

Cascade County Mental Health Local Advisory Council Minutes



Monday, January 4th, 2021
Zoom Virtual meeting
3:00 pm -5:00 pm



Members Present Jennifer Whitfield, Susie McIntire, Ginny Carnes, Tom Osborn, Linda Daggett, John Schaffer, Josh Harris, Trista Besich, Jane Weber, Shawn Matsko

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 3:00 by Jennifer Whitfield, Chair.

Approval of Minutes The November and December 2020 minutes were presented for approval. There were no additions or corrections and they were approved as presented.

Finance Report Shawn Matsko presented the financial report for both November and December 2020. The December report was in a new, more concise format. A \$4,643.83 grant was received from the Central Service Authority (CSAA) and posted to the account. The account total is \$7,251.67. The reports were accepted as presented and appreciation was expressed for the new format.

New Business

Executive Committee Meeting- Jennifer reported that the intention is to have the Executive Committee meet to re-evaluate the goals outlined by the Strategic Plan.

Strategic Plan- Jennifer will make sure copies of the Strategic Plan are sent to new members and any that were not able to attend the planning session. The Executive Committee will be tasked with reviewing the Plan and making recommendations.

Representative Reports

Crisis Services:

Crisis Steering Committee/Crisis Response Team- Jennifer:

- The Crisis Response Team (CRT) data report for September 2017-December 2020 was sent to the members. There were 14 calls for the CRT this past December. The diversion rate from both jail and the ER over the entire period was 56%.
- There are some repeat utilizers and they are often not presenting for treatment as prescribed. Utilization seems to be situational, some with suicidal ideation.
- Two new CRT therapists are now on the Team for a total of five.

Crisis Intervention Training- Josh: The Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) is still scheduled for the first week in March.

Suicide Prevention Committee- No report.

CSAA report: Ginny reported that the Central Service Area Authority (CSAA) did not meet in December.

Community Reports/Announcements from Board Members

County Commissioner-

- Jane reminded the group that all new members must be presented to the County Commissioners to be accepted. She is hopeful that the new commissioner will consider being on the LAC.
- Jennifer will follow up with Amanda Walker as a new member and Greg Tilton for attendance.

Mental Health America Great Falls (MHAGF)- Linda reported that the group is starting to meet again.

Great Falls Public Library- Susie:

- She is in contact with Peter Tyler who is working to partner with community Emergency Services and providers. The goal is to develop a modified CRT for first responders and supplement services to the CRT including training, identifying needs, referrals and follow-up.
- The library continues to be open with all the health and safety recommendations in place.

Peer Support Network- Ginny reported the group is presenting a bill to the Legislature proposing to add two Certified Peer Support Specialists to the Montana Behavioral Health Board.

Alluvion- Trista reported that Alluvion is part of the COVID 19 vaccination effort.

Center for Mental Health- Jennifer:

- The Center has a new Medication Assisted Treatment provider, Karlee Hamilton and she is accepting applications.
- CMH is opening a new 12-bed facility in Helena.

Public Comment

- Ginny made an additional announcement about the need to find two people who would like to take the WRAP (Wellness/Recovery Action Plan) training.
- Jane commented on the possibility to partner with other interested community members to do a Public Service Announcement encouraging the use of mental health services especially during this time of year and considering the pandemic.
- The group thanked Jane for her service both to the LAC and to the community and wished her well in retirement.

Adjourn The meeting was adjourned by Jennifer Whitfield, Chair, at 3:35 Next meeting February 1st, 2021.

Jennifer Whitfield, Chair

Date