

LARIMER COUNTY | BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

2260 W. Trilby Rd., Fort Collins, Colorado 80526, 970.498.7126, Larimer.org

MINUTES

LARIMER COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH POLICY COUNCIL, TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE, & CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: December 4, 2023
Time: 8:00 - 10:00am
Location: 2260 W. Trilby Rd. Fort Collins, 80526 & Zoom Webinar
Contact: Laura Walker, Human and Economic Health Director
Ryan Barstow, Behavioral Health Business Operations Coordinator

Participants:

Nicole Armstrong, Karen Barrett, Erin Black, Cedric Clark, Bianca Doherty, Michael Ellis, Seth Forwood, Amber Franzel, Josh Fuller, Donna Goldstrom, Jarah Grashorn, Susan Gutowsky, Isabel Gwilliam, Cheryl Jacobs, Glenda Kastle, Wendy Koenig, Madison Krumwiede, Andrea Linafelter, Clark McCoy, Sarah McKeen, Kyle McPherson, Rachel Olsen, Steve Pietrafeso, Michael Ruttenberg, Commissioner Jody Shadduck-McNally, Amber Sullivan, Laura Walker, Silen Wellington, David Wiegand, Stephanie Williams, Barry Wilson

Absent:

Brian Ferrans, Jim Fox, Kelly Glick, Tom Gonzales, Erin Hadlow, Radhwan Jubair, Will Karspeck, Lisa Laake, Mary Maldonado, Heather O'Hayre, Hans Pearson, Emily Potts, Mary Beth Swanson, Laura Whitney

CALL TO ORDER – 8:04 a.m.

COMMISSIONER REMARKS

1. Commissioner Shadduck-McNally called the meeting to order and opened the meeting with a few remarks. Commissioner Shadduck-McNally thanked everyone for attending and discussed how impactful it was to hold a meeting in the new Acute Care building on the Longview Campus after all the years of work leading up to this moment. Commissioner Shadduck-McNally also took a moment to personally invite everyone to

attend the BHS 5-year celebration event taking place at the Loveland Embassy Suites on 12/14 at 5 pm. Commissioner Shadduck-McNally said the LC Commissioners are currently immersed in work on the County budget, the statute requires the budget to be passed by the 15th. Commissioner Shadduck-McNally shared that she recently attended a session with the 10 or 11 biggest counties in Colorado where the Attorney General commended Larimer County for several initiatives including the Opioid Abatement Council and Competency Courts. Commissioner Shadduck-McNally reiterated the AG's sentiment and discussed how the work of these committees is critically important and makes a big difference in our community. Commissioner Shadduck-McNally shared her pride for the committees and the work they do as well as LC staff, SummitStone Health Partners, and community partners.

STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

1. Commissioner Jody Shadduck-McNally asked for a motion to approve the August 21, 2023 BHPC meeting minutes. Barry Wilson made the motion, seconded by Susan Gutowsky; the motion was approved unanimously.
2. Donna Goldstrom requested a motion to approve the March 20, 2023 TAC & CAC meeting minutes. Stephanie Williams made the motion, the motion was approved unanimously.
3. Laura Walker gave an update on the Acute Care building. Laura shared that for the most part, everything went smoothly with the facility opening. There were a few last-minute setbacks related to licensing issues, specifically around the building's FGI certification and kitchen inspection, however, both issues were resolved and the facility opened to clients as scheduled at 8 am on Saturday, 12/2/23. 18 people were seen in the facility on Saturday, 11 of whom were admitted, 13 of those were walk-ins, 1 was transferred via ambulance and 3 were transported from mobile units. On Sunday, 9 people were seen, 3 of whom were admitted, 1 was transported by police, 1 by mobile, and 2 by ambulance. Considering that a significant concern for the facility has been around transportation and how people will get to the facility, learning how individuals got to the facility over the weekend is encouraging. Donna Goldstrom with SummitStone Health Partners shared some additional details stating that the first patient seen on Saturday was at 8:04 am and that individual was a walk-in. Donna also shared that patients were giving rave reviews for the food served by the food services vendor, and client feedback on the fitness center in the facility has also been very good. More people were seen than anticipated but there were no major incidents to report from the weekend. All individuals are being managed in the Crisis Stabilization unit, there are also people in Withdrawal Management but they're all being seen in the one unit until SHP can expand into the other.
4. Commissioner Shadduck-McNally reviewed community landscape updates by reviewing the following known behavioral health initiatives in the community as of November 2023:

- a. Youth homeless shelter - a cooperative project with Thompson School District, The Matthews House, Larimer County, Bohemian Foundation, and Poudre School District. Renovations on the building are underway with a target to open in December 2024 and this will be the first center of its kind to open on the Front Range in 15 years.
- b. Youth Mental Health Taskforce - a countywide community effort to address the behavioral health needs of youth in TSD, PSD, and Estes School Districts. Three sub-committees of the task force are currently working on issues of Financial Infrastructure, School-based Mental Health Services, and Youth Connections to De-Stigmatize MH Services.
- c. Community Health Improvement Plan (2024) - community effort convened every 2 years by the Larimer County Department of Health and Environment. Priorities for 2024-2025 include:
 - i. Inclusion via safe community spaces to reduce social isolation
 - ii. Improved mental health and increased social support and connection for older adults, youth, families, communities of color, LGBTQIA, Veterans, and persons living with disabilities with an emphasis on equity
- d. Longview Campus Phase 2: Planning work continues to identify youth mental health needs that could be addressed in further development here at the Larimer County Longview Campus
- e. Groundbreaking on 11/6/23 for a medical clinic at the Murphy Center for people experiencing homelessness. The operator of this clinic will be SummitStone Health Partners, who have had a long history of offering behavioral health services at the Murphy Center but now will be able to better integrate physical and mental health care at a single location for this population.
- f. Medical clinic at the Murphy Center (construction should be complete in early 2024): Funded by the Larimer County Commissioners with \$1M of American Rescue Plan Act dollars. This clinic will be run by SummitStone Health Partners and will enhance integrated medical and physical health care with behavioral health care and medication management for patients.
- g. Community Master Plan for Behavioral Health 2.0: The first iteration of this study was done in 2017 to educate the public about the mental health needs and gaps in our community in advance of the 2018 sales tax ballot initiative. Work is finishing on the second version of this plan to update it now that we are closing Phase 1 of the 20-year plan for these tax revenues. CMP 2.0 will be finalized this winter and shared publicly at the end of January.
- h. Region 2 Opioid Abatement Council Grant Program: Grants to several organizations targeting treatment/support and prevention of future opioid addiction issues in our community starting in 2022 with over \$2M in grants to four community-based organizations. Target areas of improvement include harm reduction, school-based prevention programming, co-responder program

expansion countywide, and enhanced care coordination for individuals in recovery from opioid addiction.

- i. [Realities for Children Healing Sanctuary](#) - the future Realities For Children Healing Sanctuary that will provide a world-class model of healing support for trauma and sexual assault survivors. Providing specialized facilities, programs, and wraparound support to counteract the financial and real-world reasons many children do not receive or maintain therapy through the recovery process.

DISCUSSION/DECISIONS

1. Introductions - Participants introduced themselves by sharing their name, what advisory group they're serving on, and their favorite winter activity.
2. Jessica Plummer presented an overview of the Impact Fund Grant Program, [available here](#).
3. Ryan Barstow reviewed Advisory Group responsibilities, presenting [these slides](#), as well as the Larimer County Boards & Commissions [website](#). This resource, available to members, links to bylaws, schedules, rosters, meeting agendas, and minutes. Ryan reviewed the [calendar](#) for 2024 advisory group meetings and shared that Google Calendar appointments for all 2024 advisory group meetings will be sent out to members by email in the coming days and all meeting details including agendas, locations, Zoom links, etc. will be emailed out to members at least one week prior to meetings.
4. Ryan shared a reminder for the BHS 5-year celebration event taking place on Thursday 12/14/23 at the Loveland Embassy Suites from 5 - 7 pm and encouraged all members to attend.
5. Members then took a brief tour of the unoccupied spaces of the Acute Care building.

The next BHPC meeting will be held at 2260 W. Trilby Rd. on January 8th, 2023.

ADJOURN – 9:50 a.m.