



**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH REDESIGN STEERING COMMITTEE (BHRSC)
Minutes – November 19, 2020**

Call to Order. There was no quorum present at 12:04 P.M.

Committee Members Present: Supervisor Louis Peer, Deputy Chief John Olsen, Tim Perry, Kate Luster, Kelsey Cordova, Greg Winkler, Judge Karl Hanson, Dr. Ken Robbins, Commander Erik Chellevoid, Laura Neece, Lindsay Stevens, Don Knight and Bette Trimble (alt. for Linda Scott-Hoag).

Committee Members Absent: Tami Ellis, Billy Bob Grahn, Tera O’Connor, Mike Kelly, Samantha Palan, Patty Slatter, Tricia Murray, Ian Hedges and Michelle Rose-Barajas.

Staff Members Present: Becky Huber, Coordinator of Prevention and Community Engagement, HSD; Captain Kimberly Litsheim, Sheriff’s Office; Elizabeth Pohlman McQuillen, Justice System Manager.

Others Present: None.

Update on BHRSC Membership Appointments. We are in a stall at the moment due to the pandemic. There are currently two or three vacancies. The County Board Chair is establishing a new appointment process. Ms. Luster said this will be her last meeting as chair. She is not able to continue in to the new year. We will be looking for new leadership.

Discussion Regarding Suicide Rate Trends in Rock County. Mr. Winkler shared data with the committee. They were surprised and pleased that the numbers have been decreasing since 2018. The suicide numbers are determined by the Medical Examiner’s office. The numbers by year are: 2016 – 25, 2017 – 37, 2018 – 35, 2019 – 17, 2020 – 9 through June 2020. They are researching why the fifty percent drop from 2018 to 2019. They are having trouble finding public data available. It can be speculated that this drop is correlated with the Zero Suicide Initiative and an increase in access to care. Currently in 2020, we are just beginning to see the impact of COVID on these numbers.

Call to Order. Chair Luster called the meeting of the Behavioral Health Redesign Steering Committee to order at 12:19 P.M.

Approval of Agenda. Supervisor Peer moved approval of the agenda as presented, second by Mr. Winkler. ADOPTED.

Approval of Minutes of August 20, 2020. Dr. Robbins moved approval of the minutes of August 20, 2020 as presented, second by Ms. Neece. ADOPTED.

Update on EBDM Mental Health Flag Data. Chair Luster said as of September 1, 2020, there are 425 mental health flags. 94 of those flags or 22% are for youth ages 4 to 17 years. There are 72 Crisis Strategy Information Sheets (CSIS). This number has doubled over the last year. Use of the CSIS has been increasing with community providers as well. 37 Janesville Police Department (JPD) officers have received CIT training through 2019. They would like to see an increase in the CIT

training numbers. They continue to look at use of force data. They are finding it hard to find meaningful data as use of force is defined differently amongst agencies.

Updates on State Level Initiatives regarding Behavioral Health. DHS has formed workgroups to prioritize crisis services across the state including mobile response, 24 hour crisis lines with real time coordination, stabilization services and improving processes with law enforcement. DHS 75 is still in process. There will be a FAQ (frequently asked questions) coming out on ACT 262.

Updates on Groups Associated with BHRSC.

Behavioral Health Providers. Ms. Neece provided an updated status on remote needs. Living Waters and Micah's House will be closing.

Prevention. Chair Luster introduced Ms. Becky Huber, HSD Prevention Coordinator. Ms. Huber said this is a new position and she is spending some time initially figuring out the best way to maximize her resources. She has been meeting with community providers to find out efforts and where gaps exist.

Consumer Voice. Ms. Stevens said they have started a consumer voice sub-committee and are currently identifying goals. NAMI support groups are held virtually. They were hoping to expand to youth services but that got put on hold.

Discussion Regarding COVID-19 Related Behavioral Health Needs in the Community. Chair Luster said HSD received a \$40,000 COVID related housing fund grant. The funds are available through August. The funds can be used to help Behavioral Health clients with a security deposit or to catch up on back rent. Providers who have a client with a need can reach out to Danielle Milligan at Rock County Crisis. Ms. Trimble will forward the contact information to Ms. Pohlman McQuillen for distribution. She said there are some data collection requirements with the grant.

Update on BJA OWI Expansion Grant. Ms. Pohlman McQuillen said the County was awarded a \$500,000 grant over three years to expand to fourth and fifth OWI's. They have encountered some barricades to serve fifth OWI's due to current legislation requiring prison time.

Success Stories/Positive Outcomes. Ms. Trimble said in May, Human Services assigned a full time crisis worker to JPD. Outcomes have been encouraging. 50% of her contacts referred from law enforcement never rise to the level of intervention. The worker has a police radio and can ask a supervisor to respond to a call if she sees a need.

Citizen Participation and Announcements. None.

Future Meeting Date: February 18, 2021, 12:00 P.M., Location TBD

Adjournment. Adjourned by acclamation at 12:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracey VanZandt,
HR Secretary

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE.