



Central Service Area Authority Board Meeting

centralsaamontana.org

January 26, 2024 8:30 am – 10:30 am

Zoom Meeting

All Central Service Area Authority (CSAA) Board meetings are open to the public

PUBLIC COMMENT STATEMENT: In accordance with 2-3-103(1), MCA, the CSAA Board will hold a public comment period. The Open Forum is the public's opportunity to address the Board on any public mental health issue. While the Board cannot take action on the issues presented, the Board will listen to comments and may place the issue on a subsequent agenda for possible action. The Chairperson of the meeting determines the amount of time allotted for public comment

Statutory purpose: *To collaborate with the BHDD and LAC's, to promote consumer and family leadership, and to foster individual choice and access to a continuum of mental health services in the Central Service Area.*

Statutory duties: *(1) Collaborate with the BHDD on the planning, implementation, and evaluation of the mental health system. (2) Submit a biennial review and evaluation of mental health service needs and services within the service area. (3) Review and monitor crisis intervention programs within the service area.*

CSAA Minutes

Meeting called to order: The meeting was called to order at 8:35 am by Crystal Laufer

Board Members Present: Crystal Laufer (Hill), Cindy Fitzpatrick (Hill), Jennifer Whitfield (Cascade County), Gilberta Belgarde (Chippewa Cree Wellness Coalition), Tom Peluso (Gallatin), Jolene Jennings (Lewis & Clark), Bob Mullen (Jefferson), Matt Furlong (Lewis & Clark), Greg Tilton (Cascade),

Board Members Absent: Curtis Smeby (Hill), Julie Anderson (Park), Tina Mord (Blaine), Melinda Holom (Broadwater), Pat Moritz (Broadwater), Darby Salmond (Teton), Eric Szemes (Gallatin)

Staff: Lori Reynolds (CSAA Administrative Support)

Guests: Stephanie Michaelson (Broadwater/Meagher), Ashley Moniz (Lewis & Clark)

BHDD: Brent Morris

MH Ombudsman: Dennis Nyland

Board of Visitors: Absent

Votes

Meeting Minutes

Lori reported that she sent out the August, September, October/November, and December Minutes to the board via email. Votes were completed during the meeting. All were approved and passed.

Treasurer's Report

The expenses for December were \$1,645.00 with the ending balance being \$196,366.75. Bob motioned that we approve the Treasurer's Report and Gilberta seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Matt discussed the newspaper [article](#) where they had received a request for input on what was going on with contract delays and that he had responded along with others about the impact that the delays had. He stated that where he works, they have had a grant under a different branch of the DPHHS and they are having similar

delays in that branch. He said he knows others are frustrated and it's very concerning and puts businesses at jeopardy and impacts the quality of care that they're able to give. He asked if and how the CSAA board could help.

Lori commented that she had attended part of the Children's and Family Interim Committee where they shared the [DPHHS – Executive Presentation](#) Slides that discuss the new procurement rules that had been changed federally, and that all the states had to make changes to their procurement process, which is one factor that could have caused some of the delay. Other factors include staff turnover, contract volume and implementation of the HB 356 Nondiscrimination against Firearms entities/trade associations requirement. Brent shared about the new firearm clause. Bob mentioned the Medicaid rewinding is also in process and many people aren't able to get their paperwork turned in in time.

Jolene shared that she was on a call with DPHHS to get one month of funding for their mobile crisis response team that they offered some funds for, just for the month of December (they hadn't had funds for six months), especially with the delay in Medicaid taking effect in January. She said the state had made changes to the contract, and they had their attorneys look it over because certain statements in it were new. She found out these statements need to be in all the state contracts, and it seems that if the provider fails to continue to meet the contract agreement, then the actions fall on the state. She mentioned that Medicaid is still not in the final approval because there's so many changes to Medicaid in the public hearing comments and they can't pass it until they go through every issue, so that's more time consuming.

Brent said that even if your contract wasn't done, the state is encouraging people to do invoices, even back ones, so when the contract is signed, they can run through the invoices rather than wait for invoices.

New Business

Updated Schedule for CSAA Meetings

The updated HB 872 Commission meetings were listed on the agenda.

CSAA March Board Meeting-(conflicts with HB 872 Commission Meeting – reschedule to March 29th?)

The board discussed moving the March board meeting to March 29th so that it doesn't conflict with the scheduled Commission meetings. Jennifer motioned that we move the board meeting to the 29th of March, Bob seconded. Motion passed. **NOTE:** After looking closer at the dates after this meeting was over, we realized that the Commission meeting was going to take place on the fifth Friday, not the fourth Friday, so we **opted to keep the date for March Board Meeting on March 22nd as originally scheduled.**

Amy Stiffarm: Spirit of Resilience - Indigenous Woman Leading the Way to Change

Amy's podcast is featured in the Talking Health in the 406. She is a member of the Aaniiih (White Clay) Tribe of the Fort Belknap community. She is also a descendant of the Chippewa Cree and Blackfoot Tribes. She specializes in Maternal Mental Health Issues in American Indian Communities. She is a trailblazer intertwining traditional knowledge with newer practices in cultural sensitivity and safety, milk medicine, and making the way for the next generation.

CMS Announces \$50 Million in Grants to Deliver Critical [School-Based Healthcare Services to Children](#)

This is a federal grant that states can apply for that helps provide school-based healthcare services to children. Please read the article for more information.

Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) Suicide Prevention – Train the Trainer [To See Dates and Register](#)

Brent had shared this opportunity. Hillary Schafer works with Sarah Music at River Stone Health. They are offering QPR classes and covering the majority of the costs, so there would be a cost share of \$200. Bob suggested that CSAA could consider covering the \$200 for those who would want to attend.

Jolene shared her experience taking this course two different times. GilBerta shared that she is a trainer and has done a few classes, recently in Rocky Boy School where they had four elders and about thirty Seniors attend. They are going to set up time for Juniors, Sophomores and Freshman to attend. She mentioned the different components of the program that address needs for Native Americans, veterans, firefighters, etc.

Greg shared that the VA has a program called [SAVE](#) that is similar to QPR. The acronym stands for “Symptoms”, “Ask”, “Verify”, and “Expedite”.

Virtual Rural Mental Health Solutions Roundtable Feb 8th [To Register](#)

“The Western Community Assessment Network (WeCAN) hosted this Roundtable event. WeCAN is supported by USDA's Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture. “The Rural Mental Solutions Roundtable is the third Solutions Roundtable hosted by the WeCAN Peer Learning Network. Across our three states—Idaho, Montana and Wyoming—small towns and rural communities wrestle with a similar basket of mental health issues...”

Governor Gianforte Invests \$8 Million to improve Behavior Health Crisis Response in Montana

“The first initiative, representing up to \$7.5 million, will support mobile crisis response and crisis receiving and stabilization services.” [Read more here](#)

Bob said there needs to be funding to the counties to do crisis work. For example, in Jefferson county, we would need to use a Peer Support Specialist, but there’s no money to do that. He mentioned that many counties in Montana are starting from scratch. Jolene mentioned the Alternative Settings meeting showed six targeted areas across the state and they are prioritizing where the funding is going to go.

Brent reminded that Jackie Jandt encourages people to email her personally if there’s any advocacy or points that we don’t feel have been represented in the meetings. Jackie Jandt, PMP, Office of Strategy and Transformation, Montana DPHHS. jjandt@mt.gov (406) 444-9656

There was discussion about the Mobile Crisis Response Teams working with the LACs and SAAs, rather than forming new separate coalitions. Jolene suggested having an MCRT member attend the Local Advisory Council (LAC) meetings. Jennifer stated that there would need to be different solutions for rural versus cities, and need to bring them together so that we can pool resources.

CFHHS Interim Committee voted to draft a BILL for Family Peer Support Certification

“The Children, Families, Health & Human Services Interim Committee voted last week to draft a bill for Family Peer Support certification! A BIG thank you to those that presented, gave public comments (or would have if the weather had cooperated!), and everyone that participated in the Task Force.” Beth Ayers, Family Peer Support Lead, Montana’s Peer Network [Read more here](#)

Greg stated that he had recently completed the WRAP program. Brent shared that *Advocates for Potential* has taken over the WRAP program from the *Copeland Foundation*. He said DPHHS has contracted with Advocates for Potential, and they have just finished doing a training in Great Falls. In March they are scheduled to be in Butte and Helena. They are working to get people trained to be advanced level facilitators. They had two trainings with the National Guard this past summer. He said Montana has been recognized as a trial pilot to work with Tribal communities. They are working on a Tribal National Curriculum for WRAP. There is a person from Canada, California, Montana and a few other states involved. The next training is going to be in Ronan in March. Contact Brent if you are interested in taking a WRAP training. brent.morris@mt.gov

Charlie Health’s free [guide](#) to Somatics

“Somatics are having a moment. Over 30 million watched clips about the mind-body approach on TikTok, and ‘somatic workout’ topped Google’s trending search list for 2023. To help you stay up to date with this CSAA

Minutes December 2023 4 mental health trend, here's a roundup of everything you need to know about somatics. We outlined evidence based tips to calm your vagus nerve (and, in turn, your nervous system) and stretches anyone can do to release tension and trauma. There's a free resource for trying five easy somatic exercises at home."

SAMHSA January 2024 [Newsletter – Trainings, Resources, etc.](#)

Ongoing Business

WSAA Update

Crystal and Tom shared the update from the WSAA board meeting. There was discussion about how CSAA could help WSAA get their LACs more active. It was suggested that we have a Zoom meeting with ESAA to brainstorm how we can help WSAA.

SAA Update

Lori shared they had discussed the request for proposals (RFPs) that were coming out for PATH. There was a need for a representative from each of the SAAs to be on the review team that decides on the RFPs once they come in. Jennifer Whitfield volunteered. Greg made a motion to accept Jennifer as the representative from CSAA to be on the review team. Tom seconded.(Jennifer abstained from vote) Motion passed. Lori reported that the SAA discussed having the SAA 2024 Summit in Havre, GilBerta shared about the Rocky Boy Drop-In Center, it was suggested that we include a tour of Rocky Boy's Drop-In Center.

HB 872 Commission Updates

There will not be a meeting in February, but there will be two in March.

UPDATES

Ombudsman

Dennis discussed their website and a resource fair going to be in Billings in February. He shared that Laura Stack will be presenting at Malta High School on March 18, 2024. <https://johnnysambassadors.org/> He shared that they had a CIT board meeting the day before and added a couple new people. BHDD Brent talked about the PATH RFP and that the rest are going through the processes. He discussed the First Episode Psychosis (FEP) RFP coming out and the changes to that. He said anyone who would like to be on the notification list for the RFPs, email Gina Tracy, Dan Laughlin, and Brent Morris, and let them know which ones you are interested in.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:37 am.

Next Board Meeting: Friday, February 23rd 8:30 – 10:30 am

Table 1. List of Acronyms

211	Hotline for Crisis and Emergency Services Referrals
988	National Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Hotline
ADART	Admission and Discharge Review Team
BHDD	Behavioral Health Behavioral Health and Disabilities Division
CSAA	Central Service Area Authority
HB 872	Behavioral Health System for Future Generations Committee
LAC	Local Advisory Council
MAP	Montana Alliance on Prevention
MCA	Montana Code Annotated

MESAA	Montana Eastern Service Area Authority
MSH	Montana State Hospital
PATH	Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness
PAX	PAX Good Behavior Games-School based program
QPR	Question, Persuade, Refer Suicide Prevention Program
RFP	Request For Proposal
SAA	Service Area Authority
SAMHSA	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
SOS	Survivors of Suicide
SUPTRS	Substance Use Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery
WMMHC	Western Montana Mental Health Center
WSAA	Western Service Area Authority
YAM	Youth Aware of Mental Health

CSAA January Board Meeting

Video Link: <https://vimeo.com/915790143/f2d0adacd9?share=copy>