

WASHINGTON COUNTY
Behavioral Health Council
April 24, 2024

Meeting Attendance:

- **Members Present:** Kim Cooper, Marcia Hille, Jennifer Yonker, Karen James, Carol Greenough, Laura Vances, Mary Monnat, Dave Mowry
- **Members Absent:** Steven Young, Colin McCoy, Francesca Sinapi (provides notification regularly), Sean Fields (provides notification of absences regularly), Larysa Thomas,
- **Staff Present:** Nick Ocón, BH Director; Ian May, BH Program Manager; Kathy Prenevost, Addictions Supervisor; Jasmine Cuddigan, Administrative Specialist II; Heather Owens, Program Specialist
- **Guests Present:** Sally Reid, Kim Krause, Brian Decker, Ashley Marsh, Holly Greener

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m.

- With the chair and vice chair absent, Nick Ocón acted as chair for today's meeting as approved by the council members in attendance. We had 7 members present for the first hour of the meeting and 8 members present the second hour of the meeting.
- February Minutes were Approved/Adopted when a quorum was present.

Bylaws Update

- Bylaws have been approved and voted in.
- Board has agreed to have a member attend BHC Meetings. This will begin in the fall after the election per the Board of Commissioners. Letter was approved and sent to the Board.

Program Updates

Addictions

- Kathy is retiring August 1.
- Fentanyl Situation in our Community: Kudos to Naomi and Care Oregon, who have been working very hard to mitigate deaths caused by fentanyl.
 - Naomi Hunsaker – OD response and surveillance has been working diligently alongside public health and ER partners to prevent OD in this county through education and blasting Narcan out into the county agencies working with this population.
 - Proposal to get \$\$ from Care Oregon resulted in an award of \$1,389,000 for OD Prevention
 - Funds will be shared with WCSO & countywide police agencies for purchase of – supplies (Narcan and Mass Spectrometer) – which will allow police agencies to determine what each fentanyl pill is made up of.
 - The Corrections Department will also get part of the funds for purchasing Narcan and training for deputies.
 - The Division will publish and RFP to select a provider that will distribute Narcan/naloxone. The RFP will be awarded to a provider that knows how to distribute Narcan.

- Continuing to establish funding for entities that work with the at-risk folks.
 - Some of the funds will go to contingency management for Parole Officers to incentivize clients to show up for appointments.
- A lot of clients are taking more than one dose of Naloxone to revive - some are taking up to 8 doses. The goal is to get enough Narcan into patrol cars, jail facility and other agencies to be able to revive any person who needs it.

Legislative Updates:

CMHP (Community Mental Health Program)

- House Bill 4002 – Possession of a controlled substance will be an unclassified misdemeanor effective 9/1/24– step below step C Misdemeanor
 - 9.8-million-dollar investment in Jail Diversion
 - County actively working on developing the Deflection Program – Goal is for individuals who are cited to not enter the court system
 - Submitted grant yesterday for first tranche of 4002 money.
 - State using measure 110 formula for this, just under 1.4 million dollars will be allocated to the County.
- CATT – 8.9 million dollars received in legislative session – fully closed capital gap
 - Additional funds for staffing and hiring for programs that will be operated.
- New OHA Director has been touring the state and hearing from Oregonians and Community MH programs what the needs are – elevated needs:
 - sustainable and ongoing funding
 - supporting and maintaining workforce.
- CCO (Coordinated Care Organizations) Update – Bonnie Holdahl will be here in MAY – what info and data can she prepare in advance of that meeting. Email to Nick.
 - The CCO’s manage Medicaid benefits for Oregonians on OHP. Working on 1115 Waiver.
 - Housing benefit will have a narrow eligible population that was defined by CMS (Center for Medicaid Services)
 - Individuals who meet HUD definition for at risk homelessness
 - 1 clinical risk factor
 - Up to 6 months of support for rental assistance and utilities.
 - Care Oregon is funding a position in the jail that is housed with us – Care Coordination for folks that are presumptive Care Oregon members and will be in jail providing care coordination while they are there and 90 days after – bridge communication gap between providers and these people.
 - Marcia Hille from Sequoia Health – they are fully staffed and have capacity for new clients.

Member Absences and Officer Nominations:

- Council discussed how to handle members extended unexcused absences from BHC meetings?
 - New members and recommendations have been put forth to the Board of Commissioners and those recommended members are at the table today. Council continued to choose to wait until May when the new members are approved to discuss Vice Chair recommendations.
 - Council made the decision to notify members with unexcused absences, via letter, of the attendance policy first, then if they are not at next meeting, they will be requested to resign.

- Members clarified that the rules stated that a single additional unreported absence would result in a request to resign (not only if identified members missed the May meeting).
- Next meeting if there is a no-show/no-communication we will need to nominate a new chair and vice-chair.

Member update:

- **Carol** – 65 families at Tualatin Promise Shelter– contacted Ian and Kathy and they have engaged the BH division being available to provide services and support our case managers - Kudos to Ian & Kathy!
- **Marcia** – Is it possible to have someone from supporting housing services to attend our meetings? Medicaid waiver information – would be nice to have more information.
- **Jennifer Yonker** - Volunteer appreciation celebration tomorrow – come and celebrate.
- **Sally Reid:** Change of direction at Heartwood Commons. Independent living now. Saddened by this because that was not the purpose of that building. Permanent supportive housing will be less funded. System has told clients they have something for them, but only if they behave. This place was good because they did not have restrictions like that. There is nothing else out there for this population. Another good reason to have housing at the table.

Budget Update: Nick Ocón presented Budget PowerPoint – Mjere’s presentation.

Final Announcements

- Nick will keep an eye on his inbox for issues elevated to him for Bonnie to address at the next meeting.
- Nick will be emailing Stephen and Colin about their absences and notify them that one more absence will result in them being asked to resign per Council request.
- Next meeting will be May 29th, note the change of meeting date.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am

Minutes respectfully submitted by Nick Ocón