

Utah Behavioral Health Planning and Advisory Council

Approved Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 5th, 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, Terry Harrison, Donald Cleveland, Peggy Hostetter, Whitney Geertsen, Jane Lepisto, Dave Wilde, Cathay Davis, Lisa Hancock, Athena Schwartz, James Park, Ryan Hunsaker, Richard Lovato, Sherri Wittwer, Jeanine Park, Sigrid Nolte, Dan Braun, Rafael Montero, Sarah Miles, Jennifer Marchant, Kylee Porter

DSAMH STAFF PRESENT: Heather Rydalch, Ming Wang, Colin Dively, Heidi Peterson, Kim Myers, Pam Bennett, Robert Snarr, Eric Tadehara, Shanin Rapp, LeAnne Huff, Monica Scott

OTHERS PRESENT: Nettie Byrne, Rachel Bawden, Richard Nance, Evan Done, Kyli Rodriguez-Cayro, Misty Marr, Ryan Heck

COUNCIL MEMBERS EXCUSED: Lori Cerar, Shanel Long

Welcome & Introductions

October Meeting Minutes Review

The October meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

General Announcements

Alliance House is virtually hosting their Milestone Fundraising Event on November 10th, 17th, and 24th. For more information, visit their website at alliancehouse.org.

Jane Lepisto participated in the Mental Health Stigma survey and found it useful. The link to this survey is: https://und.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5zk10HowFwKR99H

Nettie Byrne announced that she will be doing a podcast interview as guest speaker, talking about Allies with Families and Peer Support throughout the state.

Donald Cleveland announced that he is looking for a peer support position and would appreciate any leads.

DSAMH Updates—Pam Bennett, Kim Myers

The Block Grant report is due December 1st, so they are starting to collect that data. A lot of goals were impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, but they were still able to meet other goals.

Pam reminded the group of the Mental Health Stigma survey, and encouraged everyone to take it and pass it along. The survey can be found here:

https://und.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5zk10HowFwKR99H

They completed the Justice Reinvestment (JRI) audit last month. There was some feedback from the audit about improving justice reinvestment efforts surrounding access to treatment and data sharing.

The SUD team received a grant to expand drug court in rural areas.

In October, Congress passed and the President signed the 988 Hotline bill. It should be rolled out by June, 2021.

DSAMH will be hiring someone to do a deepdive into their data to see how they can better serve the deaf and hard of hearing population.

The mobile crisis outreach teams should all be going live this month. This is an exciting opportunity for services to be provided to more rural communities.

The elections caused some shakeup in the legislature, so it is important to reach out to legislators about the mental health reforms that are important to the community.

This next year is going to be a leaner year with the budget due to the COVID-19 crisis. Official numbers for the budget have not been released yet.

CIT Discussion—Sherri Wittwer

CIT does not look the same throughout the state of Utah. Therefore, there is advocacy for a unified CIT program. Best practice dictates that CIT officers are separate from the general police officer. Ultimately, it is generally agreed that it would be best to not have police officers respond to mental health crises, but rather mobile crisis teams and other mental health professionals.

Discussion of the General Purpose of UBHPAC

The UBHPAC membership application was reviewed and discussed.

The duties of UBHPAC membership were also discussed, which are as follows:

1. To review the Mental Health Block Grant Plan and to make recommendations.
2. To serve as an advocate for adults with a serious mental illness, children with a serious emotional disturbance, and other individuals with mental illnesses.
3. To monitor, review, and evaluate, not less than once each year, the allocation and adequacy of mental health services within the State.

Pam Bennett asked the council what improvements they would like seen made to where Block Grant dollars are spent. The council recommended dollars be spent on:

- Teens
- Suicide prevention
- Substance abuse

Athena Schwartz recommended that more youth be involved in the council.

Eric Tadehara recommended that the council utilize college-aged adults more.

Pam Bennett reported to the council that there is a scorecard on the DSAMH website that shows outcomes for different priorities. The scorecards can be found at <https://dsamh.utah.gov/reports/scorecards>.

Sigrid Nolte recommended that the council create more focus groups.

Rob Wesemann requested that the council members email Nettie Byrne with requests of what they would like to see the council address. Nettie can be reached at nettieb@allieswithfamilies.org.

Discussion of UBHPAC Priorities

The Planning Council 2020-2021 priorities are as follows:

1. Parity
2. Early intervention and prevention
3. Recovery support services
4. Youth in transition
5. Block Grant

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>