

Utah Behavioral Health Planning and Advisory Council

Approved Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 4th, 2020, 12:00 p.m.

Virtual meeting via Zoom

“Our mission is to ensure quality behavioral health care in Utah by promoting collaboration, advocacy, education, and delivery of services.”

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Rob Wesemann, Peggy Hostetter, Dave Wilde, Ryan Hunsaker, Terry Harrison, Donald Cleveland, Javier Alegre, Lori Cerar, Richard Lovato, Sigrid Nolte, Lisa Hancock, Sarah Miles, Jennifer Marchant, Andrew Riggle, Monica Scott, Martha Mendes, Mary Jo McMillen, Dan Braun, Kimberly Mueller, Emily Bennett, James Park, Jeanine Park

DSAMH STAFF PRESENT: Pam Bennett, Heather Rydalch, Shanel Long, LeAnne Huff, Ming Wang, Kim Myers, Robert Snarr, Colin Dively

OTHERS PRESENT: Nettie Byrne, Jeannette Villalta, Susi Feltch-Malohifoou, Kyli Rodriguez-Cayro, Kenzie Knight, Rachel Bawden, Athena Schwartz

COUNCIL MEMBERS EXCUSED: Jane Lepisto, Jason Jacobs, Heidi Peterson

Welcome & Introductions; May Meeting Minutes Review; New Member Applications (Monica Scott, Martha Mendes)

Martha has attended 2 or 3 meetings, Monica has attended since October. Applications of Martha Mendes and Monica Scott have been approved by the exec committee. Motion for application of Monica to be approved? Janene Park motioned, seconded by James Park, all in favor.

Motion for application of Martha to be approved? Don Cleveland motioned, seconded by Sigrid Nolte, all in favor. Welcome to UBHPAC Monica and Martha!

Review of May UBHPAC preliminary minutes. Motion by Janene Park to approve minutes, James Park seconded. All in favor.

Announcements

Javier: Utah Peer Conference is tomorrow, 6/5/20. Over 200 people registered.

Colin Dively: Looking for donations for homeless outreach. Nettie will forward flyer from Colin with info and Amazon gift lists.

Richard Lovato: Alliance House is opening Monday, June 8th.

Lori Cerar: Family peer support training starting Monday June 8th, individuals can register on the website or by letting Nettie know.

Nettie Byrne: How would the council feel about meeting in-person in August?

Dave Wilde: Medicaid update—Submitting IMD exception proposition to CMS in July or August.

Don Cleveland: They have approved 3-digit suicide prevention hotline.

DSAMH Updates- Kim Myers

Kim Myers: When the legislature approved the final budget in mid-March, COVID-19 wasn't taken into consideration. Revenue for the state is projected to be lower than expected for this fiscal year and next. They have asked for 2, 5, and 10 percent budget cut proposals. They are anticipating a 2 or 5 percent budget cut. A special legislative session will be held June 18 and 19 to vote on budget cuts.

Rob Wesemann: Encouraged everyone to reach out to representatives to express concern about budget cuts.

Dave Wilde: Cutting some programs can hurt more in the long run

Rob Wesemann: Concerned about budget cuts on affordable housing and crisis prevention.

Andrew Riggle: State is considering shifting costs to counties

Kim Myers: Responding to COVID—guidelines from the Department of Human Services about meeting in person again. There is discussion about moving to “green” status and what that means for protection for high risk individuals.

State received \$500 million in CARES Act Emergency COVID Funding

- Suicide prevention/domestic violence
- Mental health/substance use disorders
- Disaster counselor program

Haven't been awarded UDVC funding yet.

Robert Snarr: Grant funding through FEMA and SAMHSA to serve special populations: nursing homes, hospital workers, homeless population, families who have lost members to COVID, latino community, and native community. Trying to get the program up and running by June 15th. Asked for racial and ethnic community representatives to reach out to Robert, Kim, Pam or Ming to ask for allocation of funds to underserved populations.

Pam Bennett: Slides covering 5 priority areas of the division with performance indicators. Will be included in minutes.

DLC Updates & Follow Up

Andrew Riggle: Op-ed was published in the Salt Lake Tribune. This isn't the time to consider cutting social services. The state should have enough money over the short term. If we do need to make significant cuts in the future, we can come back and do that. But we shouldn't be too hasty to make cuts now. Cutting budgets severely now can be detrimental for the future. The middle of a pandemic isn't the time to cut important social services.

1:00 (1:09) Crisis Line Commission

LeAnne Huff: They received funds to expand MCOT, unsure how that will play out with budget cuts. On hold based on uncertainty surrounding budget cuts. MCOT is still able to go out and help individuals in crisis, still using telehealth when possible.

1:30 (1:12) Health Disparity Needs Assessment updates

Monica: Got off to a late start to hire, but able to start now.

Athena: Working on literature, going to write focus group questions from that literature. What is learned from needs assessments will go out in 2021. If anyone is interested in learning more about this project, feel free to reach out to Monica or Athena.

Ming Wang: Needs Assessment is a big project. Trying to make sure it is client-driven. UBHPAC's input is important in this project. If anyone would like to join the workgroup, reach out to Monica and Athena. Contact information of Monica and Athena will go out with the minutes. Monica and Athena will provide a facts sheet about the Health Disparity Needs Assessment.

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1:20 Updates from Javier about the racial and ethnic integration subcommittee:

Javier: Subcommittee is meeting every 2 weeks. Ming suggested outreach to the African American community to make sure their needs are being met concerning mental health, etc.

Mary Jo McMillen: Annual Recovery Day celebration will not be held this year due to COVID-19 in Salt Lake County and Weber County. Live comedy show will be held virtually on June 19th. *Missed this also*

1:30 Discussion about deeming mental health services as essential and how this affects the homeless population

Don Cleveland: We should use our voices and influence to remind the government that mental health is just as essential as physical health.

Lisa H: Will send information to Nettie about *meetings they've been holding

LeAnne Huff will continue conversations about deeming mental health services as essential.

1:45 Discussion about how COVID-19 is affecting multicultural and refugee community

2:00 (2:08) Adjourn

Thank you for your support of the UBHPAC!

Accommodations to the known disabilities of individuals in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. For accommodation information or if you need special accommodations during this meeting, please contact the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health at (801) 538-3939 or TTY (801) 538-3696.

The State has adopted a stipend policy that will pay for reasonable travel expenses related to consumers and advocates attendance at UBHPAC meetings. For more information please visit www.dsamh.utah.gov – Initiatives – Behavioral Health and Advisory Council – Information & Forms – UBHPAC Stipend Policy.

All meeting minutes and recordings are posted on the Public Notice website at:
<https://www.utah.gov/pmn/sitemap/publicbody/51.html>