



MENTAL HEALTH LOCAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes – September 11, 2017

IN ATTENDANCE:

Voting Members Present: Deborah McAtee, Tom Peluso, Lori Reynolds, Breanna Hume, Nancy Filbin, Betty Stroock, Matt Kelley, Andrea Lower, Chelsey Pengra, Joe Skinner, and Katelyn McAree

Non-Voting Members present: Pierre Martineau, Sarah Webb, Rick Gale, Edward Sypinski, Betsy Asserson, Rebecca Adams, and Danica Jamison

Voting Members Absent: Susan Gregory, Shirley Kaufman, Dr. Donna Kelsch, Renee McLendon, Carol Townsend, Vickie Groeneweg, Shelly Johnson, Anna Saverud, Chelsey Voegelé, and Jenna Londynsky

Staff: Steph Kamerman

The Meeting was called to order at 12:07 by Chair McAtee.

NO PUBLIC COMMENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR AUGUST 14, 2017

Ms. Stroock made a motion to approve the August 14, 2017 minutes. Ms. Reynolds seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

SHORT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Gale announced that GGHAC (Greater Gallatin Homeless Action Committee) is Thursday at 11:30 at the Salvation Army. There will be many topics discussed, especially warming center issues. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Mr. Sypinski offered medication disposal bags that were provided through a grant. Their purpose is to properly dispose of unused or unwanted prescription medications with activated carbon. They are free and available through ADSGC.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Filbin stated that there are no new applications for the Grants Committee and encouraged everyone to spread the word that the grants are available.

Mr. Sypinski requested that they disband the homelessness committee for the time being as Jenna reporting to the HRDC and reporting back to the LAC will be redundant. He continued that this matter is funded through other organizations. They will be meeting every other Monday from 2-3 at the HRDC. The committee has been disbanded for now.

OLD BUSINESS

MENTAL HEALTH SYMPOSIUM

Ms. Jamison reported that The Mental Health Symposium is the 10th of October from 8 AM until 5 PM at the Holiday Inn. This Symposium is for the entire mental health community and anyone with concerns about mental health. This is mostly brainstorming and problem solving with 50-60 stakeholders. There will be facilitated and guided conversations with ongoing work groups. Lunch will be provided and it is currently by invitation only, but the invite list is able to grow to

accommodate more attendees. They are looking for community members who are willing to contribute.

RESOURCE GUIDE

The Resource Guide Committee will consist of: Nancy Filbin, Shirley Kaufman, Katy Fritz, Molly Basta and Breanna Hume. Discussion continued on whether or not to begin making a larger (more pages, more information) resource guide to be used by professionals as a resource. Communication needs to continue with the Help Center. We need to think about if we will be distributing them through the newspaper again. On the Agenda for next month.

SURVEY RESPONSE

Voting members to lead or co-lead a project as outlined in the priorities list:

Children's Services: Betty Stroock

Criminal Justice: Andrea Lower, Breanna Hume, Chelsey Pengra, Katelyn McAree

Co-Occurring Disorders (to include alcohol and drugs): Shelly Johnson from Alcohol and Drug services or a proxy and Breanna Hume

Public Education and Outreach: Lori Reynolds.

Ms. Reynolds would like to pursue a quarterly newsletter.

Homelessness will be disbanded. There are many other organizations already in this process.

Legislative Committee: Tom Peluso and Andrea Lower

The Drop in Center and Peer Support will require the identification of needs. Mr. Peluso stated that he would like to have trained peers involved with mental illness and support. Recent legislative action will greatly affect MT Peer Support networks. He will find out where they are and will report back to the LAC. The members of the peer support networks obtain a certification that requires 3-4 days of training. Ms. Stroock requested more information regarding peer support, such as what exactly they are supportive of.

Mental Health and Addiction. Self-disclosure is the key between clients and patients. They operate through referrals. It mostly depends on who has openings in their caseload. Ideally they would be matching peers with patients with the same experiences so the patients have someone to turn through has experience in with what they are dealing with.

Adult Services: This is too broad. There may be another committee we need in the future.

Preservation of Services: Ms. Adams stated that this should be a blanketed committee to ensure that all services are covered and to ensure that basic services are preserved.

Children and Family: Mr. Kelley stated that he would like to see things kept simpler. He explained that the legislative cuts that are happening throughout the state are significant. Mr. Peluso responded by stating that children's services are on life support and have been for years. Ms. Jamison stated that project launch is working on children's services. There is a possibility of another legislative session to work on budget increases regarding revenues.

Chair McAtee stated that we will be working with the five main sections of the priorities list for now: Children/Family, Criminal Justice, Co-Occurring, Publication and Legislative. She requested that those involved with each please meet at least once by next meeting.

Mr. Peluso would like to make a motion to distribute minutes and agendas to legislators right now. Chair McAtee responded that this would be easy and please send her the information. Mr. Peluso went on to request a legislative packet for John Knokey. He further explained that the Service Area

Authority will be giving out block grants, but they need specific purposes now, as opposed to the past.

NEW BUSINESS

None

The next meeting will be October 16th at the Fairgrounds.