

Date: Monday, December 8, 2025

Time: 8:00 AM

Location: 2260 W. Trilby Road, Fort Collins, Colorado - Goldfinch Conference Room & [Zoom](#)

Contact: Amy Martonis, Behavioral Health Director

Behavioral Health Policy Council, Technical Advisory Committee, & Consumer Advisory Committee Minutes

Participants:

Karen Barrett, Ashley Braund, Michael Ellis, Seth Forwood, Josh Fuller, Susan Gutowsky, Gary Hall, Shannon Hughes, Bill Jenkins, Ashleigh Jones, Glenda Kastle, Sarah McKeen, Kyle McPherson, Dee Anne Menzies, Chad Morris, Savannah Naffziger, Commissioner Jody Shadduck-McNally, Jennifer Swanty, David Wiegand

Absent:

Sierra Black, Bianca Daugherty, Alison Ford, Jarah Grashorn, Nevaeh Greene, Radhwan Jubair, Will Karspeck, Ron Steinbach, Amber Sullivan

Attendees:

Nicole Armstrong, Tricia Canonico, Kiersten Chuyen, Rachel Olsen-Towlen

Call to Order – 8:10 a.m.

Commissioner Remarks

1. Jody Shadduck-McNally, Larimer County Commissioner and chair of the Behavioral Health Services Policy Council, called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for their attendance and engagement, remarking how important the work is and how much it means to her both personally and to the Behavioral Health Services staff. Commissioner Shadduck-McNally took a moment to acknowledge departing BHPC member, Fort Collins Councilwoman Susan Gutowsky. Susan has been a member of the BHPC since its inception, so her long-term service and dedication to the community via the Behavioral Health Policy Council, the City of Fort Collins, and the Poudre School District Board of Education cannot be overstated and are greatly appreciated. Commissioner Shadduck-McNally highlighted her recent advocacy in Washington, D.C, for rural healthcare and behavioral health services in relation to the Secure Rural Schools Act, and thanked staff for their recent support during a tour of Longview with Senator Bennett. Commissioner Shadduck-McNally also shared that the county is navigating significant changes in how Human Services will be delivered. She concluded by acknowledging Heather O'Hayre, Larimer County Human Services Director, who won the State Human Services Director of the Year award, stating that it was well deserved, and how highly she regards Heather. The Commissioner also emphasized the importance of collaboration with municipalities and nonprofit partners.

Action Items/Decisions

1. Commissioner Shadduck-McNally asked members to complete introductions. This was the first meeting for new members as well as a combined meeting of the Behavioral Health Policy Council, Technical Advisory Committee, and Consumer Advisory Committee. Members were asked to introduce themselves, share which advisory group they're serving on, their Behavioral Health affiliation/interest area, and something they're most excited about in 2026, or their favorite book of 2025.
2. Commissioner Shadduck-McNally asked for a motion to approve the 8/11/25 BHPC meeting minutes. Gary Hall motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Susan Gutowsky; the minutes were approved unanimously.

Discussion Items

1. Jessica Plummer, Behavioral Health Program Manager, presented an overview of the Advisory Groups and the Impact Fund grant program, highlighting its history, funding, and future plans. She explained that since 2018, the program has distributed over \$17.7 million to 77 organizations, and that awards currently range from \$25,000 to \$100,000. The program targets the specific areas of care coordination, systems integration, alternative & interventions in criminal justice, workforce expansion, services in diverse settings, and expansion of youth services. Jessica also reviewed highlights from the grant program surveys, completed by both applicants and reviewers.
2. Jessica provided an overview of the grant program's history and future developments, focusing on award history, funding portfolio, updates for 2025, and how the advisory group's work has contributed to the program's development over the years. Jessica highlighted the positive feedback from the renewal process, which saved staff and organizational time. She also discussed plans for 2026, which include the renewal process, shared metric development, and multi-year funding.
3. Amy Martonis, Behavioral Health Director, emphasized the community-driven nature of the multi-year funding initiative, which aims to address system-level priorities in behavioral health care, and invited attendees to watch the 2 p.m. live broadcast of the 12/17/25 work session with County Commissioners, where BHS will present stakeholder engagement outcomes. Amy also shared updates on the expansion of behavioral health resources in the community, including our partners at UC Health, who have expanded their behavioral health beds. Mountain Crest has transitioned to Poudre Valley Hospital with an expansion of a flex wing that can serve both adolescents and adults. Also, the former Johnstown Heights facility is opening under New Vista Behavioral Health. Both of these resources are hospitalization levels of care, which is a higher level of care than what Longview provides, along with some recovery support beds.
4. Madeline Novey, Behavioral Health Communications Coordinator, presented an overview of the department's communications strategy, and storytelling initiatives of the behavioral health tax investment before its potential renewal in 2038. Madeline discussed diversifying investments beyond Longview and the Impact Fund grant program, emphasizing the need to demonstrate stewardship and show the tax's impact on the community. Madeline went on to discuss the launch of The Lamplighter newsletter and expanded social media presence. She outlined plans for 2026, including new networking events, website reorganization, and a searchable grantee database (2025 recipients list available [here](#)).
5. Commissioner Shaddock-McNally concluded the meeting, thanking everyone for their participation and engagement, and wished everyone a happy holiday season.

Adjourn - 9:35 a.m.

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BALLOT LANGUAGE

Shall Larimer County taxes be increased \$19,000,000 dollars annually (estimated first fiscal year dollar increase in 2019) and by whatever additional amount as may be raised annually thereafter, for a period of 20 years by the imposition of a .25% (25 cents on \$100 dollars) sales and use tax with all revenue from such tax to be used in accordance with the Board of County Commissioners Resolution # 07242018R013 for the following Mental/Behavioral Health care purposes;

-Provide preventative, early identification, intervention, support, and treatment services for youth, adults, families and senior citizens, either directly or indirectly, who are residents of Larimer County including Berthoud, Estes Park, Fort Collins, Johnstown, Loveland, Timnath, Wellington, Windsor and rural communities of Larimer County through in-person and other delivery methods, which may include tele-services, community based services and other service options and;

-acquire, construct, improve, maintain, lease, remodel, staff, equip, and operate new and/or existing mental/behavioral health facilities;

Further provided that an annual report shall be published and provided to the Board of County Commissioners on the designation or use of the revenues from the tax increase in the preceding calendar year consistent with its approved purposes.