**Beaverhead County Mental Health Local Advisory Council**

January 11, 2019 from **Noon - 2:00 p.m.**

Tom Welch Meeting Room – County Treasurer’s Building

**Members present:** Rick Hartz, Tom Rice, Jennifer Malone, Katherine Patton, Kim Martinell, Melainya Ryan, and Wallace Arney.

**Members absent:** Jerry Girard and Heidi Gjefle.

**Others present:** Lynn Weltzien, Molly Molloy, Beth Wharton, Bill Knox, Jeanette Prodgers, Kathy Contway, Jessica Petritz, Sue Hansen, and Jamie Flynn.

**Introductions -**

Lynn called the meeting to order and participants went around the table and introduced themselves. There were 7 of 9 members present so a quorum was established. We now have two (2) vacancies on the LAC.

Lynn made an announcement regarding the Garth Haugland scholarship that was started by the hospital after he passed away. She reminded the group that the LAC had asked to sponsor this with the hospital but they chose not to have a sponsoring partner. The hospital also limited the scholarship to students entering the field of medicine. Jenny Given has continued to influence the foundation and was recently able to get them to open the scholarship to include students entering the field of behavioral health. This is a huge step for integration! She encouraged the group to refer graduating high school seniors and college students and to contact Brooke Erb for details.

Lynn made an announcement concerning Dennis Mohatt from the WICHE Behavioral Health program. Together with the University of South Dakota and University of Reno-Nevada, WICHE was awarded a 5-year SAMSHA grant for regional mental health technology dissemination. Our LAC has been invited to be on the advisory council for this grant. Katherine will be our representative. February 5th will be the first meeting in Denver. However, Lynn will be attending because Katherine will be at a conference for the BetheChange406 Coalition.

**Approval of Minutes**of the December 14th, 2018 meeting.

MOTION: Rick moved to approve the minutes from the December 14th, 2018 meeting. Kim seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Budget and Annual Activity Reports –** Lynn Weltzien

Lynn gave an update on the budget with little change from last month. As the LAC voted last month to use some of the operating budget for suicide prevention PSA’s through the holidays there was a bill for $63 from the radio in December. We also decided we would sponsor 10 people at $30.00 each for the ASIST program. UMW Outreach has submitted a $300 invoice, which will also come from the operating budget. We were reminded that we have earmarked some funds for the Resource Assistance Center promotion. In rounded figures, we currently have:

$2,000 in Operating budget

$17,000 in Summit budget

$2,425 from United Way grant.

$10,900 for new curriculum ROCC

$4,900 in Headwaters grant

$37,863.65 - TOTAL

Lynn has been working on the annual activity report for 2018 and has 3-1/2 pages so far on what was done. She said we had a really busy year due to our focus on the public service closures in addition to other work. Lynn will finish it and send it to Jamie to send out to members for editing suggestions when it is complete. Afterwards, it will be posted on our Webpage. Rick needs it to take to WSAA the last week of the month.

**Chair, Co-chair and Board Member Selection –**

Lynn reported that she received notice from Jenny Given that BHH is discussing whom to appoint to fill Cynthia White’s position. There is also another consumer slot open. The LAC needs to think about who would be good for this role and encourage them to apply. They would need to send a letter of interest to Cindy Decker. Lynn said she had also visited with Jerry who said he prefers to remain co-chair but was willing to be the chair. Katherine confirmed.

Rick said that he would like to nominate Jerry. Katherine seconded the nomination. Lynn asked twice for any other nominations. Rick ceased nominations and Tom seconded. Lynn asked for the vote. The nomination passed unanimously for Jerry Girard to be Chairman of the LAC.

Lynn will meet with Jerry and pass all the LAC information onto him.

Co-chair nominations. Lynn asked for nominations. Heidi Gjefle’s name was nominated. It was discussed and tabled until next month, as she is not here to accept or decline. Lynn will talk to Heidi about this and the nomination will be voted on next month.

**SSA and WSAA Report-** Rick Hartz

Rick had no report. January 24th is the next date for the meeting. He was unable to attend the December meeting.

Katherine asked to have a **Legislative Update** added to each agenda for the next four months, while they are in session. She reviewed information on two handouts. One is on the process for passage of a bill. The other handout is from the WSAA committee and NAMI. Katherine said it is good information. She talked about the assistance of Senator Welborn and Representative Welch. Katherine reviewed the purpose of senate bills 30 and 38 as they relate to mental health. She will send out more information on this as it becomes available and alert us when advocacy is needed.

**Reports from Active Standing Committees**:

**Summit** – Katherine reported the summit is scheduled for October 3rd and 4th. The Planning Committee has a number of potential speakers, which she briefly reviewed. This year’s summit will be called “Face to Face with Trauma, What’s in Your Toolbox”.

**ACE –**

Melainya reported they are continuing education and outreach. They are going to be going to the college to talk to the students. She talked about the documentary, *Screenagers*. They want to show it to all students from 5th grade through 12th grade and to college students. They would like to include Madison County. There will be a preview for teachers and administration at the middle school on January 17th from 5:30 to 7 PM. They are also working with Be The Change coalition.

Melainya also said that the ACE task force has gained permission to work with the Youth ChalleNGe program to teach mindfulness to students and staff.

**Other On-going Business** –

**ASIST Training** – As Beth Wharton had to leave; Lynn reported for her that they now have 25 of the 30 seats for the January training filled. They have awarded all 10 scholarships from the LAC. They have also scheduled another training for June 5-6 to better fit the schedule of teachers and school administrators. The training offers 15 CEU’s and 1 college credit.

**Integrative Healthcare Vision** –No update as Lynn has to find a personal contact number or email for Cynthia as she can no longer be reached at the hospital.

**Resource Assistance Center –**

Jessica Petritz was here to represent OPA this month. She reported that they are serving around 15-16 separate cases each Wednesday but that there are more like an average of 23-25 people in the RAC. This is in part due to family members accompanying the person who needs help. Another factor, however, is that some of the people are in need of help with programs outside OPA’s purview. OPA is able to assist only with SNAP, Medicaid (which there are over 60 programs under the Medicaid umbrella like the Affordable Care Act, Healthy Montana Kids, Spend Down etc.) and TANF.  OPA does not deal with unemployment, social security, Medicare, Job Service, Child Support, LIEAP, Section 8, or any other social program.

The RAC assistant Jewel Johnson quit in November. Lynn reported that Candi Whitworth now helps Wednesdays by assisting the OPA worker and providing help to those who need programs not served by the OPA. We will contract with her for tech support and it will be funded through our Headwaters grant. Candi is working on the bulletin board, upgrading the computers, a numerical system for those waiting, and a staggered lunch hour so the RAC doesn’t have to be closed from noon to 1:00.

**Resilience Oriented Community Curriculum** – This committee will meet January 31st, noon to 2:00 in the DOSC. It was noted that several groups in the community have already been presented a portion of the curriculum, so they will be able to attain championship status more quickly.

**CIT –** Bill Knox

Bill reported the Dillon CIT training will be held March 11th to the 15th. There is more detailed information about the program, in general, at the website, CITmontana.org. There is an enrollment fee of $125 and a limit of 40 people. Bill stated that he and Heidi Gjefle, who is the Dillon mental health coordinator, have met and decided on the exact location. It will be in a classroom near The Cup in the basement of the STC building on the college campus. The planning group need to confirm who from our community can teach the various required sections of the curriculum. Bill commented that Wallace would be great to serve on a required panel of persons with an MI who has had encounters with law enforcement. Wallace commented that he would do this but would also like to attend the whole week, if possible. Lynn said the LAC should consider providing him a scholarship. She clarified that the $500 donation we had previously agreed upon was not for scholarships, but to defray the general costs to the Sheriff’s Department for hosting the event. Lynn also noted that it is her understanding that because of the bonds formed during the training most communities consequently have a strong team of law enforcement and behavioral health providers who continue to work together to address on-going crisis response for the community. This is greatly needed to continue the work of the Crisis and Criminal Justice task forces.

**Peer Support –** *(Background Info for Clarification –**There are three behavioral health, para-professional positions now recognized by the state. They are 1.) Peer Support Specialists, 2.) Community Health Workers, and 3.) Behavioral Health Technicians. The Certified Behavioral Health Peer Support Specialist, (CBHPSS) certification process is a 40-hour class, which also requires 20 hours of supervision.*

*The Certified Behavioral Health Community Health Worker (CBHCHW) certification process is an all on-line 60- hour course that requires 25 hours of supervision. The Certified Behavioral Health Technician (CBHT) certification process is a one- semester program consisting of 4 online courses and one in –person class plus on-going supervision. The Area Health Education Center of MSU (Bozeman) has partnered with three CHC’s (including the one in Butte that services Dillon) to cover the costs of both a participant’s tuition and supervision under a 2-year grant, with some limitations. The Peer Support Specialist tuition is $1500.00 for the week of training. The training is conducted by Jim Hainey from Livingston, usually twice a year, in different locations. There was one in October in Helena and the next one will be February 18-22 in Billings. A Peer Support Specialist must be a person in recovery. If they suffered from a substance abuse dependency, they must have a minimum of four years of sobriety before entering the program.)*

Jennifer Malone (CHC) announced that they have embraced the medication-assisted treatment approach at the CHC. They are working with patients that have completed in-house treatment and can come to CHC for additional help and assistance. Peer support staff will be very helpful with this process.

Molly asked if we have active peer supporters in Dillon. Lynn said we really don’t and asked how we could. Jennifer said it’s an involved process that takes time but their grant could cover the tuition costs for a qualified person from Dillon. It would require someone going to one of the weeklong trainings that Jim Hainey runs. Lynn asked if had enough people interested, if Jim would do the weeklong training in Dillon. Molly and Jennifer suggested we contact Jim directly to inquire. Jennifer also said it would be good to do tele-classes and then people would not have to travel. Katherine suggested having an informational meeting to let people know what is going on. Katherine will make the initial contact with Jim Hainey to see what needs to be done. Wallace said he is interested but just couldn’t go last October to the training in Helena. We were urged to get a meeting in place by May and to involve the County Commissioners.

**Be the Change 406 Coalition –**Kim reported on the Drug Free Community grant meeting held earlier this week. She said the energy and ideas were great. As the first year is mostly for training, they have begun to plan for next year. Developing and keeping a youth coalition involved is vital. She talked about Vision Zero and reducing the risk of accidents on our highways. The youth have already recorded some PSA’s related to this. She also talked about getting involved with the hockey league. CHC continues to provide management of the financial aspects of the grant. From February 3rd to the 9th Katherine and Kim will be in DC with the coalition for training. Kim, Molly and Katherine will also be going to Seattle later in February. Jennifer praised the good work that Kim is doing in her position.

**NAMI (National Alliance of Mentally Ill) –** Wallace and Katherine are still hoping to form a NAMI chapter in Beaverhead County. However, as Matt Kuntz was unable to make a meeting before this legislative session began, we will have to wait until afterwards to get info from him. NAMI is currently, intently involved in lobby and advocacy efforts Helena. It was noted that this is an indication of its strength as an organization.

**Website Update –**

Lynn said that the webpage is woefully out-of-date to the point she hesitates to refer others to it. She strongly asked that the committees and task forces edit their material and give their updates to Jamie for posting.

**Adjourn at** 1:55 p.m.

**The next meeting will be held on February 8th, 2019**