



## *Behavioral Health Advisory Council*

### *Meeting Minutes*

*November 13, 2020*

Conducted via Zoom Conference

**Friday, November 13, 2020**

***Zoom Meeting Video:***

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Nx-ip-0WeJYgvf3VWXRCuoc3wHeP2sH-/view>

***Website is updated:***

<https://sites.google.com/wyo.gov/bhac/home>

**Council Members Present (online or phone):**

Paul, Amanda, Andy, Ben, Brenda, Cassie, Chassity, Cheri, Donna, Jessi, Jo Ann, Kat, Michaela, Rob, Sharon, Sue, Sunny, Trudy

**Behavioral Health Staff (non-Member):**

Erica, Megan

**Public Members:** R. Doug Bebout

**Excused:** Haley, Sherry

**Guests:** Bill Rein (WSH), Lana Mahoney (Recover Wyoming)

**Meeting Minutes -**

***Modification to the Agenda:*** None

***Approval of Minutes:***

Moved by: Trudy Funk

Second by: Robert Johnston

**Thoughts from the Chair, Paul Demple**

Paul - In regards to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19, also known as COVID) - Trying to stay aware and balance to be open to provide services and protective over current individuals. As COVID cases increase, Northern moving back to telehealth. Staff of 35 are able to provide services. Tier model per severity of crisis and currently in Step 4. Cranking up in Sheridan. Biggest thing is testing. Want more positive tests (nasal), suggesting that any COVID symptoms, to please stay home. Seeing a drop of outpatients with the move to telehealth. Job is to sit with lots of people. Northern has been using space within a church for clients. With the challenge of workforce, don't need staff getting sick. But managing to be there for services. Individual services at Johnson County Jail – may go back to telehealth. Crook County is all set up for telehealth. Not an absolute fix, but helps.

Paul asks Trudy for her thoughts on the WAMHSAC meeting.

Trudy – Community Mental Health Centers (CMHC) and Substance Abuse Centers (SAC) acted similar but different in regards to COVID. Despite the differences, all have continued to provide services. Following Public Health recommendations: Red Zone = no one in the office; Orange Zone = In Office. Have been able to provide services. Adapting to Zoom. Urine testing – really missing the boat. Key for intensive outpatient (IOP) counseling. Having to contract out to provide services. CMHC/SACs are tired, but no one is giving up. Going well despite changes in the world.



## *Behavioral Health Advisory Council*

### *Meeting Minutes*

*November 13, 2020*

Conducted via Zoom Conference

Paul – Thank you Trudy. Telehealth is here to stay. Some resistance in some counties, especially before COVID. Though since COVID, has shown that telehealth works. Example: Hulett respective – crisis in school. Able to have someone jump online in 5 minutes versus jumping into a vehicle and driving to the school. County Public Health is clear in some counties and not others which brings its own challenges in regards to what to do and what need to do. Questions? (None) Moving on to Ben.

#### **MHSAS Update, Ben Kifer**

No real staff changes. A&I is not approving the expansion of “use it or lose it” time. Staff who are in the situation are taking time due to that. No employee’s loss at this time, in regards to the tier three of budget cuts.

House Bill 31 (HB31) – Referral / Release of Information almost complete. Reentry, intake and warm hand-offs before release. Delay on the Council of State Government for training – due to changes in grant system. January 11 – 12 ASAM training for DOH, DOC, and staff. Combine Leadership Training available. Cultural Professional Training available. Moving on to work with field offices. New bills and payments. Priority population, specifically justice involved population is number one. Falling back to HB31. Encouraged by the relationship between those involved in HB31.

Paul – Representative Wilson, could you talk on system, resources. How do you see moving forward?

Representative Wilson – Bill prioritization came from subcommittee. Going to have another meeting, TBD, possibly around the 31<sup>st</sup>, December 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup>. Prioritization component, comfortable at that level. State General Funds (SGF) should be put to this population, not to say less on the other populations. As in the Bill about specification Department of Health (DOH) and possibly with Department of Family Services (DFS) meet with stakeholders. Point to committee, for Labor Health vs Joint Appropriation Committee (JAC). Addressing severe needs and address community services. Letter to Governor about the state employee leave.

Paul – All Wyomingites have a different outlook and all are effected. Have been involved. Can go to Labor Health or leg.gov web page and encourage feedback. Thank you for your thoughts Representative. [ZOOM RECORDING START] Comments/Concerns? Michaela?

Michaela – Trying to reduce relapse rate. Created a client engagement. Communicable disease and group, making contact. Fair success. People want to make changes in life, with COVID, individuals experience feelings of isolation and feeling scared.

Paul – Local pharmacies are conducting a 15 minute rapid test, meaning individuals can get a result in 15 – 20 minutes. Waivers for financial challenge and completed in parking lot, as to not require people to cogitate inside the building. Individuals travel from Buffalo to Sheridan. There were many false negatives, causing confusion for many. State of Wyoming, Public Health Division is offering in-home tests and corps can get for staff.



## *Behavioral Health Advisory Council*

### *Meeting Minutes*

*November 13, 2020*

Conducted via Zoom Conference

If you would like a FREE at-home test, please use the instructions on the following web page:

<https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/infectious-disease-epidemiology-unit/disease/novel-coronavirus/covid-19-at-home-testing/>

Michaela – Took the Vault test (above company supplying free tests). Checks RNA in saliva, takes good amount of spit and is conducted over Zoom. Can't eat or drink 30 minutes before. Fill at least a third of the test tube, and it's pretty quick.

Doug – Riverton has 15 minute tests.

Paul – Mitigation and CDC protocols. Governor trying to spend CARES Act money. Trying to give \$5M to CMHC/SACs. AG has signed, but don't know of protocol and rules. Getting out the door and needs out the door by December 31<sup>st</sup>. Department meets difficulty. Waiting to hear more. Moving forward to the discussion with Bill Rein, the Wyoming State Hospital Administrator.

#### **Title 25 and Changes to the Wyoming State Hospital (WSH), Bill Rein, WSH Administrator**

Bill presented his ideas and understanding of the changes in Title 25. Please listen to the recording for further information, from 00:09:05 – 01:25:17. Bill will be leaving the WSH and Paul Mullenax will be stepping in.

Discussion between 1:14:22 – 1:25:17

#### **Mental Health and Schools Open Discussion, Highlights from Council Member Jo Ann Numoto**

Wyoming Department of Education applied for the Project to Advance Wellness and Resiliency in Education (AWARE) Grant. Recording time from 01:25:18 – 1:53:14.

Jo Ann - September / October invite to key players. Implementation will be over the next year. Invite players in about a year (4<sup>th</sup> quarter meeting) on (1) what they saw and (2) what they learned.

Jo Ann works for the Department of Education, working with students who are court ordered.

Collaboration with Department of Education (DOE), DFS, and DOH, which can be conflicting. But the increase collaboration was by and through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the opportunities for other agencies to apply for grants. Previously though that SAMHSA was only for the Behavioral Health Division or mental health and substance services, but the grants are not.

AWARE Grants opened, Education would be the lead, and the Health agency would be a supporter. The first round of applying, Wyoming was not chosen. In the second round (2018, due date was in April), the team came to aid – Erica Mathews specifically. With that, had opportunities to meet people and offered to be a part of the project.



## *Behavioral Health Advisory Council*

### *Meeting Minutes*

*November 13, 2020*

Conducted via Zoom Conference

School based services ready and reliable in school systems. In Wyoming systems, the Admins are protective over student information, and so cautionary to give out the information. Before COVID there were kids – some who received help, some who did not. One place worked with was the Navaho Nation. Huge state but not many people. With SAMHSA grant, there are some challenges between long streets and roads, big cities, little towns, inability due to weather and travel conditions, transportation, and other reasons for family and students. All comes under the umbrella.

Collaboration to help to write grant in August / September 2020, and were Subrecipient. \$1.8M for 5 years, totaling \$9M. 85 pages of grant opportunity in Notice of Award (NOA).

Three agencies to commit to regulations:

- (1) Campbell County
- (2) Fremont 1 - Lander
- (3) Park 1 – Powell

Three Mental Health providers willing to agree:

- (1) Youth Emergency Services House
- (2) Fremont Counseling
- (3) Yellowstone – Best example to get a resource in Powell.

Other Contributors and Supporters:

- (1) Ben Kifer, from Behavioral Health Division
- (2) WDE Coordinator
- (3) DOH Project Lead

Contracts have not been sent out yet. There will be reporting forms and tracking involved.

15 Districts asked, 5 responded. 2 could not perform – (1) Using CARES Act dollars, created own system. (2) Fremont due to tribal school – business council. Conflict in inner discussion. Before divide and they dissolved. Still interested – Fremont 1 will include all county.

Many individuals apart of the group.

While reading opportunity – statewide MH – get it set up in standardize process to work together. Starting small, working together for success. How to become statewide. All the Council members and all stakeholders. Secrets in how well they're doing – would be great to learn what works to be successful with modification. No asking for money but how to maintain money. COVID has opened up doors for (1) telehealth; (2) groups; (3) districts. Things being shared statewide and can be used and modified. Startup could be used to work together between MH and kids. Results seen with adults who care. Who and what they become. Thanks for the opportunities.

Doug – Montana state system. Tele-court. Starlight facility. Might be a good resource.

Jo Ann – Thank you.



## *Behavioral Health Advisory Council*

### *Meeting Minutes*

*November 13, 2020*

Conducted via Zoom Conference

Sharon – CRMC, getting medical clinical facilities- counties might be open to MH. Please contact Sharon for contact information.

Jo Ann – Entities in school door, open eyes for all other schools to possibly doing it, too.

Paul – Thank you. Next Lana Mahoney from Recover Wyoming.

### **Forensic Peer Specialist, Lana Mahoney, Recover Wyoming Interim Ex. Director and Training Coordinator**

Lana Mahoney presented a PowerPoint on Forensic Peer Specialist. It was very informative and can be found on the recording from 01:53:15 – 02:26:16.

Lana will be Interim Executive Director for Recover Wyoming. Milward Simpson has left for another position in Colorado. Lana will also be joining the Council. Welcome Lana! Lana – Person long term, CPS – Peer Specialist. Volunteer in 2011 and a variety of roles.

Forensic Peer Training – Referred to as Peer Specialist of the courts.

Topics:

- What are Peer Specialists?
- Recover Wyoming Peer Training.
- Who are Forensic Peer Specialists?
- Forensic Peer Support and what they can do.
- Sequential intercept model (5 intercepts).

Discussion from 2:23:08 – 2:32:18

### **Questions?**

Can be found on the recording from 02:32:18 – 2:36:19

Brenda – Membership update?

Megan – Working with the Governor’s Office now, they recently sent a request to all the Councils and asked for assistances. (Update – all Council Members have been notified of their status).

Sharon – Family First Action update – Trainings happening in early December and January.

Paul – When ready, send the information to Megan to get on the next agenda.

### **Next BHAC Meeting**

Can be found on the recording from 2:36:20 – 2:52:38



## *Behavioral Health Advisory Council*

### *Meeting Minutes*

*November 13, 2020*

Conducted via Zoom Conference

No dates were discussed. Half days are working. Asking for a later start, 9AM.

Doodle Poll will be sent out. Please complete, if you have not to this link:

[https://doodle.com/poll/a4iscyh7fvsicc5?utm\\_source=poll&utm\\_medium=link](https://doodle.com/poll/a4iscyh7fvsicc5?utm_source=poll&utm_medium=link)

Doug – (Ideas for meetings) [Drew's Decision](#) and Mari' from Drew's Decision.

Donna – Drew's Decision. Insight on COVID affects and Suicidology. Also, [Grace for 2 Brothers](#), if Mari' cannot attend.

Side Discussion on tax on alcohol: 2:43:56 – 2:52:11

Megan – (Idea) Goals and objectives of Council (please find on the [webpage](#)).

#### **Public Comment**

Can be found on the recording from 2:52:40 – 2:53:19

None.

#### **Adjourned**

Can be found on the recording from 2:53:20 – 2:53:58

Moved by: Donna

Second by: Doug