of Darkness retreat will be September 11th

Short Announcements or Updates-

Elli Martin is hosting a new awareness campaign, committee meeting on a Tuesday afternoon at 2 pm. Will get the exact date ASAP. Reach out to Danica if you are interested at all.

Edward Sypinski- community's that care, August 31st from 9am-11 am.

Fundraiser for Blue Prints- homeless youth.

Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting: September 20, 2021

Account Balance Currently: \$6948.18 at last check-in