

LARIMER COUNTY | BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

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MINUTES

LARIMER COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Date: October 18, 2021
Time: 8:30-10:30am
Location: Zoom Webinar
Contact: Laurie Stolen, Behavioral Health Services Director
Ryan Barstow, Behavioral Health Business Operations Coordinator

Attendees:

Al Anderson, Amber Bass, Alison Dawson, Madison Krumwiede, Kyle McPherson, Savannah Naffziger, Ash Tumbleson

BHS Staff:

Ryan Barstow, Summer Leaming, Laurie Stolen, Jennifer Wolfe-Kimbell

Guests:

Dr. Lesley Brooks

Absent:

Patrick Dillon, Leslie Maldonado, Steve Pietrafeso, Carri Ratazzi, Ryan Walter

CALL TO ORDER – 8:31 a.m.

STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

1. Laurie Stolen called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the September 27, 2021 meeting. Alison Dawson made the motion, seconded by Al Anderson, the motion was approved unanimously.
2. Dr. Lesley Brooks, the Medical Director for the future BHS Facility, joined the meeting to dialogue with committee members on several topics related to the facility. Laurie Stolen introduced Dr. Brooks to the group, who then spoke about her background and commitment. Committee members each had an opportunity to speak on the issues they feel consumers of behavioral health services face and should be prioritized/addressed in

the culture and/or training of staff at the new BHS facility. An inclusive document of discussion items will be created and shared back with the CAC for continued development at future committee meetings. Some of the issues highlighted by committee members include:

- a. Treatment needs for specialized populations in the community (including the IDD population), care coordination, onboarding care - importance of initial contact and interactions with consumers, destigmatization, removing obstacles for people seeking help, diverse training experiences for staff, transparency of providers and their areas of expertise, consumer education, ease of changing providers, the amount of time it takes to see someone, peer specialists, concerns with M1 holds and procedures, community resource navigation, services for adolescents.
3. Dr. Brooks thanked everyone for sharing their experience and concerns. She acknowledged everyone's thoughts and is excited to work on these issues and address them in the facility. Dr. Brooks also spoke about her work on the state's BH transformational task force sub panel. They're working on creating recommendations to change BH legislation that the state can address using ARPA funds.
4. Laurie mentioned the panel training idea for BH facility staff, previously suggested by the committee. Dr. Brooks said she's very receptive to it and loves the idea. Laurie suggested it be a focus of the CAC's 2022 work, putting together a training curriculum. Laurie thanked Dr. Brooks for her attendance and said we can hopefully have her back again to a meeting in the future to continue these discussions. Laurie then asked for committee member input on the panel training. Feedback received includes:
 - a. Providers should feel safe/comfortable to admit if they don't have the expertise necessary to work with certain clients and get them a new provider. Expanding the workforce capacities, and the most important piece is professional competence and providing a high level of quality care. A consumer panel could be very useful to inform staff about issues the community is dealing with; the facility could review these concerns quarterly and evaluate whether they're equipped to deal with those issues. Importance of role playing and personal stories as tools for the training (1st hand experience to understand how to interact with consumers). Training needs to include de-stigmatization of mental health issues for staff as well as stressing the importance of care-coordination and the facilities process for it. Cross training across facility. Importance of not seeing someone as their diagnosis - diagnosis is just a description of symptoms, behaviors, thought processes so maybe decentralize it away from diagnosis and use behavior to determine the staff best equipped to work with that person.
5. In conclusion, Laurie said BHS staff will collect these thoughts and organize an agenda to discuss this further at a future meeting. She also said work on the facility training could include taking it on a road show as an opportunity for local providers.
6. Alison Dawson would like to set up a meeting with Dr. Brooks and 2 parents from her Medicaid advisory group to discuss IDD community issues. She said BIPOC voices also

need to be a part of the facility training. Laurie said she knows Dr. Brooks would be open to it and could set up the meeting for them.

7. Laurie proposed using the combined meeting with the TAC in November to discuss the facility training program further and hear each other's perspectives, what the needs are, and what the gaps are.

ADJOURN – 10:05 a.m.

Next meeting - Combined with TAC on 11/15/21