

MINUTES

LARIMER COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH POLICY COUNCIL

Date: November, 2, 2020
Time: 8:00-10:00am
Location: Zoom Webinar
Contact: Laurie Stolen, Behavioral Health Services Director
Ryan Barstow, Behavioral Health Business Operations Coordinator

Participants:

Nick Christensen, Marianne Dungan, Susan Gutowsky, Steve Johnson, Will Karspeck, Kevin Lemasters, Mary Maldonado, Clark McCoy, Chad Morris, Steve Olson, Barry Wilson

BHS Staff:

Ryan Barstow, Jessica Plummer, Kim Priddy, Andrea Smith, Laurie Stolen, Jennifer Wolfe-Kimbell

Attendees:

Seth Forwood, Fred G, Stephanie Madsen-Pixler, Michael Ruttenberg, Kim Sharpe

Absent:

Troy Hamman, Lisa Kurth, Lisa Laake, Scott Webermeier

CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS – 8:03 a.m.

AGENDA REVIEW

DISCUSSION/DECISIONS

- a) Laurie Stolen asked if all members had a chance to review the October meeting minutes. She then asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the October 5, 2020 meeting. Kevin Lemasters made the motion, seconded by Will Karspeck, the motion was approved unanimously.
- b) Laurie reviewed the BHS facility update and shared that it's nearing 100% design development. She also described that while this phase of the design means examining ways to value engineer and cut overhead costs to materials and physical design, it does not mean budget cuts to facility programming, service levels, or intentionality.
- c) A ceremonial outdoor groundbreaking is scheduled for 12/16/20 and invites will be sent out soon. The ceremony will also be recorded to view online afterward. In response to council member questions on the expansion of the facility in the future to accommodate community needs, Laurie described that a multi-pronged approach on expansion is to address community services of prevention, early identification, and early intervention rather than focusing only on expanding crisis services. She also stressed the need to address future needs at the community level. However, in regards to expansion of the facility itself, there are plans to create a campus model and possibly partner with businesses and providers in the community to provide high utilizer population services such as permanent supportive housing, adolescent care, primary care, dental, and vision all in one central location. Also, in terms of physical structure, only half of the facility's 2nd story will be built initially. The other half of the facility may be considered for a 2nd story later based on funds available and community demand, increasing the number of residential beds in the facility. In regards to concerns over parking spots available, Laurie clarified that this is an issue that is being carefully considered and will be sufficiently addressed. In terms of how COVID is affecting the timeline of the facility opening, Laurie shared that it's been delayed about 90-120 days so the opening will probably be near the fall of 2022.
- d) Kimberly Priddy offered a presentation on the "BH Dashboard Update" with the council to detail its purpose and help refine what data will be most useful and actionable. Kim responded to questions brought forward by the council members.
- e) Laurie and Ryan Barstow presented the final bylaw changes requested by the council during the October BHPC meeting. Laurie asked for a motion to approve the edited and revised bylaws to bring to the Board of County Commissioners for ratification. Steve Olson made the motion, seconded by Chad Morris, the motion was approved unanimously. Revised By-laws will be distributed to all members after BoCC approval.

- f) Laurie shared an update on the national 988 suicide prevention hotline which will allow individuals in distress to get support through a direct line instead of through 911. The legislation was passed, signed into law, and adopted by the FCC for implementation in 2022. Laurie spoke with the regional coordinator for Senator Cory Gardner, Dan Betts, and she hopes to be able to communicate with Sen. Gardner (who co-signed this bill) to learn how our community can help with the implementation of this national hotline and will continue to update the council on this topic.
- g) Laurie updated the council on the annual grant outcomes timeline and due to COVID, several grantees requested re-budgeting and no-cost extensions and so a complete 2019 summary of grant outcomes will be slightly delayed and delivered in March 2021.
- h) Laurie shared that the comprehensive BHS Annual report for 2020 will also be published and shared in March 2021.
- i) Laurie gave an update on the grantee site visits which haven't been able to occur due to COVID and proposed the idea of holding virtual grantee site visits in 2021. The council shared that they would like to see that occur and a video tour of facilities would be welcomed but the preference is to visit in person as soon as it's possible.
- j) Jessica Plummer reviewed the "Post-Application Survey" presentation which detailed applicant feedback on the 2020 grant application process. The overall results showed that the process was easy to participate in and that the resources provided to applicants to assist in the process were helpful.
- k) Laurie asked for CQI-BHPC input on the 2021 grant application process as well as feedback on the evaluation process and transparency. Council members shared that: they'd like to see the process align with the state's process, that it's typical for grant evaluators to remain anonymous while general demographics about the panel are shared, that it's important to utilize the community as evaluators, that evaluators have the necessary expertise, that a common rubric is used in scoring, and they stressed the importance of the applicant's being able to learn the rationale involved in their approval/denial. Laurie stated that it's important to continue to improve our standards and process and to look at the best possible way to evaluate grant applications while eliminating any potential conflicts of interest.

INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) Laurie discussed the 2021 meeting schedule and that meetings will continue to occur on the first Monday of each month from 8-10am. Council members requested Google Calendar appointments with Zoom links included to be utilized and sent out now, for 2021. Ryan will get the years worth of calendar appointments sent to everyone.
- b) Next Meeting: 12/7/20 via Zoom webinar (Combined PAC/TAC/CAC meeting)

ADJOURN – 9:50 a.m.