

WASHINGTON COUNTY
Behavioral Health Council
September 25th, 2024

Meeting Attendance:

Members Present: Kimberley Krause, Larysa Thomas, Brian Decker, Karen James, Marcia Hille, Dave Mowry, Sally Reid, Carol Greenough, Veronica Gallegos-Lozano, Mary Monnat, Ashley Marsh, Kim Cooper, Jennifer Yonker

Members Absent: J. Sean Fields (resigned effective 9/30), Laura Vences (unable to get connection)

Staff Present: Nick Ocón-Behavioral Health Division Manager; Naomi Hunsaker-Addictions Supervisor; Chance Wooley-Forensic Services Supervisor, Heather Owens-Program Specialist

Guests Present: Juan Pablo Villalobos, Maya Keller, Kiyomi Arbuckle, Bonnie Holdahl

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:00am.

Quorum: There was a quorum of 13 members present for the meeting.

Introductions: There were introductions of members, staff, and guests in person and via Zoom.

Public/Visitor comments if requested: Carol welcomed Sally as the new chair for the council.

August 2024 Minutes

- **MOTION:** Adopt the August minutes as submitted.
- Marcia Hille Moved/ Larysa Thomas Seconded
- All members in attendance voted in favor. / There were no objections.
- August minutes were approved and adopted by a quorum of 13 members.

Program Updates:

Addictions:

Contracts-The addictions program is in the process of renewing approximately 60 general fund contracts. Washington County is working with public health to complete the application for renewal of BHRN funding. Washington County BHRN partners are also reapplying for their funding.

Deflection-Early deflection data showed 68 stand-alone citations, 21 eligible for deflection, and 8 officially joined the deflection program. The numbers increase every week, and the county has had great collaboration with peers from 4th Dimension and MHAAO. The county is hiring a deflection program navigator. The speed with which the program was started after legislation was signed April 1st was impressive. Public safety staff were trained, and individuals are reaching out to participate in the program. It is a big change in what community policing looks like. **Question:** What is the most common reason people are not qualifying for deflection? The primary reason for people to be ineligible is other criminal charges. Deflection is meant to be an early intervention, but there are other avenues to explore for individuals who don't qualify. There was discussion that there may be efforts underway to rethink the eligibility criteria to make it more inclusive. There may be an opportunity for additional data through the Criminal Justice Commission data dashboard or through information from the DA's office. Naomi reported that it will take some time data to be analyzed and into these dashboards. Currently the DA's office is not public facing. The data within Washington

County could be different than other areas due to the method used to follow and wrap around participants to make sure they are engaged.

CATT- Nick, along with Kristin Burke, took the county commissioners on a tour of the Hillsboro CATT location. This Hillsboro location is fully framed and has sheet rock. The Beaverton location is also fully under construction, and the foundation has been laid for the residential portion.

M110 Funding- The application to continue funding is live and awards will last four years. All current recipients, including Washington County, must reapply to continue receiving funding. Contracts for this funding come directly from the State of Oregon. The formula used to determine county level funding amounts was changed in July of 2024. This resulted in less funding available to Washington County. There was an additional funding reduction after a data error was discovered. There may be a legislative update next month, and Nick reports that they are focused on the funding formulas and how it will impact the department. Naomi reported that they are creating a document that will be presented to address how the criteria can be stigmatizing, along with suggestions for solutions. There is a new requirement in the application limiting overhead to 10%, which is a problem as most agencies' overhead is at least 15%. Washington County is trying to advocate, but there is not a clear process to uplift these concerns.

Community Mental Health Program:

The county is rolling out a new platform for public agendas, minutes and notices for all board and county meetings. The system is called iCompass/iAgenda. A demonstration was done for the members and a link will be sent out. All applications to the boards and commissions will continue to live in Granicus.

i/Compass link: [Washington County - Home \(civicweb.net\)](https://www.washingtoncounty.gov/civicweb.net)

There will be some changes with the 2025-2027 contracting cycle. The state is proposing a 2-year agreement with performance monitoring over 6 years. There will be discussion about what is measured over the 6-year period. The overall goal will be to reduce the 30-40 specific service elements down to six core service areas to get more flexibility on how the funding is spent. The hope is to have a full draft by November for review. Once approved, the cycle will start July 2025. Once challenge is to ensure that the reporting and measures are meaningful and not to administratively burdensome. The reporting and data will likely have ties to both local and statewide plans.

Oregon House Bill 4092: Oregon Health Authority hired an actuary to lead the cost analysis to determine what funding is required for each CMHP to provide the services and functions required by statute. The report must be completed by January 2025. It will look at actual costs to operate versus what the current funding is, without being sure if they will have the budget to fully fund what is discovered. It can look different in other areas as some CMHPs provide the services themselves versus contracting.

Washington County partnered with Care Oregon and Trillium to support Adelante Mujeres in opening a culturally specific clinic. It is called Clinica Esperanza and is located in downtown Hillsboro.

Oregon Health Plan/CCOs: See Care Oregon Presentation

BH Division Budget Process: See CMHP Update

Care Oregon Presentation (see provided PowerPoint for details):

Going forward, the goal is to provide more support for complex cases: co-morbidity, SUD, MH, overdose, suicide risk, lots of hospital use and homelessness. Individuals can get care more quickly. Care Oregon will be implementing a new QI incentive program and making their directory more user-friendly.

There was discussion of support for school aged children and support after the effects of the pandemic. Care Oregon focused on scaling up youth substance use services and learning events across the area. If anyone would like to contact Bonnie Holdahl her email address is: holdahl@careoregon.org .

Officer Nominations for 2025

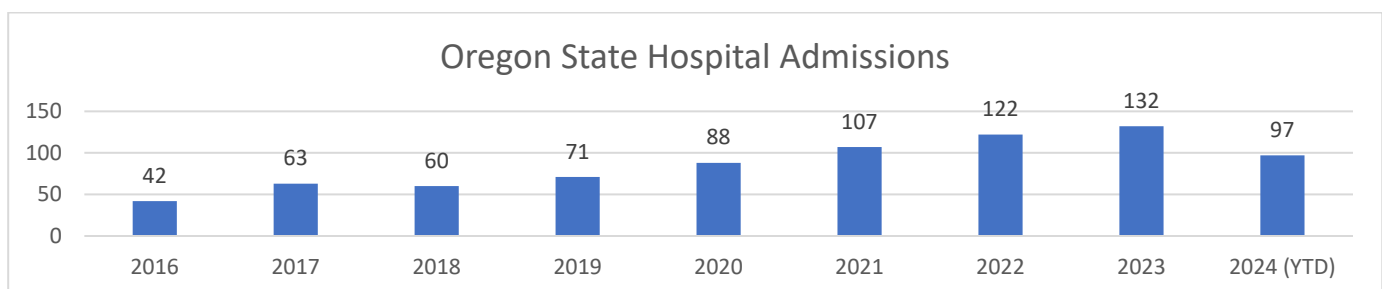
- **MOTION:** To enter a nomination for Sally Reid to the Chair position and Brian Decker to the Vice-Chair position.
 - Carol Greenough Moved/ Larysa Thomas Seconded
 - All members in attendance voted in favor. / There were no objections.
 - The motion passed and a vote will take place at the December meeting.

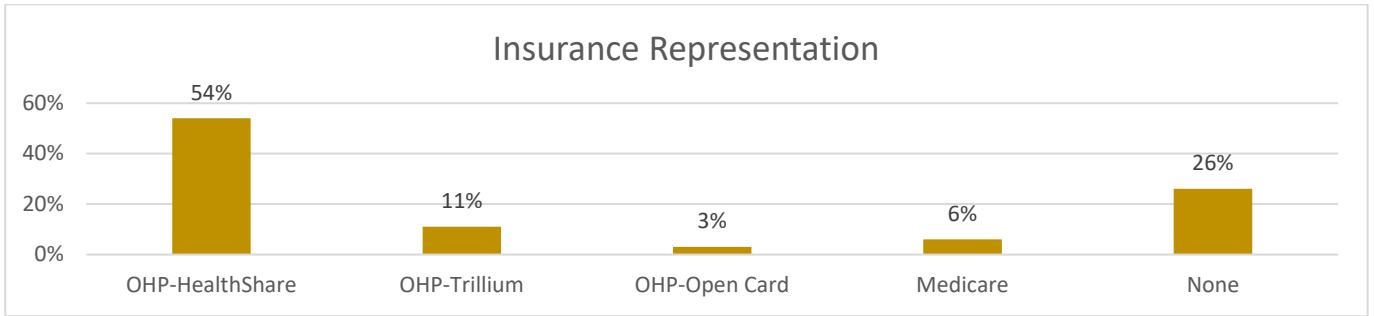
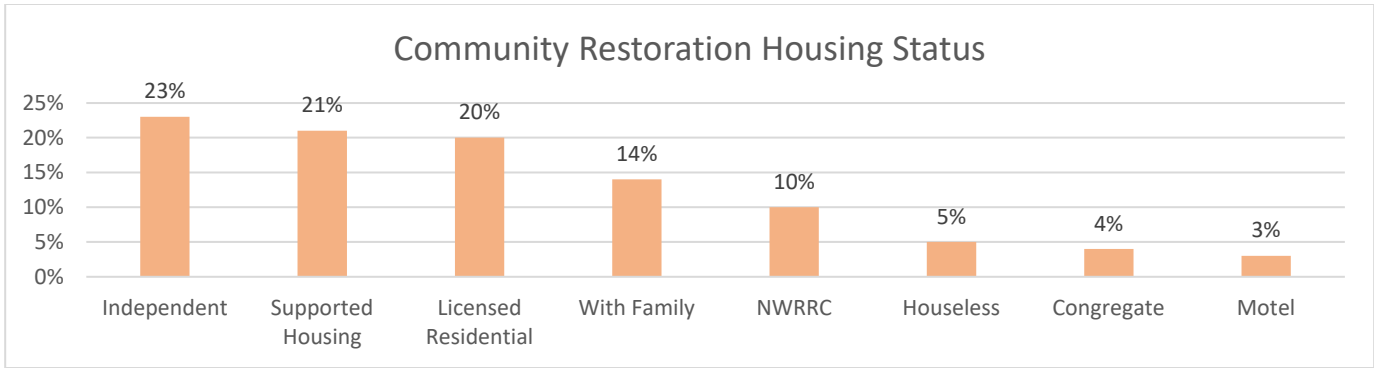
Member Updates/Sharing:

- Dave Mowry reported that NAMI is excited about programming in high schools and colleges. These trainings will assist the community to understand what peer services are and give an opportunity to support students and connect with outside services if needed.
- The members discussed having a representative from housing present at the meetings due to the connection between behavioral health, housing, public health and public safety. Nick will work with housing on how to get someone to attend.
- There is a request for a County Commissioner to attend the meetings as per the bylaws, and Nick reports that the request is at the CAO office. Nick will reach back out to the CAO and ask for a timeline.
- Members asked about the status of the crisis team. They are providing monthly reports on two-person crisis responses. The crisis team has some staff vacancies as there is difficulty finding QMHP level clinicians willing to join ACT, Crisis, EASA, etc. There is national data that shows counselor need to grow 19% in the next year, which is greater than any other profession. Some staffing difficulties arise from licensing requirements and online counseling services. There will be discussions at upcoming legislative sessions to determine who can bill Medicaid without a license without being a part of a certificate holding agency.

Aid and Assist Presentation:

Chance Wooley, Forensic Services Supervisor, gave a history of aid and assist. The overall goal was to reduce the number of individuals unable to get moved from jail to the state hospital. The program is focused on those individuals with a severe and persistent mental illness (Schizophrenia, Schizoaffective, Bipolar, etc.) There were rules passed to require movement from jail to the state hospital within 7 days. Aid and assist was started in 2016 to help individuals transition out of the state hospital. A subject matter expert has been working with the state to meet the goals since 2021. Dr Pinals meets with stakeholders often and offered a time limit of maximum stay at the state hospital of one year for Measure 11 crimes, 6 months for non-Measure 11 crimes, and 90 days for everyone else. Chance has 7 people that make up his aid and assist program. The court has a special docket for these cases on Thursdays and Fridays. Caseloads are between 80-90 at any given time in community restoration, 54-60 at Oregon State Hospital and 25-30 who have newly entered the aid and assist system (about to be ordered into the program by the court). 55% of those ordered into the program were houseless at arrest.





Substance Use: Since 2023, substance use is being tracked. 55% of individuals were likely using when they were arrested. 40% of those meth, 6% alcohol, and there has been a slight decrease in arrests for meth use.

Provider Linkage: 83% are Sequoia clients, 17% are Lifeworks, and no New Narrative. 42% of local clients are served by Polaris which is a peer run program operated by New Narrative.

Outcomes: 49% of client were found able, 45% cases were dismissed, and 5% were found never able. Once a case is dismissed, they are no longer tracked. Recidivism will be added to the tracking for future data. Forensics staff are in the jail to look for people who may need assistance. Virtually everyone in the state hospital is from the jail. One community option would be to develop some secure residential facilities to offer additional avenues. Of the 983 residential beds in the state, there are only 2-3 openings at any given time. There is a push to increase residential facilities, but nothing tied to secure housing. There will also need to be additional workforce to staff these additional homes. Another option is to make the guardianship process easier, as this has been successful in several cases.

Membership Update and November/December meeting schedule:

Sean Fields submitted his resignation effective 9/30. When the new bylaws were adopted, the membership decreased from 19 to 15 voting members. With this resignation, the membership is closer to the new membership number. The group discussed the possibility of revising the application for membership at a future meeting.

The group agreed to combine the November and December meetings. There will be a vote by email conducted to determine the date.

Meeting Wrap Up: The meeting was adjourned at 10:58a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Heather Owens.