

**WASHINGTON COUNTY**  
**Behavioral Health Council**  
**Wednesday**  
**April 26, 2023**

**Present:** Kim Cooper, Mary Monnat, Danielle Berner, Marcia Hille, Jennifer Yonker, Karen James, Dave Mowry, Rebecca Jones, Carol Greenough, Colin McCoy, Eric Schmidt, Laura Vences, Larysa Thomas, Steven Youngs

**Absent:** Francesca Sinapi, Stephanie Rose, Tammy Dowd Shearer, Sean Fields

**Staff:** Nick Ocon, BH Director; Ian May, Behavioral Health Program Supervisor; Kathy Prenevost, Addictions Program Supervisor Aika Fallstrom, Program Specialist

**Guests:** Sally Reid

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

**Public/Visitor Comment:** There was a comment provided by visitor. Sally Reid, who gave a quick testimony on the experience of her son under Aid & Assist.

Welcome to our newest BHC members: Jennifer Yonker, Francesca Sinapi, Laura Vences, and Tammy Dowd Shearer

Current BHC members being reappointed: Karen James, Eric Schmidt, Marcia Hille, Kim Cooper, Carol Greenough

**Program Updates:**

**CMHP (Community Mental Health Program)**

- We are working with current and new providers, hoping to add some culturally specific community-based organizations (CBO) to our network for services.
- The Association of Community Mental Health Programs (AOCMHP) is working to help elevate the costs for safety net services (crisis, commitment services, and Aid & Assist, as examples)
- Mobile Crisis Changes
  - There is a new requirement that mobile crisis services will need to be added to the Certificate of Approval (COA) between now and 2024.
  - There is a new rule requiring a 2 person team to go out on each call (24/7)- this will need to be operationalized by 2024.
- Aid & Assist Update
  - Since the passage of the order by Judge Mosman, there has been an increase in clients going to/coming from the Oregon State Hospital and being restored in the community.

- Washington County is currently at 54 clients, but there may likely be another increase.
- We are currently in conversation with the State for updated contracts, but it has been stated that liability protection will not be a part of these conversations. There is also conversations about removing language pertaining to available funding.

### **CCO (Coordinated Care Organizations)**

- There will be a representative from CareOregon who will attend our meetings on a quarterly basis beginning in September.
- We are currently working with CareOregon to see if there can a position within the county jail, but its appearing that it may be a county position with CareOregon funding, not a CareOregon employee.

### **Addictions**

- We have 15 contracted providers and are beginning the contract process for fiscal year (FY) 2023-2024 with those providers
- CATT Project Update
  - The Community Services Building (located off of Elam Young Parkway) is being envisioned as a service hub which will have: outpatient services, pharmacy, supportive housing services, Hawthorn crisis services, county behavioral health services, and a peer run drop-in center
  - There was a small group of peers who provided feedback on how the drop-in center should operate. Their feedback was:
    - To have good representation of equity, diversity, and inclusion and to make it a welcome environment for anyone.
    - One organization should be the main organization, but to coordinate with other organizations to use the space effectively.
  - We are close to picking a general contractor for this project (and they will be doing both buildings- Evergreen and Elam Young)
  - Projected Openings for both buildings: Elam Young (Winter 2024) and Evergreen (Spring 2025)

### **Member Updates/Sharing**

- Karen James- there are salmon colored Mission, Vision, and Value sheets, please fill them out as you think of potential Mission, Vision, and Values for the BHC
- There was a request for a Nalaxone/Narcan how-to training which we can explore as a possible retreat topic/presentation.
- For our new members (and current interested members), we will be doing a BH 101 within the next month or so. Please keep an eye out for details.
- Karen solicited ideas for the upcoming member retreat (in August), please reach out to her or Aika Fallstrom if you have ideas or thoughts.

## New/Old Business

- There was a discussion of attendance, and this has been the first time since our February meeting that we have had quorum.
- If members miss two consecutive meetings, we will reach out.
- Some members of the BHC visited juvenile drug court recently.
- Some BHC members also went to the Aloha Inn grand opening, now known as the Heartwood Commons.
- There was a vote on submitting the letter to the Public Safety Coordinating Council (2 nays, 11 yays). The motion passed.

## Legislative Update

- Everyone is looking at the May revenue forecast to make decisions.
- There are some pieces of legislation which are currently in the Ways and Means Committee.
- Here are some bills that the Washington County Governmental Relations Teams and the Association of Community Mental Health Programs are keeping an eye on:
  - [HB 2544](#) - Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Oregon Health Authority for costs related to increasing statewide capacity of licensed residential facilities serving individuals with substance use disorders or mental health concerns.
  - [HB 2651](#) - Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Oregon Health Authority to be used for specified purposes related to expanding behavioral health provider workforce.
  - [HB 2757](#) - Expands and provides funding for coordinated crisis services system including 9-8-8 suicide prevention and behavioral health crisis hotline.
  - [HB 2977](#)- Requires Oregon Health Authority to establish grant program for purpose of distributing moneys to institutions of higher education and organizations that administer training programs to develop training and instructional programs that prepare students to enter into behavioral health workforce.
- Some additional legislation that the AOCMHP is keeping an eye on:
  - **SB 319 Liability**
  - **HB 2543 - Costing of Services: Cost out Bill:** Bill currently has a \$1.2 million dollar fiscal amount from OHA to conduct the study on a regular basis. This bill would cost out core CMHP services, and inform the amounts that would be in the agreement between OHA and the CMHPs. Core services would include Aid and Assist, Civil Commitment, protective services, and others that are in statute.

### **Aid & Assist and Community Restoration Services**

- Sally Reid, guest, shared her son's experiences with Aid & Assist in Washington County.
- Chance Wooley, program supervisor gave an overview of the two programs.
- He explained that on the surface, it may appear that things are happening in a vacuum, but that there is a lot of collaboration going on behind the scenes.
- The current state of Aid & Assist- clients can range from those with misdemeanor charges up to Measure 11 crimes (most serious felonies in Oregon's criminal code- 161.370)
  - Fortunately, there has been language recently added which gives the courts more options (not just to the Oregon State Hospital, but also to Community Restoration or possible dismissal of the charge. The charge dismissal is dependent on several factors such as severity of the crime and/or severity of the client's illness).
  - There is a specific Aid & Assist docket at the Washington County Courthouse on Thursdays and Fridays which hears only those cases.
  - At this time, there are 58 clients at the Oregon State Hospital and 48 clients in Community Restoration.
  - There are times when consultations are needed for community restoration and this year it is projected to have over 500 consultations.
  - There is a new database which went live on 4/24/2023 with the updated timelines (due to the Mosman order)
- This team has been working on planful transitions into the community for those released from the Oregon State Hospital through working with community partners such as: Transcending Hope, Northwest Regional Re-Entry Center, and Community Connect

**The meeting was adjourned at 11:02 a.m.**

**The meeting minutes for February and March have been approved with amendments.**

**Minutes respectfully submitted by Aika Fallstrom, Program Specialist**