

**WASHINGTON COUNTY**  
**Behavioral Health Council**  
**Wednesday**  
**February 28, 2024**

**Present:** Kim Cooper, Mary Monnat, Danielle Berner, Marcia Hille, Jennifer Yonker, Karen James, Stephanie Rose, Dave Mowry, Carol Greenough, Laura Vances, Larysa Thomas, J. Sean Fields

**Absent:** Francesca Sinapi, Steven Young, Rebecca Jones, Colin McCoy, Eric Schmidt

**Staff:** Nick Ocón, BH Director; Ian May, BH Program Manager; Kathy Prenevost, Addictions Supervisor; Theodora Gill, Administrative Specialist II; Jasmine Cuddigan, Administrative Specialist II; Anne Larson, Program Coordinator; Mary Schalinske, Adult Specialty Supervisor; Nicole Stingh, Housing Services

**Guests:** Sally Reid, Kim Crouse, Brian Decker, Ashely Marsh

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

With the chair being out and the vice chair absent Nick Ocón acted as chair for today's meeting as approved by the council members in attendance.

**Program Updates:**

**Addictions**

- Center for Addictions Triage and Treatment (CATT) Update:
  - Community building will be breaking ground in two months.
    - This building will function as a behavioral resource network helping connect the community to services.
  - Intensive services building will be breaking ground this summer.
    - Plan is to have 84 residential beds for individuals receiving treatment services.
- BHRN measure 110 funding:
  - With the funding from measure 110 the BHRN has coordinated to help facilitation provider collaboration. This has resulted in a semimonthly meeting between 19 providers (30 individuals) to help support the community.
  - Providers are working with the WC housing authorities to provide support to community in need
  - There has been an increase in culturally specific treatment provider coordination.
    - Monthly meeting to identify and address cultural barriers to treatment.
  - Providers organized a provider day for networking and developing a better sense of community
    - Coordination between providers encourages the development of more services in outlying towns.

### **CMHP (Community Mental Health Program)**

- Washington County Behavioral Health has approved the contract sent it down for processing. There were challenges with funding formula for aid and assist programs and have been assured by the state that upon execution of the contract, the program will get the same funding as the last year plus an adjustment for inflation.
  - 2025 agreement is already being worked on for funding to support community members.
- Budget was submitted last week for review by the board of commissioners
  - Reduction of two to four thousand dollars in crisis funding in comparison to previously expected one hundred thousand reduction.
- February 15 BH was able to sign the attestation that they are meeting all the OARs around the mobile crisis program.
  - Providing a two person, overnight, co-response team for individuals that contact the mobile crisis program
  - Program separate from the Mental Health Response team which includes coordination with law enforce
- Council brought up the lawsuit in which the Washington County was made regarding the MHRT
  - Council member Karen advised she has written a letter to the board of commissioners
  - Nick Ocón will send Washington County's statement regarding the lawsuit to the board members.
- Hawthorn team continues to have staffing challenges but is staffed enough to expand to Sunday and is maintaining previous operating hours 9 am to 3 pm, Monday through Friday.
  - Crisis line is able to identify times for community members to access services at Hawthorn outside of the hours when doors are unlocked for walk ins.
  - They are open on Sunday for limited hours but working on Saturday coverage.

### **Bylaws Update**

- Subcommittee met February 6<sup>th</sup> to review bylaws. They went line through each of the bylaws and discussed input provided by the members that were not in attendance.
- Council voted to approve the version of the bylaws as revised by subcommittee nine in favor and two against.
- Karen will email all council members with the suggested letter to the board requesting that they have a board member present at the BHC meetings.

### **Housing Presentation**

- Nicole Stingh, Marcy Schalinske and Anne Larson presented the Housing Continuum and Housing Types PowerPoint

### **Final Announcements**

- With the resignation of the chair and the vice chair moving up to chair there was a discussion to vote for a new vice chair. The BHC decided that they would like to wait to vote until new members have joined.

**The meeting was adjourned at 10:59 am**

December's and January's minutes approved

**Minutes respectfully submitted by Theodora Gill, Administrative Specialist II**