

# LARIMER COUNTY | BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

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## MINUTES

### LARIMER COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Date:** January 24, 2022  
**Time:** 8:30-10:30am  
**Location:** Zoom Webinar  
**Contact:** Laurie Stolen, Behavioral Health Services Director  
Ryan Barstow, Behavioral Health Business Operations Coordinator

#### Participants:

Allen Anderson, Amber Bass, Karen Barrett, Alison Dawson, Madison Krumwiede, Sarah McKeen, Savannah Naffziger, Steve Pietrafeso, Carri Ratazzi, Wendy Stine, Mary Beth Swanson, Ash Tumbleson, Silen Wellington

#### Absent:

Emily Potts

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 October 18, 2021 meeting. Amber Bass made the motion, seconded by Madison Krumwiede; the motion was approved unanimously.

#### DISCUSSION/DECISIONS

1. Laurie Stolen completed a roll call and had members introduce themselves.
2. Laurie reviewed a level setting for the Advisory Groups explaining the details of each committee including the role, makeup, goals, etc. and how the TAC and CAC inform the Impact Fund Grant program. Due to the rise in COVID cases due to the Omicron variant, we anticipate meeting virtually until further notice. Agendas are sent out a week in advance of meetings and minutes are sent within a week after each meeting. Laurie then

addressed committee member questions and a brief discussion was held about the current issues surrounding community mental health centers.

- a. Laurie discussed the option to appoint a Chair/Vice-Chair to the CAC which was something also proposed to the TAC this month. The TAC decided not to utilize the option at this time but with new members just joining the group, it's a great time to discuss the option and consider it for the upcoming year. The BHPC bylaws allow for these facilitator positions and the BHPC uses this model (Barry Wilson is the BHPC Chair and County Commissioner Jody Shadduck-McNally is the Vice-Chair). Laurie explained that she meets with these individuals prior to meetings to help set agendas and those individuals then facilitate meetings. Essentially it allows the group to self-direct a bit more and have a direct involvement in planning committee work items month to month. Members then discussed their thoughts on the option. Amber Bass and Madison Krumwiede volunteered to serve as Chair and Wendy Stine volunteered to serve as Vice-Chair. After a brief discussion including an option of using a co-chair model (which isn't currently outlined in bylaws), the candidates decided amongst themselves that Madison would be put forward to serve as the Chair and Amber as Vice-Chair. Laurie asked for a vote on these nominations, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously. Ryan Barstow will send Madison and Amber calendar appointments for agenda planning meetings. It was also determined that the agenda planning meetings won't occur for combo meetings, but Madison and Amber can just reach out with any questions after they receive these agendas.
  - b. Laurie reviewed the new "Pilot Stipend Program" for Larimer County Boards and Commissions. This program will run January - June 2022 and allow for a stipend not to exceed \$500 annually for community members on boards and commissions with lived experience and who may face economic barriers to participation in local government activities. The stipend will be subject to federal tax withholding. This pilot program will replace the current \$50 gift card compensation for CAC member participation in meetings. Exact details such as how the stipend will be paid and frequency of payment will be defined in the near future. Anyone who would like to participate must apply [here](#). Members then shared their reactions to the new pilot program. Feedback was voiced both in support of, and in opposition to the new program. Concerns of the new program included aggrievement over eligibility requirements and how the application is written (particularly how attesting to a personal financial barrier is invasive), inequity between committees made up of individuals with lived experience vs. professional experience, and fair compensation. Support of the new program included ease of use and a preference for this model of compensation. Feedback on the program will be provided to the Commissioners.
3. Laurie outlined the plan for the 2022 worksession which will last through April. Joint meetings between the TAC and CAC will take place in February and March and recommendations from those meetings will be brought to the BHPC at their April

meeting. The 2022 grant application will be open to the public 6/1/22 and will close on 7/31/22. Laurie explained the different levels of application screening and briefly explained the selection and award process - recommendations for awards are made in August, presented to BHPC and BoCC in September for selection, and grants awarded in October. Laurie also outlined the focus for CAC work this year including examining how to determine quality of care for providers, and putting together a training program for employees of the BHS facility to improve the client experience.

4. Laurie presented a recap of the Impact Fund Grant Program ([available here](#)) from the beginning of the program in 2019 through today and including the 2021 funding distribution (70%/30% - Targeted/Responsive).
5. Laurie then started a discussion to seek refinements to the Targeted Project grants for 2022. Targeted Grants, which were identified in 2021 include:
  1. *Behavioral Health Care Coordination Across Services*
  2. *Moderate/Intensive Care Coordination for Those with Complex Needs*
  3. *Behavioral Health Workforce Development and Retention*
  4. *Enhancing First Responder and Behavioral Health Crisis-to-Care Collaboration Efforts*
  5. *Prevention Education and Early Intervention for Vulnerable Youth*
  6. *Increasing Access to Behavioral Healthcare in Non-traditional Settings*
  7. *GAD: Intersection of Behavioral Health and Criminal Justice (single award)*

Ideas suggested by CAC members include:

- a. The 2 Care Coordination targeted grants shouldn't be combined. There's a big need for Moderate/Intensive CC for those with complex needs and people need help with the other non-behavioral health related pieces (legal, etc.) but it tends to be shorter term and people with significant BH needs require longer term CC
  - i. better define the moderate/intensive CC target, or provide multi-year funding for this target?
  - ii. rewrite this target to specifically be for long-term services?
  - iii. direct specifically for systems building type of initiative
  - iv. consider reimbursement/insurance and stability issues involved with this target,
- b. create a universal application for services - universal application would also help with program evaluation
- c. big needs for the youth target - meeting life plans, affordable housing, caregiver coaching, harm reduction model, and parent support groups to facilitate the conversation around harm reduction, and independent living centers, educational opportunities/curriculums
  - i. how do we ensure it's the "vulnerable" youth getting those services
  - ii. barriers for LGBTQIA+ youth accessing services can be monumental and just the administration required to get involved can be enough to deter
- d. Not enough providers available and access issues involving insurance, etc.
- e. quality/type of service provided - consistency of provider

6. Due to time constraints, the final 3 agenda items to discuss changes to Gary A. Darling Grant, Seeking approval to keep targeted projects for 2 years, and Application evaluation criteria and reporting measures will be moved to the February meeting to allow for a more robust discussion.

The next meeting will be held virtually on February 14, 2022.

ADJOURN – 10:30 a.m.