

MINUTES

LARIMER COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH POLICY COUNCIL

Date: June 1, 2020
Time: 8:00-10:00am
Location: Zoom teleconference
Contact: Laurie Stolen, Behavioral Health Services Director

Attendees:

Steve Johnson, Nick Christensen, Susan Gutowsky, Will Karspeck, Lisa Kurth, Kevin Lemasters, Mary Maldonado, Chad Morris, Steve Olson, Barry Wilson

BHS Staff: Jessica Plummer, Kim Priddy, Andrea Smith, Jennifer Wolfe-Kimbell, Laurie Stolen

Absent: Marianne Dungan, Troy Hamman, Lisa Laake, Clark McCoy, Ken Zornes,

CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS – 8:00 a.m.

AGENDA REVIEW

May BHPC minutes approval- Steve Olson made the motion to approve, Mary Maldonado seconded the motion, all in favor, no opposed, motion carried.

DISCUSSION/DECISIONS

Laurie gave a brief update on Larimer County’s ongoing response to the COVID crisis. A County-wide Long-Term Recovery Collaborative is being created. Steve Olson expressed his concerns with the economic impacts of the crisis. Hank Blaise expressed his appreciation of the intentional re-opening of our community, to ensure

the health and safety of our citizens. Michael Allen reported that their Crisis Stabilization Unit demand is up 45% since the COVID crisis began. Cheryl Jacobs also reported an increase to calls for Co-Responders, specifically related to youth in crisis due to the COVID crisis. Further updates will be made, as available, at the July meeting.

Laurie restated the results of the Crisis Response Fund that was completed in May. There were 9 grants awarded to total \$115,545. Further information on how that money is proposed to be used by the grantees will be shared.

Laurie announced the opening, effective today, June 1, 2020, of the BHS Grant Program and the Gary A. Darling Grant. The BHS staff have been working tirelessly to prepare for the launch of this \$2.3million grant process.

A 2020 Impact Fund 1-pager will be sent to the BHPC. Interested parties are to be sent to the BHS departmental web page: larimer.org/behavioralhealth, for more information.

Laurie provided a snapshot of 2019 Grant midterm reports. There has been some disruption to the delivery of programs due to the COVID crisis. No-cost extensions and minor budget reallocations have been provided to 5 of the 11 Invite round grantees of 2019. A summary interim report for 2019 Grantees will be developed and shared with the BHPC in August.

Laurie notified the BHPC that Rachel Iverson is no longer with the department. There is currently a vacancy and applications are being accepted to fill the position. Interested parties can be sent to larimer.org/jobs for more information.

The development of a BHPC Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC) was delayed due to the COVID Crisis response of our partner agencies. This effort will be picked back up this month. We will present on potential members of a CAC at the August BHPC meeting. A summary document of the purpose/intentions/goals of a CAC will be shared.

Laurie shared an update on the BHS budget. March revenues are down approximately \$300,000 from the same time last year. More will be known once April finances are in. BHS plans to present the BoCC with a 3-tiered contingency plan in late June. We will report back to the BHPC at the July meeting.

Mary M inquired about BH crisis services for youth at the new facility. Michael Allen described the services that will be available to youth which will include 23 hr observation, BH triage and crisis stabilization. There are significant gaps in youth

BH crisis services in our community. It is the intention of the new BH Facility to take anyone in crisis, assess them, coordinate care with other facility services, community services or out of community services, as needed on an individual basis. Future phases of the BH initiative plan to include additional youth services.

Laurie will call for/facilitate a TAC subcommittee to look at the following 4 items.

1. Prevalence of youth needing BH services
2. Barriers to obtaining needed BH services
3. Available BH services for youth
4. Missing BHS services for youth

The TAC subcommittee will present on their findings at an upcoming BHPC meeting.

Nick suggested that it would be beneficial for the BHPC to have a standing agenda item on impactful metrics we are seeing in our community. A community dashboard will be added to the BHPC monthly meeting agenda to increase the BHPC member awareness on BH issues in our community.

Susan inquired about the transportation options that will be made available to/from the new BH Facility. Michael Allen spoke to the plans to be very intentional about care coordination and discharge planning, to ensure clients are supported during transitions in care, including their transportation needs as part of the suite of services the new facility will provide. Long range plans may include public transportation, as future phases of the BH campus are developed.

ADJOURNED – 9:20 a.m.