

MINUTES

LARIMER COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH POLICY COUNCIL

Date: August 21, 2023
Time: 8:00 - 10:00 am
Location: 200 W Oak St. Fort Collins, CO 80521 & Zoom Webinar
Contact: Laura Walker, Human & Economic Health Director
Ryan Barstow, Behavioral Health Business Operations Coordinator

Participants:

Marianne Dungan, Brian Ferrans, Jarah Grashorn, Susan Gutowsky, Isabel Gwilliam, Will Karspeck, Wendy Koenig, Jacki Marsh, Chad Morris, Steve Olson, Commissioner Jody Shadduck-McNally, David Wiegand, Barry Wilson

Absent:

Lisa Laake, Clark McCoy

Attendees:

Amber Franzel, Michael Ruttenberg

CALL TO ORDER – 8:09 a.m.

COMMISSIONER REMARKS

1. Commissioner Shadduck-McNally called the meeting to order and shared some opening remarks. The Commissioner recently attended the CO Attorney General's opioid abatement conference and said there's a lot of overlap between the work they're doing and what's happening in Larimer County. The Commissioner also shared that the Regional Opioid Abatement Council (ROAC) is sponsoring a 'Rethinking Addiction' conference on 10/3. The CO Attorney General will be attending the event as a guest and the Commissioner wanted to share the opportunity as it's a great chance to learn more and network. Commissioner Shadduck-McNally has hosted some tours of the Acute Care Facility recently and offered for any available BHPC members to join her at 3pm this

afternoon for a tour. She also shared that Lorri Acott's sculpture, "The Journey" is scheduled to be installed at the facility tomorrow afternoon. The Commissioner went on to discuss the current strategic plan for the County, set to wrap up in 2023 with essentially every objective met, as well as plans to begin work on the next. Additionally, all boards and commissions will soon be receiving a survey which the Commissioner encouraged everyone to participate and submit feedback when it's received. Currently there is a 'Community Resiliency Assessment' that has gone out to the county from the Office of Emergency Management. That survey is available [here](#) and members were also encouraged to respond to this survey before it closes on 10/15/23. Finally, Commissioner Shadduck-McNally discussed a campaign coming out from the ROAC called "Connect Effect " which aims to help youth understand the dangers of opioids and fentanyl and more information on that campaign can be found [here](#).

STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

1. Commissioner Shadduck-McNally asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the April 3, 2023 meeting. Steve Olson made the motion, seconded by Chad Morris; the motion was approved unanimously.
2. Laura Walker, Larimer County's Human & Economic Health Director gave an update on BHS after Laurie Stolen's resignation at the end of July. Laura oversees several departments and services in Larimer County, including BHS. Laura discussed the importance of using this time to really assess needs and to be thoughtful about refilling the BHS Director position; particularly with all that is going on during this transitional phase from the planning/building into the operational phase. So, although the County's intention is to refill the position, Laura will be serving as interim Director for BHS for the time being.
3. Laura let BHPC members know of a few additional opportunities to tour the Acute Care facility at Longview. If any members are available and would like to join her Laura will be hosting tours on 8/29 at 3:30 and 4:15pm. If interested, or if those times don't work, members can contact Ryan Barstow, or the Commissioner and Laura directly to make arrangements.
4. Commissioner Shadduck-McNally reminded members that the facility ribbon cutting will be taking place the morning of 9/22. Plans for the event are still being finalized but an invitation will be going out shortly.

DISCUSSION/DECISIONS

1. Jessica Plummer discussed the feedback received via survey for the 2021 Outcomes Report. The report and survey were emailed to BHPC members in June (although [this updated version](#) has an added one page addendum) and details grants awarded in 2021 where the bulk of work occurred in 2022, and final reports were submitted in 2023. Feedback indicated members were mostly "very satisfied" with the report and how the

data was communicated. This report was also presented to the County Commissioners in June and their feedback was also positive. Jessica went on to highlight key insights from the report as well as areas to improve upon in future reporting.

2. Taylor Kelley and Laura Walker discussed an update regarding the Behavioral Health dashboard. Laura shared that Larimer County's Health and Environment (HAE) Department hosts a 'Community Health, Well-Being, and Resilience Dashboard' on their website available [here](#). The HAE dashboard contains a lot of the same data that was being maintained on the BH dashboard and in order to prevent duplication of efforts the intent is to have any similar dashboards rolled into HAE's. So, for the time being the BH dashboard will no longer be maintained and will now link to the HAE dashboard.
3. Jessica Plummer discussed applicant and grant reviewer feedback which was solicited via survey for the 2023 Impact Fund Grant Program application period. BHS has been collecting this feedback consistently over the last few years and this year, 53% of applicants responded to the survey while 50% of reviewers responded. In total 78 applications were received this year which is a significant increase in the amount of applications received. Jessica presented an in-depth overview of the feedback, available [here](#), highlighting BHS learnings and action items/takeaways for the future.
4. Jessica presented the [2023 Grant recommendations](#) detailing the application [evaluation process](#), application and recommendation overview, application data and trends over time, and funding recommendations by award type. 78 grant applications from 72 unique organizations were received totaling \$7.5 million in requests. The [recommendations](#) for awards includes 35 applications for a total of \$2,816,731 in grant funding. Jessica gave a brief review of funding history for the Impact Fund grant program. Recommendations include 6 new grantees, 6 new programs (previously awarded orgs. but program changed) and 23 continuations. UCHHealth Northern Colorado Foundation was recommended as the Gary A. Darling award nominee. After an in-depth discussion and opportunity for questions to be addressed, Commissioner Shaddock-McNally requested a motion to forward the 35 grant award recommendations for \$2,816,731 to the Board of County Commissioners and seek approval. Chad Morris made the motion, seconded by Wendy Koenig; the motion was approved unanimously. Jessica then reviewed next steps: BHS will present recommendations to the BoCC at a 8/30/23 worksession, and then request BoCC approval at a 9/5/23 Admin Matters meeting, after which awards are scheduled to be announced via various media channels & communication sent to applicants.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Commissioner Shaddock-McNally made some remarks to thank and acknowledge Marianne Dungan and Chad Morris, the 2 at large BHPC members who's 2nd full terms will be coming to an end on 11/30/23. Due to BHPC bylaws, after serving 2 terms, Marianne and Chad are ineligible to reapply for open seats on the council this cycle. Marianne and Chad were both appointed to the BHPC in February 2019 with initial terms set to expire on 11/30/2020, however, at that time both were reappointed to their seats for

a 2nd three-year term which will end on 11/30/23. Marianne and Chad have both been dedicated, engaged, and thoughtful BHPC members. BHS and the BHPC cannot thank them enough for their time and energy spent trying to improve our community and the behavioral health landscape over the years. Chad and Marianne both said a few words commending the council and community and expressed their pleasure to be able to serve on the BHPC.

The next meeting will be held at the Acute Care Facility on December 4th, 2023.

ADJOURN – 9:54 a.m.