



Cascade County Mental Health Local Advisory Council Minutes



Monday, April 4, 2022
Zoom Virtual meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86265196743?pwd=Z3dyRU9qY29ZeG5jWXZZNDV4V09jZz09>

1:30-3:00pm

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

Attendance

Members Present Jennifer Whitfield, Captain John Schaffer, Ginny Carnes, Shawn Matsko, Susie McIntyre, Commissioner Don Ryan, Tom Osborn, Linda Daggett, Scott Van Dyken, Randy Lynes

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

Minutes from February 2022 Minutes of the March meeting were approved as emailed and presented.

Finance Report from February 2022 \$10,451.67 remains the same as last report.

New Business

Mini-Grant Form Commissioner Ryan has not presented the mini-grant application form to the Commission for their approval. Jennifer will email it to him in its final form for approval at next meeting.

Other New Business: None.

Continued Business

Strategic Plan: Jennifer continued discussion from last month. We will need to develop work groups like we had previously. Dealing with COVID disrupted those groups.

Goal #1 Convene and Collaborate:

- The Resource Guide has been completed.
- Tom reported that the proposal for a public health workforce pilot project for a Community Health Social Worker(s) is waiting to receive funding. The Health and Human Services funds available through American Rescue Plan funding should be awarded late April or May. Tom, Julie Prigmore, Cassidy, and Susie will meet again when funding is available, and this will move forward.
- Forming a Community Events workgroup was suggested by Ginny. The purpose of the group would be to identify events on the community calendar that LAC could participate in or help fund.
- Randy requested the LAC join NAMI to participate in Mental Health Month this May. They are planning a walk on the Railroad Bridge and a set up a table in the mall. LAC can support the NAMI walk in May by participating and providing a link on the LAC website. Jennifer will send the information out on list serves.
- Susie: Community leaders and funders don't understand available resources regarding the homeless population outside the Methodist church downtown. The job of our LAC is to convene people together to help solve this and other problems. Suggestions given were media releases, celebrate successes that are happening, news releases about the Community Health Social workers when funded.
- Commissioner Ryan: The need for sustainable success is important. LAC needs a way to measure success and what is working in reference to the homeless; is it more law enforcement or behavioral health, housing?

- Susie: Invite a panel to come to the Library to discuss what the LAC is doing or have a meet and greet there with refreshments. This might be something the new Community Health Social Workers might do as part of their activities. LAC could provide funding.
- Suggested workgroup name was Services and Gaps: Randy, Ginny, and Commissioner Ryan will serve on this Committee.

Goal #4 Sustainability:

- Tom reported that the public health workforce pilot project from HHS will include a success evaluation tool.
- Jennifer: The LAC website is a good place to celebrate successes, do media releases.
- Recruiting volunteers: Commissioner Ryan stated the need for training volunteers to do regular (weekly or monthly) suicide prevention awareness and training possibly at the library. Tom: Awareness training is built into the proposed pilot project. NAMI has an 8 week long training and a Family to Family support group. QPR suicide prevention training is also available. Jennifer will check for resources and set that up for May.
- Jennifer: LAC could provide support for other's costs related to these proposed projects and track outcomes for attendance and number of times held.

Goal #4 Communication and Marketing:

- Jennifer: Get and use a media template for activities that could be on website and sent out to others. Suggested we do a blurb on LAC for Mental Health Month in May. This could be extended to the Library.
- Ginny will be on a work group to reach out to smaller communities. Don suggested the County Extension Service as a resource for that.
- Ginny suggested we develop a brochure explaining LAC and services.

Website/Facebook

Website

- Susie shared the website with the group and demonstrated how it is confusing, hard to find agendas and minutes although they are there.
- Jennifer will reach out to Kevin and Amanda to see if they are still interested in being an LAC member.

Facebook No report.

Representative Reports

North Central MT – Crisis Intervention Collaborative (NCMT-CIC) Captain Schaffer reported:

Mobile Response Team

- Michael Robinson is now working with the MRT and when 911 calls come in needing behavioral health attention, they are referred to him to sort out to routing to law enforcement or behavioral health follow up.
- John reported that a representative from Alluvion, Police Department, and United Way were sent to the Methodist church downtown to interview a dozen people there to ascertain their needs. They are still working on the results of the interviews.

MH Court

- Developed a 2-tier system that uses a 6-month program for misdemeanors and screens low-level felonies for the court. The past system's criteria was too restrictive.

Suicide Prevention Committee No report.

CSAA Report Jennifer attended the March 25th meeting. The meetings are monthly with workgroups meeting weekly.

- They got an update on the Montana State Hospital.
- There are opportunities for Mental Health First Aid train-the-trainer sessions.
- There is a link on their website for different grant opportunities available in the State.
- LACs were encouraged to spend the money they have.

MT Peer Network Report Ginny reported

- She has graduated from Beyond Incarceration class.
- The Network is doing a strategic planning.
- There are justice-system trained Peers available to work.

BHAC Report Jennifer: The minutes of the Behavioral Health Advisory Council were emailed. The work groups are preparing presentations for the upcoming legislative session.

Healthy Lives/Vibrant Futures Susie reported their Chair has shifted and she hopes they meet again soon.

NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Randy reported.

- He would like to attend the weekly CSAA meetings but is unable to.
- He is working on Family-to-Class, trainings, and setting up May NAMI Walk.
- Shawn inquired about contacting New City Church regarding trainings and Randy is working on that.

Community Reports/Announcements from Board Members

Library- Susie: The community paramedic is coming to the library regularly and an insurance navigator is there once a month.

Adjourn The meeting was adjourned by Jennifer at 2:30. Next meeting May2nd @ 1:30-3:00PM via Zoom.

Jennifer Whitfield, Chair

Date: