

LHIC Behavioral Health Work Group Meeting
6.08.15 - 2:00 p.m.
Minutes

Members present:

Elena Acs, Grassroots

Ronna Gotthainer, HC Health Dept.

Deb Piez, HC Mental Health Authority

Maura Rossman, HC Health Dept.

Leah Blain, Chase Brexton

Stu Kohn, HC Citizens Association

Roe Rodgers-Bonaccorsy, HC Health Dept.

Danielle Herrmann, Evergreen Health Care

Also present:

Jeananne Sciabarra, LHIC Program Director

Alvaro Ortiz, LHIC Program Manager

Welcome and Introductions:

- Roe, work group co-chair, welcomed members and opened the meeting at 2:09 p.m. Members introduced themselves and welcomed guests.

Approval of minutes from previous meeting:

- Dr. Rossman made a motion to approve the minutes from 5.28.15. The motion was seconded by Elena. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Revisions to 2015-2017 Behavioral Health Action Plan:

- Roe went over the revisions made to the Action Plan. The changes were made to reflect the recommendations made by the task force.
- Dr. Rossman had a comment regarding the outcome specified in the plan related to the Behavioral Health staff who would be working with the Community Care Team (CCT). She mentioned that at this point is too early to determine the population that this staff member would serve. Therefore, the measure will need to be adjusted accordingly to make sure it truly captures the outcome of the job.
- Danielle said that it would be important to seek the opinions of the community while creating the job description for the position as it would provide valuable feedback on the areas and population that should be targeted.
- Dr. Rossman suggested connecting the CCT Manager with a Grassroots representative to make sure efforts are not being duplicated but instead ensuring that everyone is working together.
- Leah pointed out that the first action noted in the plan and the recommendation by the task force of updating the MHA website now included in the plan seemed very similar and could be merged together. The group concurred and decided to eliminate the first action in the plan.
- Dr. Rossman noted that it is extremely important to come up with an effective intermediate measure for the task force recommendation on the MHA's website. She said this action will be expensive and time consuming so it is imperative to ensure that the site is truly making a difference and to collect significant data.

Schedule of Meeting Topics Driven by Action Plan:

- Roe reminded members about the group's decision of dissolving the action groups and recommended creating a schedule of topics for future meetings.
- Stu asked if the group had any plans on how to track the progress made towards the actions included in the Action Plan.
- Roe noted that the progress will be a direct collaboration between all the partners in the different actions and the work group. She also explained that all these programs have different metrics and data that the group should start collecting.
- Dr. Rossman added that ideally all government programs should be reporting their numbers and data. Stu inquired if there was a way to enforce this reporting. However, Dr. Rossman pointed out that before the group starts asking for data, it was important to establish the metrics and data that the group would like to receive to avoid gathering irrelevant data.
- Stu suggested that the group starts by collecting data that is directly related to the actions in the workgroup's Action Plan. In addition, he suggested bringing this data on a quarterly basis to the work group meetings, so members could discuss the data. He said this data could help guide the group's work by identifying gaps and tracking the progress made towards the target goals.
- Stu also suggested identifying and adding baselines to the actions in the plan. He explained that existing data could be obtained from the partner organizations identified in the plans and used as the baseline.
- Roe proposed that LHIC staff reach out to the different organizations to collect this data and suggested July 1st as the deadline for creating these baselines in the plan.

Community Forum Ideas

- The group moved forward to discussing ideas about a community forum. Stu began by saying that it was almost an obligation of this group to suggest a community forum to the County Executive to openly discuss the issues related to behavioral health with the community.
- Group members believe that before moving forward with this idea, a specific goal needs to be identified. The following questions were posed for further consideration and discussion:
 - What exactly does the group want to convey to the community?
 - What kind of forum would this be?
 - LHIC Forum?
 - Town Hall meeting?
 - A health fair?
 - Panel discussion?
 - What would be the "hook" to attract community members?
 - Would this be more effective as an online media campaign?
 - Ongoing message vs. one time message?
 - What exactly would be the message?
 - Who would be the target audience?

Action Items

- Jeananne will make sure CCT manager gets in contact with a Grassroots representative (Elena) to further discuss the roles of the behavioral health staff that will be joining the CCT.
- LHIC staff will reach out to partner organizations identified in the Action Plan to obtain baseline data.
- Group will continue to brainstorm topics/ideas for community forum.

Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be on Thursday, July 23 at 9:30 a.m., following the full LHIC meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Alvaro Ortiz
LHIC Program Manager