



Meeting Summary

Lewis and Clark BH Local Advisory Council

August 6, 2024 11:30-12:30 PM - Zoom ID: 860 8390 3845 : Passcode: 22425

Quick Recap

The team discussed upcoming behavioral health training opportunities, with a focus on the Behavioral Health Training Program and its enrollment process. They also addressed the issue of gang stalking, with a presentation on clinical survey findings and a discussion on potential actions to address the phenomenon. Lastly, they discussed the plans of various work groups, including the community engagement work group and the policy and advocacy planning group, to improve participation and engagement, and the organization of a legislative forum to advocate for behavioral health needs.

Next Steps

- Carrie will organize and lead the Policy and Advocacy work group, focusing on collaboration with NAMI and other organizations for the legislative forum in December or January.
- Matt will share the details of the in-person legislative forum he previously organized with Carrie and the group, to help inform the current planning and structure.
- Nathan will present the updated logic model for the Behavioral Health work group at the next meeting in September, focusing on the crisis facility project with Many Rivers Whole Health.

Summary

Behavioral Health Organizations and Fall Training

Jolene faced technical difficulties with the audio system, while Kayleigh shared about her new puppy. The attendees introduced themselves, including representatives from various organizations working in the field of behavioral health. Jolene led the meeting, sought approval for the minutes from the last meeting, and then Natalie Wheeler from Montana State University's Rural Extension presented on upcoming training opportunities in the fall.

Behavioral Health Training Program Discussion

Natalee discussed the Behavioral Health Training Program, a six-month initiative aimed at preparing community health workers and behavioral health care professionals to work in team-based models of care in rural and frontier communities. Natalee also highlighted other behavioral health training programs offered by their organization, including the Community Health Worker Fundamentals course and the Fundamentals of Behavioral Health course. She encouraged the sharing of other training resources available around the state and clarified that there are no eligibility criteria for the Behavioral Health Training Program.

Course Enrollment and Training Attendance

Natalee from Good Sam's and Nathan discussed the enrollment process for their course, which has a rolling admission basis starting September 1st. They encouraged interested individuals to enroll for the September course, as it is the final year of their grant. The course has been popular, with 90 to 100 people completing it in the past three years. Natalee also mentioned that they have had fire department personnel attend their other behavioral health program. Jolene asked about the number of people who have completed the training, and

Natalee provided a preliminary estimate of 90 to 100. Natalee also offered to provide a link to their website, their training schedule, and her contact information for any further questions.

Opportunities and Challenges: Gang Stalking Survey Discussed

Jolene introduced the topic of sharing opportunities and challenges, and a discussion about clinical survey findings on gang stalking led by Dr. Nathan. Nathan explained that he had been contacted by Jamie from the Friendship Center about individuals claiming to be gang stalked, which led him to conduct a survey. He shared that the phenomenon seems to be a cultural delusion, possibly related to drug use, and that it doesn't appear to be a mental illness affecting all those affected. Carrie also shared her experiences with a client who believed they were being gang stalked. Nathan emphasized the importance of being aware of this issue, but he was unsure of what actions could be taken to address it.

Steering Committee's Remote Meeting Preference

Nathan agreed to send the Qualtrics link to Jolene after the meeting. Jolene led a discussion about the steering committee's preference for remote meetings, with a quarterly in-person meeting to be considered. The group was asked to suggest potential locations for the in-person meetings. The Congress event for the Central Service Area Authority was clarified by Todd and Matt, who agreed to share relevant links and information with Jolene for further dissemination to the group.

Community Engagement Work Group Plans

Todd discussed the community engagement work group's plans to switch to in-person meetings to improve participation and engagement, and to reach out to community entities not currently involved with the Lac. He also mentioned the group's goal of gaining new membership for the Lac. Jolene asked Todd to bring the group's logic model to the next meeting so they could discuss potential activities to achieve their goals. Carrie, who is organizing the policy and advocacy planning and legislative forum group, shared that her group is still developing their strategy and encouraged others to participate.

Addressing Community Behavioral Health Work Groups

Carrie and Jolene discussed the lack of participation in the community behavioral health work groups, including the Policy and Advocacy Group and the Community Engagement Group. Jolene offered to help Carrie recruit new members and suggested reaching out to Cheyenne. They explored options for partnering with organizations like NAMI to advocate for behavioral health needs with the upcoming legislative session. Carrie expressed interest in being mentored by someone more experienced. Jolene highlighted the need for the Policy and Advocacy Group to organize a legislative forum before the new legislative session, as was done previously, to educate lawmakers on community behavioral health issues.

Legislative Session Planning and Organization

Jolene shared her experience of conducting legislative sessions and suggested that Matt could assist in organizing the upcoming session. Matt, who has been involved since the inception of these sessions, expressed his willingness to participate and offered to gather necessary documents. A key decision to be made was whether to conduct the session in person at the capital or remotely. Jolene highlighted the need to consider the legislators' busy schedules and the preference of many for in-person meetings. The session typically runs for 90 minutes, with 60 minutes for presentations from 8 to 10 organizations and the remaining half for Q&A.

Legislator Meetings cont., Data Sharing, and Events

Jolene and Matt discussed the potential benefits of in-person meetings with legislators and the possibility of holding future meetings at in person location to increase participation.

They also discussed the ongoing data gathering and sharing efforts, with Nathan providing an update on the progress.

Jolene highlighted upcoming events, including a community coalition group for a crisis facility and a behavioral health improvement plan annual meeting at SPH Education Center on Tuesday, 8/27 at 9am.in addition to newly open positions in the field of public/behavioral health at Lewis and Clark Public Health County website.

Next Meeting: September 3rd, 2024 11:30am-12:30pm remote only via Zoom

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89768616117?pwd=Ho3rRiDc0tMGO6HXGI8iRlloHaAXXb.1>