

Cascade County Mental Health Local Advisory Council

Minutes



Monday, May 3, 2021
915 1st Ave South, Conference Room
or
Zoom Virtual meeting
1:30-3:00pm

Return to: L Daggett 415 6th Ave S Great Falls MT 50405

Members Present: Captain John Schaffer, Susie McIntyre, Shawn Matsko, Tom Osborn, Greg Tilton, Amanda Walker, Kevin Evenson, Commissioner Don Ryan, Ginny Carnes, Linda Daggett

Guests Present: Susanne Call- Center for Mental Health, Beth Morrison-Healthy Lives Vibrant Futures, Matt Furlong- Behavioral Health Advisory Committee (BHAC), Dusti Zimmer- Alluvion

Call to Order: Captain John Schaffer, Vice Chair, convened the meeting at 1:35 PM.

Presentation of Statewide Crisis System Review Subcommittee: Matt Furlong, Vice Chair of the Committee, presented:

- The Committee is reviewing the Mental Health Block Grant Plan to make recommendations on behalf to consumers to AMDD. The goal is to find gaps in services, current needs.
- The biggest issues right now are suicide rate in Montana, transition from youth services to adult services, and crisis response, services, and the lack of and turn-over of providers
- Crisis system review Subcommittee is working on a more global perspective of crisis services: including from the judicial/law enforcement, the service providers, personal and family perspective, medical perspective. The goal is to identify the systems, map a plan for improvement and present it to AMDD.
- AMDD is looking to BHAC to be a conduit to the LACs for feedback about their community needs, successes. They have been using emails directly to the advisory councils lately since the agency-funded staff has not been in place for that in 5 years.
- Central Service Area Authority (CSAA) supports the LACs with mini-grants and encourages projects the increase the profile of the LACs. They are working to involve more LACs in outlying areas.
- Amanda suggested that having advocates for clients who have been in crisis and burned some bridges (i.e., loss of housing), have a hard time coming back from that. Having advocates to help them build a plan for their re-entry and repair, conflict resolution would be helpful. This could mean expanding the 72-hour hold to a 14-day support.
- Greg suggested that we receive a request in writing from AMDD for the information they need in order to work together more here.
- Amanda suggested that every 6 months we do a forum for agencies to problem-solve specific cases as a community of providers. Susie suggested focusing on high needs individuals who fall through the cracks and agreed with the case-study model. HIPPA would be kept in mind for the cases. The goal would be to develop a plan that includes input from the individual as well
- Greg suggested we might restructure who is on the LAC that we may be missing community players such as Alliance for Youth.
- Having a project that focuses on doing something fun or meaningful might encourage input.
- Matt suggested we may want a work group focused on the State Plan and based on our own strategic plan.

Approval of the Minutes from April 2021: The April 5th meeting minutes were approved with no changes.

Finance Report from April 2021: Shawn reported there are no expenditures or deposits after the last report and the balance is \$7,251.67. The report was accepted as presented.

New Business:

Healthy Lives, Vibrant Future (HLVF)- At the last meeting we voted to allow 2-3 LAC members attend the HLVF meetings and report back at our meetings. Susie volunteered to serve. Beth will contact Susie so she can attend, learn more, and report back to the LAC. There were no other volunteer representatives at this time. The next HLVF meeting is May 20th 9-10:30am and a zoom link will be provided.

Continued Business:

Strategic Plan: Captain Schaffer reported there is no activity on this.

Website/Facebook-

- Amanda reported that she visited with Vernon Bishop, and he is willing to update the website for an annual fee of \$500.
- Susie suggested we revisit the reasons of having our website, what we want on it, what we want it to accomplish. Linda suggested we have a sub-committee look at this and come back with a recommendation to the Council. Greg suggested a podcast as well.
- Amanda volunteered to look at the website. *Greg made a motion to appoint Amanda as the website, Facebook, and podcast committee chairman and Ginny seconded the motion. Motion passed.*
- Amanda requested Council members to email her with suggestions of what they would like to see on it. She will report back at the next meeting.

Representative Report:

Crisis Intervention Charter Project: Dusti Zimmer reported for Trista Besich who was unable to attend:

- Additional members are signing on to the Charter project- Great Falls Clinic, Benefis ER. Others are being encouraged to join. It will be a community-wide project to work on a system for crisis services.
- At this point there is no commitment, all will be included in the planning process. Some have given monetarily and donations, but the memorandum of understandings and firm commitments will come later, and a board will be formed.
- There have been about 3 calls a week to the Crisis Response Team. There is no written data report at this time.
- They are working toward calls being routed to those other than law enforcement.

Suicide Prevention Committee- Greg reported that the group has not been meeting recently. As an offshoot, Joining Community Forces is planning for Camp Joy for kids of Veterans. There also is a virtual training in suicide prevention for clergy (SAVE) for veterans who suffer from moral injury.

CSAA Report- Greg reported that he attends the Tuesday morning meeting and Matt Furlong chairs. They are working on expanding the LACs and working on feedback to AMDD.

BHAC Report/MT Peer Network Report- Ginny reported:

- Her 4-year term will be up in January, and she will be recommending a replacement.
- August 20th is an in-person recovery conference in Helena.
- There is forensics class training this summer.

Community Reports/Announcements from Board Members:

Center for Mental Health: Susanne reported for Jennifer Whitfield.

- The Primary Care Clinic is up and running for 3 weeks and the appointments are filled.
- The Center has employed a new Licensed Clinical Social Worker and a Licensed Addiction Counselor.
- The Day Treatment program has opened up to all clients again.
- The Center has signed a letter of intent with Gateway to provide services.

MT Peer Network: Ginny reported the Montana Legislature passed a Peer Support bill was passed this session to allow 1 Peer Support member on the Board of Behavioral Health.

Public Library: Susie reported the Bookmobile has arrived.

North Central Independent Living Services- (NCILS)- Tom reported:

- Montana is participating in a technical assistance grant. They are working on a new definition of Person-Centered Planning. They are introducing this new definition.
- Tom would like to have 10-15 minutes on the agenda for the next LAC meeting to introduce this definition and get feedback.
- He will email a copy of the final report from the National Committee to the LAC members.
- The Council agreed to give Tom time on the agenda next month.

Police Department: John announced the selection of a new Chief- Jeff Newton. It was suggested we introduce him at a meeting.

Public Comment None

Adjourn Meeting adjourned by John Schaffer at 3:35 PM. Next meeting June 7th, 2021 @ 1:30-3:00PM in person at Center for Mental Health or via Zoom.

John Schaffer, Vice Chair

Date