



Cascade County Mental Health Local Advisory Council Minutes

Monday, August 7th, 2023

Many Rivers Whole Health Conference room and Zoom Virtual meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88465507144?pwd=L1pCL2g2OEVvSzlCM1M2Qkp2b1ZiQT0>

1:30-3:00pm



Return to: L. Daggett 415 6th Ave. S. Great Falls 59405

Members Present Jennifer Whitfield, Randy Lynes, Susie McIntyre, Shawn Matsko, Greg Tilton, Landon Koteskey, Georgia Hansen, Tom Osborn, Captain Schaffer, and Cassidy Blomgren.

Guests Present None

Public Comment Jennifer Whitfield called for public comment and there was none.

Minutes No noted changes.

Finance Report Jennifer received the financial report, and it was in a more easily understood format. No significant notes. Query came up regarding county levied mental health funds. As Commissioner Grulkowski was not present, Jennifer offered to email to information and will follow up from the group when she learns more.

The Minutes and Financial Report were motioned and approved unanimously.

New Business

Board Membership

- Jennifer welcomed newest board member, Georgia Hansen. Board members introduced themselves, their role on the Council and representation in the community.

Mini-Grants Jennifer shared information from the CSAA regarding updates to each LAC applying for \$2400 annually for their own discretionary funds. This means the original mini-grant application from the CCMHLAC was denied. There are additional funds that may be applied for through the CSAA in the future. Jennifer will work on the application for the \$2400 allotment for approval.

Lifestyles Montana Magazine Articles

- Greg and Randy met with representative, and they committed to submit an article LACs Statewide.
- A larger article on mental health in Montana can be sponsored for a fee and linking to podcasts a possibility.
- It was the consensus of the group that our budget allows for outreach, and we could provide \$400 toward this project.

Continued Business

Plan Strategic It was re-affirmed that gaps in services are still a priority for our LAC's mission and plan.

Work Group Update This group focuses on additional membership/participation. Randy and Greg reported the group has not had a chance to meet, no further updates at this time.

Website/Facebook

- Jennifer reported that she and Ginny have not completed the Facebook transition but still working on it. For a future transition, they will both retain Facebook page access and additionally grant to the Council Chair.
- Randy reported that the County is still struggling to post links he provided. Jen will talk to the County IT director to see how to accomplish that, but efforts have not helped in getting that done.

Representative Reports

North Central MT – Crisis Intervention Collaborative (NCMT-CIC)

- Cassidy shared the Sequential Intercept Mapping for our community will be occurring on September 1st, invitation imminent. The Collaborative Executive Board was meeting later on this date and then a future meeting with provider agencies for updating where the Collaborative is currently at and what comes next.
- Mobile Response Team- Cassidy shared two full time mental health clinicians have been hired and that it has been slower the last two weeks. At the end of September, Medicaid funding should start for MRT services.
- Mental Health Court- Still with 1 participant. No further updates.

Central Service Authority Area (CSAA) Report

- Jennifer forward updates on CSAA meetings and information each month.
- Greg reported they are planning a Summit for the Eastern, Central, and Western Areas in September and provided detailed information as to the event. They will be focusing on local groups and youth.
- Jennifer provided an update on HB 872 Subcommittees focused in on Continuum of Care, Access to Care and Workforce challenges in Montana and how to best utilize the \$300 million allocated by the legislature to improve the behavioral health system in Montana.

MT Peer Network Report No report in Ginny's absence.

BHAC Jennifer forwards activities in emails. The Western Area is struggling to stay organized. The BHAC reviewed a recommendation from the MESAA (MT Eastern Service Area Authority) around 988 utilization and challenges with access.

Healthy Lives/Vibrant Futures Susie reported:

- On the Access to Care meeting with a focus on behavioral health workforce; expanding services for post-natal care; addressing high risk youth; school services/referrals; Medicaid coverage.

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Randy reported:

- A Family to Family class is planned for second Monday in September
- Peer to Peer class 1st Tuesday of the month at the Columbus Center.
- Switching the paid TV to a radio option for September awareness campaign.
- Airman Appreciation Week at the end of August and having a NAMI table present.
- NAMI Fundraiser Walk in September as well.

North Central Independent Living Service (NCILS)/Library/Provider Susie reported:

- New provider at the library that is making the transition with patrons and staff alike.
- Working on invoicing with MRWH for grant purposes.

Community Reports/Announcements from Board Members

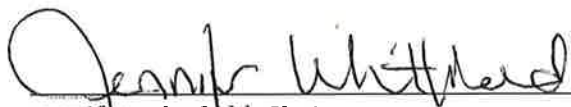
Great Falls Public Library – Susie reported there will be a Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) in September offered at the Library as part of Stop the Stigma campaign.

Alluvion – Cassidy shared about attending National Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) in Detroit. with Julie Prigmore from MRWH and many other Montana CIT board members. CIT in Cascade County will be offered in April 2024.

North Central Independent Living – Tom reported on the MT Administrative Rules (MAR) Interim Committee completing for data collection that will drive policy development around housing, zoning, etc...there is great spark due to the challenges and looking for creative solutions to support Montanans in having successful placement in long term housing.

Many Rivers Whole Health - Jennifer reported on the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) Steering Committee with the State and Guidehouse that includes work with two different cohorts of providers. Additionally shared status of CCBHC-IA grant submission as still in waiting status for award notice.

Adjourn Meeting was adjourned at 2:43 PM by Jennifer Whitfield, Chair. Next meeting September 11th, 2023 @ 1:30-3:00PM via MRWH Boardroom and Zoom.



Jennifer Whitfield, Chair

9-12-23

Date